

## **NAS response regarding local authority role in 16-18 Apprenticeship contracting**

See below the text of a message from David Way of the National Apprenticeship Service

Dear Graham

You asked for my assurance about the role of local authorities in respect of 16-18 Apprenticeships. In particular, you were looking for assurances that their primary role will be in identifying the need for Apprenticeships rather than in determining who will be awarded contracts. I am able to provide that assurance.

While the National Commissioning Framework is yet to be finalised in every detail, it will be the role of the National Apprenticeship Service through the SFA to commission the 16-18 Apprenticeship places that are needed. There is no formal role for local authorities in determining and awarding contracts.

We will however discuss Apprenticeship delivery and performance with local authorities in respect of their local areas. This would take us into discussion of provider performance in order to satisfy local authorities that we are managing our response to local demand as effectively as we can. I trust that you will see that this is as part of a proper relationship locally between NAS/SFA and local authorities.

I hope this puts your mind at rest.

David