

Managing Information Across Partners

MIAP

and the Unique Learner Number

What is MIAP all about?

- MIAP is about:
 - 40 Post 16 organisations across the UK
 - Working together to improve how data is collected, stored and shared
 - Improving systems for learners and providers – reductions in bureaucracy for all – improved choice for learners and employers
 - Improving public services – cutting

What are MIAP's guiding principles?

- Collect once, use many times
- Clarity of roles and responsibilities
- Rationalising data collection through better sharing
- Avoiding unnecessary bureaucracy and promoting coherence

Who are the MIAP Group members?

Government, NDPBs & agencies:		Representative Bodies:
- DfES	- LSC	- AOC
- DWP	- QCA	- ALP
- Jobcentre Plus	- OeE	- Hoxex
- Connexions	- OIC	- NIACE
- D o H	- SDA	- SHA
- RDAs	- SBS	- UUK
- LGA (representing LEAs)		
FE / HE Partners:	Inspectorates:	Non English partners:
- BECTA	- OFSTED	- Scottish Executive
- Ufi	- ALI	- SQA
- LSDA	- QAA	- DELNI
- JISC		- ELWa
- Learning Partnerships		

What are MIAP's origins?

Need for:

- a concerted effort to improve use and management of information at the national level
- a reduction in the bureaucracy providers face – allowing resources to be used on the front-line

When did MIAP's work begin?

- Initial scoping work during 2001 – agreed need for approach involving wider post-16 partners
- Inaugural MIAP meeting took place in April 2002 with members representing 17 post-16 organisations
 - Agreed Terms of Reference
 - Commissioned a “mapping” project to better understand the challenges faced
- Work programme agreed in December 2002

What has MIAP achieved so far?

- The Bureaucracy Review Group established – July 2003
- A single framework of sector/subject areas has been agreed – adoption of this framework has begun
- 29 Short Term, organisation specific recommendations have been taken forward
- A number of projects have been set up to understand the feasibility of introducing radically new systems and arrangements

The six main projects

- Unique Learner Number (ULN)
- Data Warehouse
- Common Data Definitions
- Data Sharing Framework
- National Electronic Data Interchange (NEDI)
- National Register of Providers (NRP)

Unique Learner Number (ULN)

- Project set up with ministerial support
- Feasibility study undertaken: April – Sept 2003
- Proposed different service options: ranging from “basic” (minimal cost/ limited benefits) through to “fully integrated” (high cost/ maximum benefits)
- Suggested some benefits are evident, but might only be realised within the context of a wider service enabling data sharing
- The ULN consultation to further explore costs and benefits closed on 5 March

Data Warehouse

- Feasibility study into a data warehouse – pulling together data on schools, Post 16 and HE and making it available for all partners
- Potential to improve the way data is collected, stored and shared
- Builds on the ULN feasibility study –close links

Common Data Definitions

- Looking at how we might establish a common set of data definitions for use by all partners
- Potential to reduce bureaucracy, ease data transfer, and support comparison of performance across sectors

Data Sharing Framework

- To facilitate effective data sharing between partners and stakeholders
- A draft framework document has been produced
- Intention is to receive formal “sign-up” from all MIAP members in April 2004

Achievement Electronic Data Interchange (EDI)

- Feasibility study to consider how EDI might be applied across all awarding bodies
- Potential to streamline and standardise data on assessments and achievements as it passes between providers, funding bodies and exam boards
- Due to report in April 2004

National Register of Providers

- Investigating feasibility of bringing together information on all learning providers in the UK
- Report due early in April: provisional findings – feasible
- Option to extend existing system – discussions with Ufi
- Potential to facilitate streamlining of funding and contracting processes by holding and providing access to common data

What's now planned?

- Initial MIAP work programme almost complete
- About to begin the “Consolidation Phase” of the programme – led by DFES and involving LSC, QCA and HESA
- Will draw together results to develop fully costed options and an implementation plan

Way Forward?

- Focus is likely to be on a Unique Learner Service – improved system for learners and providers based on a ULN and electronically shared prior attainment, assessment and achievement information. Based on common data definitions, MIAP agreement to data sharing, a National Register of Providers
- Go to Ministers for approval in June
- Hope to explore trialling the ULN (ensuring fit with other Identifiers) in 04/05 as part of ETPs

When could it happen?

- Clear need for engagement and discussions with providers and stakeholders from across sectors
- Working assumptions:
 - If ULN trials work – extend roll out of ‘basic ULN’ in 2005/06?
 - Data warehouse – 05/06 or 06/07 – schools, FE, HE and some JC+ info + portals for providers and learners
 - Essential element – assessment and achievement info
 - Common definitions – more work to do but possibly by 05/06
 - Quick win National Register of Providers – possibly – from 05/06

When will front line organisations begin to see benefits?

- The ongoing work of the 29 short term recommendations, the introduction of the BRG and the commitment shown by members to abide by the MIAP principles – providers should begin to feel less bureaucracy throughout 2004
- The real benefits of the MIAP programme, through the six main projects will be delivered gradually over the next two to three years

Contact Details