### Figure 1. Phases of the LSS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Top-down planning approach</th>
<th>Top-down market model</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>2001-2004</strong></td>
<td><strong>2005-2007</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Unification of the new LSS</td>
<td>• Organisational ‘simplification’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Level playing field</td>
<td>• ‘Prioritisation’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Area-based planning</td>
<td>• ‘Self-regulation’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Some local funding discretion</td>
<td>• ‘Demand-led’ approach and funding</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Promise of greater stability (e.g. 3-Year Plans and funding)</td>
<td>• <em>Agenda for Change</em>, Foster, Leitch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Organisational ‘simplification’</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Figure 2. Recent policy texts on the learning and skills sector

1) 14-19 Education and Skills (DfES 2005)

2) Realising the Potential: A Review of the Future Role of Further Education Colleges (Foster 2005)

3) Further Education: Raising Skills, Improving Life Chances (DfES 2006)

4) Skills: Getting on in Business, Getting on in Work (HMG 2005)

5) Learning and Skills: the Agenda for Change (LSC 2005)


7) Prosperity for All in the Global Economy: World-class Skills (Leitch 2006)

8) The UK Government’s Approach to Public Service Reform (PMSU 2006)


10) Delivering World-class Skills in a Demand-led System (LSC/DfES 2007)

11) Building on Progress: Public Services (PMSU 2007)

12) Raising Expectations: Staying on in Education and Training Post-16 (DfES 2007)

13) Place-Shaping: A Shared Ambition for the Future of Local Government (Lyons 2007a)


Figure 3. Four major policy themes in the LSS (2005-2007)

‘Simplification’

‘Prioritisation’

A ‘demand-led system’ - ‘market making’ and ‘contestability’