

# Paper

## London Councils – Apprenticeships Sub Group Update from NAS

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### 1 Apprenticeships Funding Reforms & Trailblazers

On Monday 28<sup>th</sup> October the Minister announced the Apprenticeship Funding Reform and trailblazers. The new reforms will put employers in the driving seat to create new Apprenticeship standards that will deliver the skills businesses and learners need to compete in the global race.

The reformed Apprenticeships will be:

- employer-led and designed so they respond to the needs of industry, meaning each apprentice has the skills required by the sector
- focused on quality so the apprentice has to demonstrate their ability through rigorous assessment at the end of their Apprenticeship
- graded on completion – pass, merit, or distinction – to mark the level of achievement.

**Trailblazers** - Groups of companies, including BMW Group UK, have come together to give industry the power to lead the design of these new Apprenticeships. More than 60 companies who took on more than 13,000 Apprenticeship starts in 2011/12 are involved in these groups, which are known as Trailblazers. The eight Trailblazers will represent a broad spectrum of businesses from a range of different sectors; aerospace, automotive, digital industries, electro-technical, energy, financial services, food and drink, and life and industrial sciences. Their participation will mean that apprenticeships are firmly driven by those who deliver and use them.

The government is still to publish the outcomes of the Consultation on Funding Reform for Apprenticeships in England

A full version of the reform implementation document and a list of the companies currently involved in the Trailblazers programme is at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/future-of-apprenticeships-in-england-richard-review-next-steps>

### 2 Brathay Apprentice Challenge

The Brathay Apprentice Challenge opens for formal nominations at the Skills Show on 14th November 2013. The closing date for nominations is Friday 13th December. Further information can be found on their website <http://www.brathay.org.uk/professional-development/develop/apprentice/brathay-apprentice-challenge/>

### 3 Skills London

The biggest careers and skills event in the UK outside of The Skills Show took place from 22<sup>nd</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2013. Over 30,400 visitors attended and the target audience was 15-24 yr olds teachers, advisers, parents/carers 179 exhibitors including 71 employers. Media coverage was achieved across BBC London, Metro and Evening Standard.

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#### 4 National Apprenticeships Week – 3-7 March 2014

- a. **Toolkits** - Toolkits for NAW2014 are now available and can be accessed on our website: <http://www.apprenticeships.org.uk/awards/apprenticeship-week-2014.aspx>

- Employers
- Training Providers
- Apprentices & former Apprentices
- Sector Skills Councils
- Schools

b. **NAW Workshops**

The National Apprenticeship will also be hosting a series of free workshops to share our NAW2014 plans with stakeholders. The London workshop has yet to be confirmed, but it might well be on 17 January (tbc). As soon as it's available we'll let you know. Last year this session was very popular, so please ensure you flag this up quickly to any interested parties. Further updates can be found here <http://www.apprenticeships.org.uk/awards/apprenticeship-week-2014.aspx>

#### 5 Centenary Apprenticeship Programme

The 4 August 2014 will mark 100 years since the start of the First World War (WW1). As part of the commemoration the Government is working alongside partners on a series of national remembrance events and projects. The National Apprenticeship Service is launching the Centenary Apprenticeship Programme with the aim of;

- engaging 100 businesses who have been in operation for 100 years or more;
- who have a focus on practicing skills and/or crafts which existed then and are still used now, but with a modern application; and
- who employ or wish to employ apprentices.

Part of the Centenary Apprenticeship Programme will be a series of local community action projects that will provide apprentices and their employers with the unique opportunity to be part of the commemoration whilst working with local communities and schools.

Employers can register their interest now at: [Centenary@apprenticeships.gov.uk](mailto:Centenary@apprenticeships.gov.uk) or call 08000 150 600.

