

Information for employers

How will my organisation benefit?

England now: “Our nation’s skills are not world class. We therefore run the risk that this skills shortage will undermine the UK’s long term prosperity. The case for action is compelling and urgent”

England in 2020: “Our country needs to be much more ambitious. Our vision is to commit to becoming a world leader in skills by 2020.”

Leitch Review of Skills (2006)

Did you know that:

- one third of adults do not have basic school-leaving qualifications
- one sixth are not functionally literate
- almost half are not functionally numerate?

We have an excellent higher education resource but it needs to be used by more people and by a wider range of people.

So what is the vision for the workforce by the year 2020?

- 1.9 million additional Level 3 attainments
- 500,000 apprenticeships
- 95% of adults to achieve functional levels of literacy and numeracy
- 90% adults achieving Level 2 (5 GCSEs)
- 4 million adults with Level 3 (A level or equivalent)
- 5.5 million achieving Level 4 (higher education)

What will this mean for employers?

- A pool of more educated employees will enter the workforce
- Opportunities to enable employees to access higher education
- The reality of having a skilled workforce
- The opportunity for on-the-job training to be academically validated
- A culture of learning at work that will retain valued staff
- A team of motivated, loyal staff
- Operating at the cutting edge with up-to-date knowledge and skills
- Learning will be work based, with new knowledge highly relevant to the work place
- Businesses will enjoy a competitive status, able to respond to a changing world

How will this happen?

- Vocational skills development led by employers in the sector, not by central policy.
- The government will pay for learning up to Level 2 and 3.
- Employers will be able to agree a skills pledge (a voluntary public commitment to support their employees)

“If your staff don’t have the right skills ... nor does your business.”

