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Rt Hon Robert Halfon MP

Minister of State for Apprenticeships and Skills

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Anne-Marie Morris

By email: morrisannemarie@aol.com

16 March 2017

Dear Anne-Marie

Thank you for your email of 15 March, about the publication of the new Register of Apprenticeship Training Providers.

I appreciate your disappointment in your organisation's outcome, post the publication. I understand all providers were given a clear set of criteria they had to meet in order to ensure they can receive public funds for apprenticeship training: due diligence; financial health; capacity/ capability, and quality. If a provider does not meet these criteria they cannot be on the Register.

Your organisation would have been provided with feedback as to why it did not make it onto the Register, to help you with any future applications. The SFA plans to re-open the register very quickly, around 20 March, to give further opportunities for providers to submit an application, including brand new providers as well as those that were not successful in the first round. I would encourage your organisation to contact the SFA through the Bravo e-tendering portal, if it has not already done so, where you can seek further clarification regarding your organisation's application and next steps.

I can confirm that there are no Ofsted Grade 4 organisations listed on the new Register. Where an organisation has a Grade 4 overall or a Grade 4 for apprenticeships they will not be allowed to enter the Register. If an organisation listed on the Register attains a Grade 4 in the future then they will be removed from the Register immediately.

Finally the new Register will not affect provision for any apprenticeship starts before 1 May 2017. Existing arrangements will continue to apply for these learners, and providers will still be able to deliver training through their existing contracts.

I hope this is helpful. Thank you for taking the time to write on this important matter.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Rt Hon Robert Halfon', with a small mark at the end.

Rt Hon Robert Halfon MP
Minister of State for Apprenticeships and Skills