

# Apprenticeship Training Provider Accountability Framework

In partnership with:

**ACE**  
360

# Introductions



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HAWKINS**

*Facilitator*



**Tim Chewter**

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*Host*

# Introductions



**Karen Kelly**

Senior Associate, SDN

*Speaker*



**Richard Bloxam**

Director of Product Strategy, ACE360

*Speaker*

# Welcome

## Webinar Structure

- Introduction
- Presentation
- Panel Q&A
- Next steps

## Q&A

- Send all questions / comments using the question box
- Focus your questions on the webinar topics

# Today's Agenda

In this webinar, we'll take a look at:

- The fundamentals of the framework, the indicators and the benchmarks ('good', 'needs improvement', and 'at risk')
- Typical interventions
- What this means for your operational planning
- What this means for your strategic governance and risk awareness

# Overview of the framework

## Qualitative

- Outcomes
- Client satisfaction



GOV.UK

Home > Education, training and skills > Further and higher education, skills and vocational training > Further education financial management and data collection > Financial management for further education providers > ESFA financial health assessment

Education & Skills Funding Agency

Guidance

**Financial health guidance for organisations contracting with or applying to ESFA**

Updated 10 February 2021

Applies to England

Contents

Last updated: February 2021

**1. Definition**

1 This guidance is not to be used for general further education colleges, sixth form colleges, academies, or academy trusts. If you are seeking financial guidance for any of these areas, please follow the links below:

- academies
- college financial plans
- college accounts directions

2 The term "organisation" is used within this guidance to refer to all entities and is used as a generic term. Organisations are defined for the purpose of this guidance as independent training providers, special post 16 institutions, non-maintained specialist schools, and organisations applying to an Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) register or procurement round.

**2. Purpose**

3 This document sets out the ESFA's approach to the financial health assessment of organisations.

4 This is to understand the degree of risk to the ESFA in contracting with them, either directly or indirectly. It also establishes the maximum recommended value of contracts appropriate to the financial resources of organisations that have a direct contract.

5 We use financial health as a measure of an organisation's financial status, in terms of its financial performance and its ability to meet ongoing financial commitments.



## Financial

- Revenue
- Profit

GOV.UK

Topics Government activity

Home > Education, training and skills > Further and higher education, skills and vocational training > Apprenticeships, traineeships and internships

Guidance

**Apprenticeship training provider accountability framework 2021 to 2022**

The Department for Education's accountability framework is for all apprenticeship provision at all ages and applicable for all providers for the academic year 2021 to 2022.

From: Education and Skills Funding Agency

Published 2 August 2021

Last updated 10 February 2022

Get email updates

Applies to

Contents

- Apprenticeships
- Quality and standards
- Learner characteristics
- Coronavirus

**Table 1: Quality and supplementary indicators and thresholds**

Indicator	At risk	Needs improvement
<b>Quality Indicators</b>		
Outcomes from Ofsted reports	Organisations graded as inadequate by Ofsted for "apprenticeships" (or inadequate for "overall effectiveness" under its FE and skills remit where there is no separate apprenticeship grade) or an 'insufficient progress' outcome at an apprenticeship new provider monitoring visit	
Achievement rates as calculated as part of Qualification Achievement Rates (QAR)	All age apprenticeship achievement rate of less than 50%	All age apprenticeship achievement rate greater than or equal to 50% and less than 60%
Retention rates as calculated as part of Qualification Achievement Rates (QAR)	All age apprenticeship retention rate of less than 52%	All age apprenticeship retention rate greater than or equal to 52% and less than 62%
Withdrawals	Of total number of apprentices, percentage of withdrawals is greater than 35%	Of total number of apprentices, percentage of withdrawals is less than or equal to 35% and greater than 15% OR where the number of apprentices identified as withdrawn is greater than 250
Employer feedback as collected via the <a href="#">Find Apprenticeship Training Service</a>		Average feedback less than 2.5
Apprentice feedback		
<b>Supplementary indicators</b>		
Off The Job Training (OTJT) as collected via FRM37 report of <a href="#">Financial Assurance: Monitoring post-16 funding for 2021 to 2022 - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)</a>	Based on the FRM37 report, greater than 20 records OR one or more apprentices reported with 0 planned hours OR 0 actual hours (on apprenticeship completion)	Based on the FRM37 report, greater than 15 records for planned hours OR one or more records for actual hours

