

Press release: Institute for Apprenticeships board members announced

Full details of how the Institute for Apprenticeships will operate have today (27 January 2017) been set out in an [operational plan for consultation](#) alongside the names of 8 members of the board appointed to run the institute.

One of the institute's main jobs when it starts operating in April 2017 will be to support the government's drive to deliver 3 million quality apprenticeships by 2020, and that businesses get the skilled workforce they need to prosper, so it is vital that employers are well represented.

That is why the board will be made up primarily of employers, business leaders and their representatives.

Apprenticeships and Skills Minister Robert Halfon said:

It is fantastic to see such a diverse board who will bring their varied and high-level experience to the Institute for Apprenticeships to ensure apprenticeships are of the highest quality they can be.

With employer expertise at its heart, the Institute for Apprenticeships will play a crucial role in raising the prestige of apprenticeships and ensuring employers can get the skilled workforce they desperately need.

The operational plan, published for consultation, will set out how the institute will take the lead on a number of ongoing reforms to improve the apprenticeship system. It details how the institute will provide advice to the government on funding and ensure employers get the quality skills that they need from the apprenticeship system.

Following consultation, the plan will set out how the Institute for Apprenticeships will deliver its functions to:

- improve the quality of apprenticeships
- regulate the quality of apprenticeship standards and assessment plans
- provide advice to government on the pricing of apprenticeship standards
- establish how the institute will collaborate with partners to drive quality across the apprenticeships system
- gain more information and insight on how we will lead the reforms to technical education

Shadow Chair for the Institute for Apprenticeships Antony Jenkins said:

I believe this is an excellent, high-calibre board that will help the institute drive up the quality of apprenticeships.

Today's publication of the draft operational plan is the culmination of lots of hard work and engagement over the last 6 months and I am very grateful to all the stakeholders who have helped us prepare it.

The introduction of an apprenticeship levy from April 2017 represents the biggest set of changes to apprenticeship funding since the re-introduction of modern apprenticeships in the mid-1990s.

1) Institute for Apprenticeships Board:

Dr Katherine Barclay:

- Chair of the Life Science and Industrial Sciences Apprenticeship trailblazer
- currently Pfizer UK lead for academic liaison, with responsibility for delivering apprenticeship reform at a national science industry level and collaborative early talent management strategies at undergraduate, graduate and postgraduate level
- chartered chemical engineer and experienced people manager

Sir Gerry Berragan:

- was a career soldier for 37 years finishing as Adjutant General, responsible for all army personnel matters
- was the army's apprentices ambassador in 2008 to lead the effort to make the army the largest apprenticeships provider in the country, offering more than 45 nationally-recognised training schemes

Bev Robinson:

- has over 20 years' experience in further and higher education colleges
- is on the Lancashire LEP Skills and Employment Board and is non-executive director and chair of the Blackpool, Fylde and Wyre Economic Development Company
- Director of the National College for Onshore Oil and Gas
- Principal of Blackpool and the Fylde College and previously member of Lord Sainsbury's panel on technical education

Paul Cadman:

- Human Resources (HR) Director for Walter Smith Fine Foods Limited since 1998
- Walter Smith Fine Foods Limited were chosen as 'Medium Employer of the Year' winner in recognition of their commitment to developing local young people through apprenticeships in the National Apprenticeship Awards ceremony in 2013
- has been one of the government's apprentice ambassadors since 2012 and is chair of 2 trailblazer groups: 'developing butchery apprenticeship

standards' and 'learning and development standards'

Dame Fiona Kendrick:

- Chair and CEO of Nestle UK and Ireland since 2012
- she has a passion for the youth employment and skills agenda, and is leading a number of lighthouse projects in this area both inside and outside Nestle
- the Nestle Academy brings together graduate and apprenticeship programmes, direct entry schemes and vocational training in order to deliver more flexible entry points and alternative routes to higher education for people
- she was UK Commissioner for Employment and Skills and played a lead role in supporting the development and delivery of strategies for skills and employment across the 4 UK nations
- she was President of the Food and Drink Federation from January 2015 to December 2016. She previously led the organisation's skills and competitiveness agenda and co-chaired the UK Food and Drink Export Forum
- in the 2015 New Year's Honour's list Fiona was created Dame Commander of the British Empire for services to the food industry and support for the skills and opportunities for young people

Dame Asha Khamka:

- Principal and Chief Executive, West Nottinghamshire College Group since May 2006 – one of the largest colleges in the country
- over 25 years' experience in further education
- on a number of boards, including the Education Honours Committee
- is the founding trustee of the Inspire and Achieve Foundation, whose main objective is to raise aspirations of working-class young people

Robin Millar CBE:

- Chair of Blue Raincoat Chrysalis Group
- enrolled as a music technology apprentice at the age of 24
- an Honorary Professor at the London College of Music, a Fellow of the Association of Professional Recording Services and a member of the UK Human Genetics Commission
- served on the creative Industries Sector Skills Council, National Skills Academy and then as a trustee of the Creative and Cultural Skills between 2006 and 2016
- currently serving on the Industry Steering Group advising the shadow board on setting up the new National College for Creative and Cultural industries

Toby Peyton-Jones:

- started his career as an officer in the Royal Engineers
- after an international career including working in China and Germany he was appointed to the Executive Management Board of Siemens Plc in 2008, heading up HR for Siemens in the UK and now Northern Europe
- throughout his career he has been a passionate international voice

championing education and particularly vocational education most recently as a Commissioner for UK Commission for Employment and Skills

2) Read the [consultation](#).