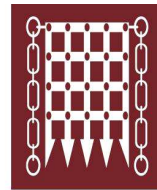


Westminster Employment Forum Apprenticeship Series:

Funding apprenticeships in England - supporting employers, meeting demand and the future of the apprenticeship levy

Timing: Afternoon, Thursday, 12th July 2018

Venue: Central London



WESTMINSTER
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FORUM

Draft agenda subject to change

- 13.00 - 13.30 Registration and coffee
- 13.30 - 13.35 **Chair's opening remarks**
Lord Young of Norwood Green, former Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Skills and Apprenticeships
- 13.35 - 13.55 **Apprenticeship reform - the response to the introduction of the market-led system**
Nick Linford, Director, Lsect and Editor, FE Week
Questions and comments from the floor
- 13.55 - 14.10 **Delivering growth in apprenticeships - priorities for policy**
Keith Smith, Director, Funding and Programmes, ESFA
- 14.10 - 14.25 **Funding bands, employer contributions and supporting higher-costing standards**
Jayne McCann, Deputy Director, Funding Policy, Institute for Apprenticeships
- 14.25 - 14.40 Questions and comments from the floor
- 14.40 - 15.10 **Assessing the impact of the apprenticeship levy and options for reform**
Peter Cheese, Chief Executive, CIPD
Mark Dawe, Chief Executive, Association of Employment and Learning Providers
Questions and comments from the floor
- 15.10 - 15.15 **Chair's closing remarks**
Lord Young of Norwood Green, former Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Skills and Apprenticeships
- 15.15 - 15.40 Coffee
- 15.40 - 15.50 **Chair's opening remarks**
Senior Parliamentarian
- 15.50 - 16.30 **Utilising funding, adjusting to reform, and navigating the apprenticeship service - stakeholder perspectives**
Following the Department for Education's announcement that it intends to review funding bands, what support would be most needed by employers to help them to negotiate the price of an apprenticeship with training providers; if the limits of funding bands are altered, how should the DfE work with the Institute for Apprenticeships to communicate these changes to employers effectively? With organisations such as the CBI and FSB calling for greater flexibility in the use of funds raised through the levy, will the guidance released by the ESFA on the transfer of funds from one organisation to another help to alleviate such concerns; is yet further reform required to provide employers with the flexibility they seek? In light of the declining number of apprenticeship starts - and as the Government aims to create 3 million apprenticeship starts by 2020 - what steps can be taken to increase awareness and engagement among employers; has the development of the ESFA's Digital Apprenticeship Service helped levy paying employers manage their funds - and how can the extension of this service to non-levy payers be managed so as to encourage their participation?
Louise Doyle, Senior Associate, Strategic Development Network
Paul Fegan, Managing Director, Capital City College Training
Stephanie Bishop, Head of Graduate and Apprentice Recruitment, Capgemini
Senior representative, non-levy paying employer
Questions and comments from the floor
- 16.30 - 16.55 **Next steps for apprenticeship policy - addressing England's skills gaps and meeting the 3 million target**
Senior speaker to be confirmed
Questions and comments from the floor
- 16.55 - 17.00 **Chair's and Westminster Employment Forum closing remarks**
Senior Parliamentarian
Sean Cudmore, Deputy Editor, Westminster Employment Forum