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Department for Education

**Apprenticeship Accountability Framework Technical Specification 2021 to 2022**

For all age apprenticeships

Version 2.0: May 2022

This document sets out the detailed approach on applying the apprenticeship accountability framework, as first published in August 2021. It outlines the revised thresholds for 2021 to 2022 academic year for various quality indicators that form part of the apprenticeship accountability framework and how we will apply them for this first year. The specification has been updated to reflect clarifications from version 1 and to include information about the thresholds for Off the Job Training (OTJT), achievement and retention rates.

We continue to welcome feedback on how we can make the specification clearer or better to understand. Please email feedback to [provider.strategy@education.gov.uk](mailto:provider.strategy@education.gov.uk) by 1 September 2022. We will take the feedback received into consideration when we next update the specification.



# Principles of the Apprenticeship Training Provider Accountability Framework



**Data-driven**



**Risk-based**



**Encourage self  
improvement**



**Timeliness**



**Proportionality**

# Indicators in the Apprenticeship Training Provider Accountability Framework

## Quality

- Ofsted Outcome
- Achievement Rates (QAR)
- Retention Rates
- Withdrawals
- Employer feedback from Find Apprenticeship Training
- Apprentice feedback

## Supplementary

- Off the job training (from FRM report)
- Learners past planned end date
- Breaks in learning
- End point assessment organisation data



# Quality Indicator thresholds

## Quality

Indicator	What is it?	DfE At risk measure	DfE Needs improvement measure	On Track
Outcomes from Ofsted	Uses your official position as a result of inspection by Ofsted	Grade for Apprenticeships: <b>Inadequate</b>  Or  Overall Effectiveness: <b>Inadequate</b>  Or if new provider  New provider monitoring: <b>Insufficient progress</b>	n/a	Grade for Apprenticeships: <b>Outstanding, Good</b> or requires improvement  Overall Effectiveness: <b>Outstanding, Good</b> or requires improvement  Or  New provider monitoring: <b>Significant progress</b> <b>Reasonable progress</b>
Achievement Rates as part of Qualification Achievement Rates	Uses your current year Qualification Achievement Rates from ILR data  This is the percentage of achievers within the volume of cohort derived from the hybrid end year (latter of planned end, actual end, achievement or reporting year)	All age apprenticeship achievement rates of <b>less than 50%</b>	All age apprenticeship achievement rate <b>greater than or equal to 50% and less than 60%</b>	All age apprenticeship achievement rate at <b>60% or above</b>

[Link](#)

# Quality Indicator thresholds

## Quality

Indicator	What is it?	DfE At risk measure	DfE Needs improvement measure	On Track
Retention rates as calculated as part of Qualification Achievement Rates (QAR)	<p>Uses your current year ILR data.</p> <p>Retention rates are based on the individual aims that were successfully completed in the relevant year (the Hybrid End Year).</p> <p>They are usually calculated as the number of learning aims completed divided by the number of aims that ended.</p>	All age retention rate of less than 52%	All age apprenticeship retention rate greater than or equal to 52% and less than 62%	All age apprenticeship retention rate greater than or equal to 62%

[Link](#)

# Quality Indicator thresholds

## Quality

Indicator	What is it?	DfE At risk measure	DfE Needs improvement measure	On Track
Withdrawals	<p>Uses your ILR data. This is total number of apprentices reported in the current academic year with a completion status of "3 The learner has withdrawn". This excludes those who did not meet qualifying period for start.</p> <p>The percentage is then based on withdrawals as a proportion of apprentices reported in the academic year as live or completed. It is not the withdrawals within the QAR cohort.</p>	Of total number of apprentices, percentage of withdrawals is greater than 35%	<p>Of total number of apprentices, percentage of withdrawals is less than or equal to 35% and greater than 15%</p> <p>OR where the number of apprentices identified as withdrawn is greater than 250</p>	<p>Of total number of apprentices, percentage of withdrawals is less than 15%</p> <p>OR where the number of apprentices identified as withdrawn is fewer than 250</p>

[Link](#)

