

FE BRANCH OFFICERS UPDATE #25

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Topics:

- FE Area reviews

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FE AREA REVIEW (England)

You will be aware that the Government has unveiled plans for area reviews, with a vision of fewer, larger colleges with a greater specialisation on professional and technical education.

Please find attached a briefing and guidance for branches. It provides background for branches on the policy that underpins this review, outlines our concerns, and gives details on the process and timescales to which the national and area reviews are working. It also makes recommendations on how branches should seek to engage with their management on the issue.

The intention is to update the advice in the light of experience. For the moment, it is crucial that branches work closely with their regional officials to ensure that there is a coherent collective response wherever change to FE college organisation is under review.

The bargaining advice to branches can be accessed at:

<http://www.ucu.org.uk/post16areareview>

In addition, our London region has produced a background paper which will be of interest to branches. It was endorsed by the Further Education Committee. This can be found at: <http://www.ucu.org.uk/fe-adulted-restructures>

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