# Quality Indicator thresholds

Indicator	What is it?	DfE At risk measure	DfE Needs improvement measure	On Track
Employer feedback as collected via the Find Apprenticeship Training Service	<p>Your position as per the Find Apprenticeship Training Service,</p> <p><a href="https://education.gov.uk/apprenticeship-training-courses">Apprenticeship training courses (education.gov.uk)</a></p>	n/a	Average feedback less than 2.5	Average feedback greater than 2.5
Apprentice feedback	<p>This will be your position as per the Find Apprenticeship Training Service.</p> <p>Information gathered from apprentice's feedback into the "my apprenticeship" account which can be recorded from three months in and be updated every 3 weeks. There are 12 questions and then a rating from excellent to very poor.</p>	No position yet	No position yet	No position yet

[Link](#)

# Supplementary Indicators in the framework

## Supplementary

Indicator	What is it?	DfE At risk measure	DfE Needs improvement measure	On Track
Off-the-job training	<p>Collected via the FRM report suite within “view your education data” portal. Uses report FRM37</p> <p><a href="#">Financial Assurance: Monitoring post-16 funding for 2021 to 2022 - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)</a></p> <p><a href="#">Post-16 monitoring - apprenticeship off-the-job-training hours report (FRM37) - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)</a></p>	Based on the FRM37 report, greater than 20 records OR one or more apprentices reported with 0 planned hours OR 0 actual hours (on apprenticeship completion)	Based on the FRM37 report, greater than 15 records for planned hours OR one or more records for actual hours	15 or less records.
Learners past planned end date	Uses ILR data, the learners that are live and exceed their planned end date	Of total number of apprentices, the percentage of apprentices past planned end date by 365 days or more is greater than 15%	<p>Of total number of apprentices, the percentage of apprentices past planned end date by <math>\geq 180</math> days and <math>&lt; 365</math> days is greater than 15%</p> <p>OR</p> <p>Where the number of apprentices on a break is greater than 250</p>	<p>Of total number of apprentices, the percentage of apprentices past planned end date by <math>\geq 180</math> days and <math>&lt; 365</math> days is 15% or less</p> <p>AND</p> <p>Where the number of apprentices past planned end is fewer than 251</p>

# Supplementary Indicators in the framework

## Supplementary

Indicator	What is it?	DfE At risk measure	DfE Needs improvement measure	On Track
Breaks in learning	Uses ILR data, the learners that are on a current break in learning	Of total number of apprentices, the percentage of apprentices identified on a break in learning by 365 days or more is <b>greater than 15%</b>	Of total number of apprentices, the percentage of apprentices identified on a break in learning by $\geq 180$ days and $< 365$ days is <b>greater than 15%</b>  OR  Where the number of apprentices identified is <b>greater than 250</b>	Of total number of apprentices, the percentage of apprentices on a break in learning by $\geq 180$ days and $< 365$ days is <b>15% or less</b>  AND  Where the number of apprentices on a break is <b>fewer than 251</b>
End Point Assessment Organisation Data	Uses ILR data of whether there is an end point assessment organisation recorded	Apprentices where there is <b>no</b> End Point Assessment Organisation identified <b>within 3 months of planned end date</b>	Apprentices where there is <b>no</b> End Point Assessment Organisation identified <b>within 3 to 6 months of planned end date</b>	Apprentices have an End Point Assessment Organisation more than 6 months prior to planned end date

# How these might look

## 1. Dashboard monitoring

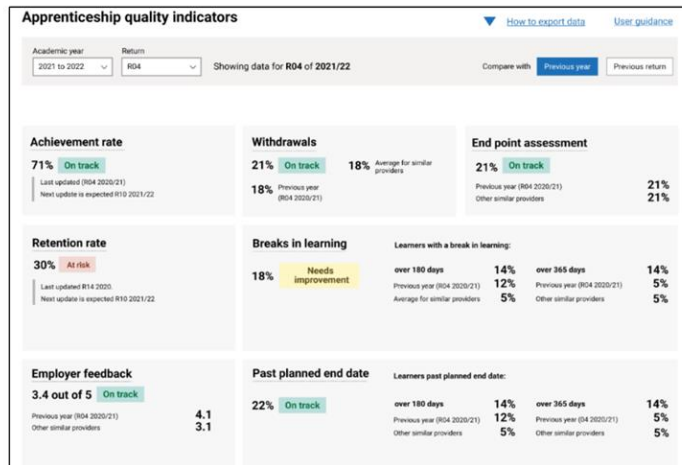
## 2. Provider contact

## 3. Contextual Information & Response

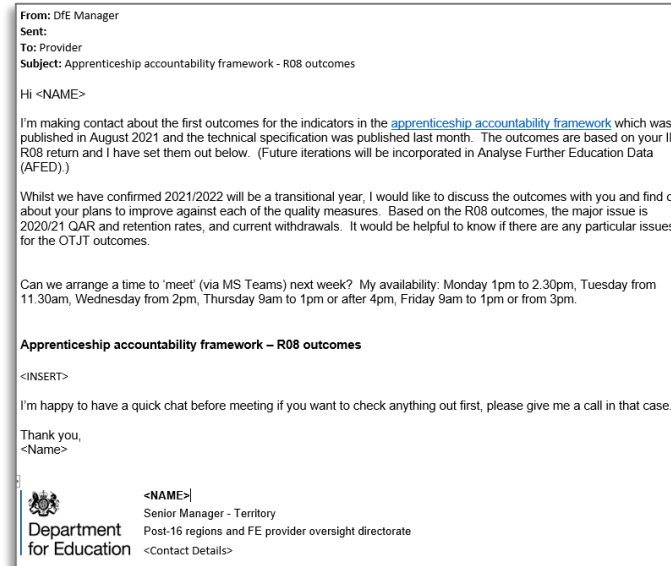
### External Data Dashboard



Dashboard will be available to view in Analyse FE Data later in summer 2022



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- Current position awareness
- Future position awareness
- Targets
- Learner characteristics
- Size and maturity of the provision
- Sector impact
- Covid 19 impact



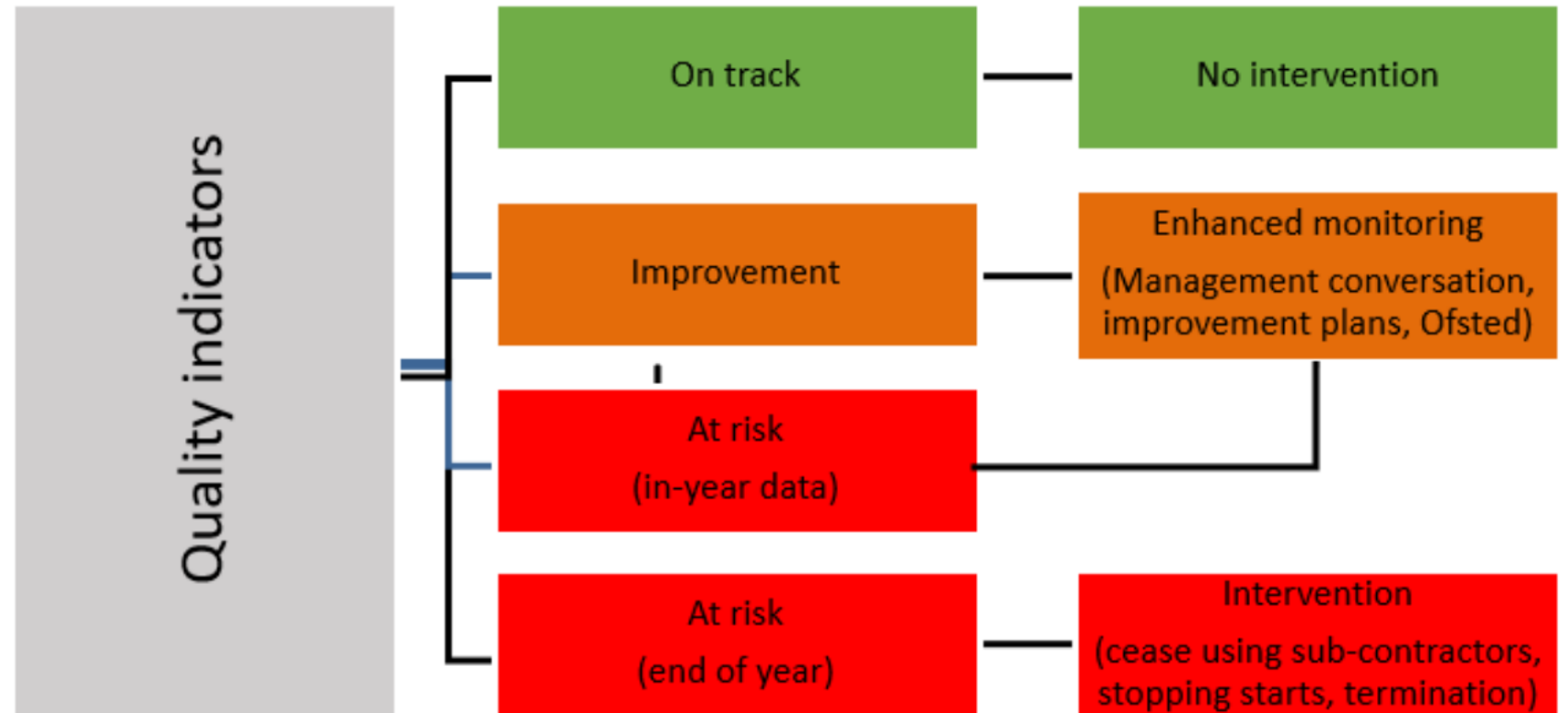
# Hearing from you...



## POLL

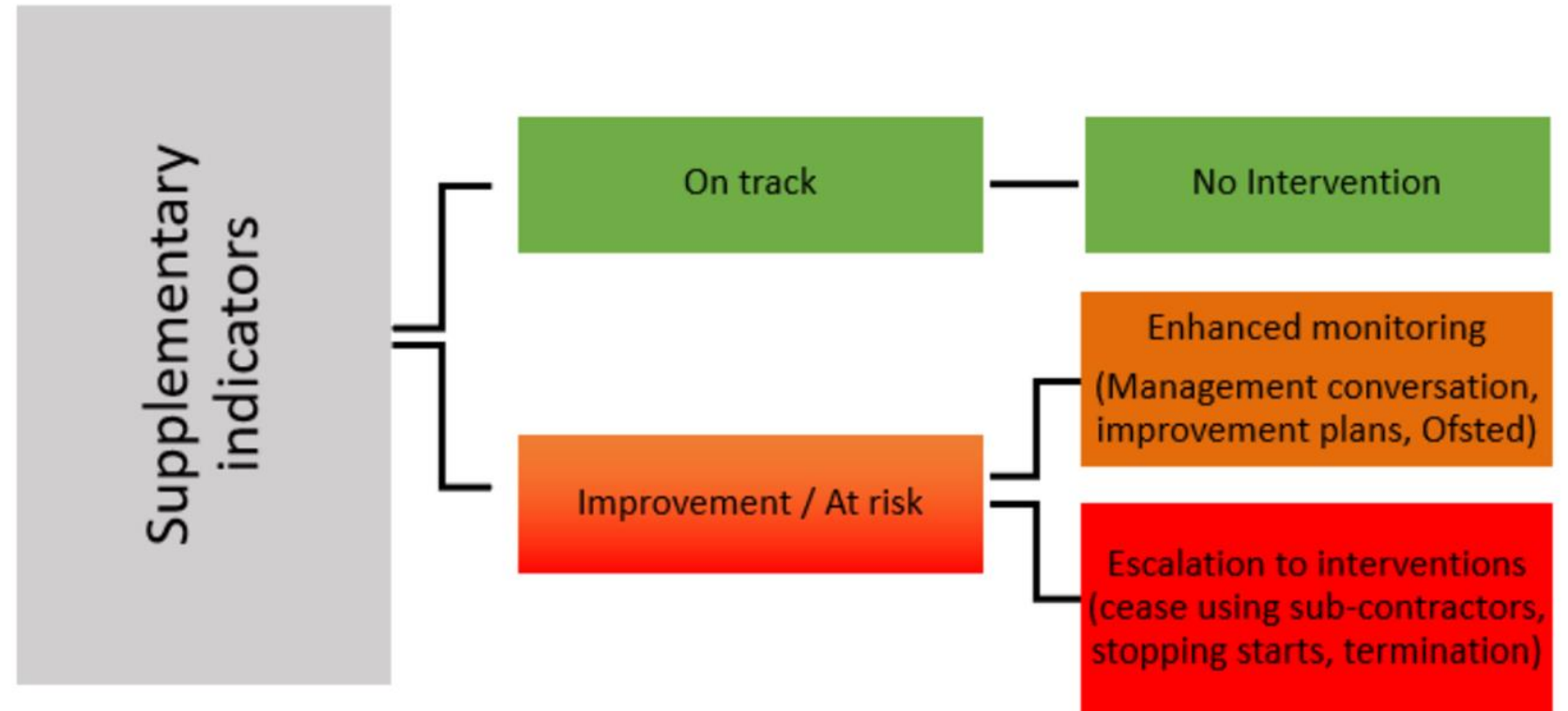
# Quality Interventions

- Ofsted Outcome
- Achievement Rates (QAR)
- Retention Rates
- Withdrawals
- Employer feedback from Find Apprenticeship Training
- Apprentice feedback



# Supplementary Interventions

- Off the job training (from FRM report)
- Learners past planned end date
- Breaks in learning
- End point assessment organisation data



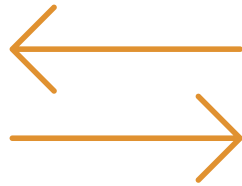
## Other Possible Interventions

- Requirement to design and implement an improvement plan to address quality issues, including specific targets to be met within a specified period of time
- Flagging concerns about providers to Ofsted
- Requirement to cease using a particular subcontractor
- Suspension of apprenticeship starts on particular standards or overall
- Termination of contract(s) for apprenticeship delivery and removal from the [Register of apprenticeship training providers \(RoATP\)](#)

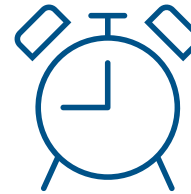
# Principles of the Apprenticeship Training Provider Accountability Framework



- **Planning**
- **Establish your data and ranges**
- **Set internal targets**
- **Liaise with MI solutions**
- **Review KPIs**



**Be aware of changes to thresholds & indicator clarifications**



**Feedback by 1st September**  
[provider.strategy@education.gov.uk](mailto:provider.strategy@education.gov.uk)



- **Look out for the dashboard in analyse FE**
- **Analyse data operationally**
- **Analyse data at a governance level**

# Hearing from you...



## POLL

# Further support – compliance and quality



## How to practically implement the new 2022-23 Funding Rules for Apprenticeships

In depth webinar (and action plan) | Friday 5 August (10am-1pm) | Register [here](#)

## ILR and Data Management for Apprenticeships (2022-23)

In depth webinar series | starting Tuesday 6 September (10am-12pm) | Register [here](#)

## Quality assurance and the role of the IQA for Apprenticeships

Webinar | Thursday 28 July (10.00-11.15am) | Register [here](#)



# Governance review support



## For Independent Training Providers...

- Help you establish a robust and effective governance structure – from top to bottom
- Review your governance and implement an improvement plan
- Training and mentoring for governors and senior leaders
- Independent governance role

## For FE Colleges...

- Comprehensive External Governance Review and improvement plan
- Support to implement improvements
- Training and mentoring for governors and senior leaders

Ask the team for more information [here](#)

# ACE360 – end-point assessment management system



For EPAOs and training providers

- Streamlines the EPA process
- Reduces cost
- Delivers efficiencies
- Improves quality of the assessment process
- The most cost-effective solution on the market and free for EPAOs

Find out more [here](#)



# Questions & Answers

Type your questions into the webinar panel

# Final thoughts

# Thank you for joining us

Please get in touch with comments or questions or visit our website



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# Thank you for joining us

## After this session

You will receive:

- Access to the webinar recording
- Full slide deck
- Evaluation survey

## Upcoming events

Masterclass: Leading the Gateway process – preparing apprentices for success (5 July)

Masterclass: Conducting Professional Discussions and Interviews (21 July)

Level 3 Award in Undertaking End-Point Assessment (Sept)

For full event details and to book, visit: [www.strategicdevelopmentnetwork.co.uk/sdnevents](http://www.strategicdevelopmentnetwork.co.uk/sdnevents)