

The Commission on Apprenticeships - Call for Evidence

Introduction

Demos has recently launched the Commission on Apprenticeships, co-chaired by Robert Halfon MP and Lord Maurice Glasman (<http://www.demos.co.uk/projects/apprenticeships>). The Commission will explore how to increase the number of high quality Apprenticeships in the UK, and will feature the construction industry as a major case study sector. The Commission is being supported by the Construction Industry Training Board (CITB).

The Commission's terms of reference are:

- To explore how best to maximise the power and prestige of Apprenticeships in the UK in the context of current reforms to Apprenticeships.
- To establish the roles and responsibilities of different stakeholders, including employers, training providers, unions, sector councils, government bodies, and others in achieving this.

Demos serve as the Secretariat for the Commission. The final report of the Commission will be published in late 2014, and will make recommendations to local and national policymakers, and other relevant stakeholders.

Call for evidence

In the first research phase, we are issuing a call for evidence and inviting responses to the following questions. Submissions will help inform the Commissioners' thinking around final policy recommendations. Please add anything else you feel is relevant and do not feel obliged to answer every question here.

- 1. In light of the Government's implementation of the Richard Review proposals, what will be the outstanding challenges for Apprenticeships policy in the future?**
- 2. To what extent is there a problem with the social status of Apprenticeships? How can this be overcome?**
- 3. Do young people have access to the right information, advice, and routes into Apprenticeships? How can this be improved?**
- 4. What are the key barriers to greater take-up of Apprenticeships amongst small businesses? How best can these barriers be removed?**
- 5. How can the self-employed be better supported to become Apprentices? How can the self-employed be better supported to offer Apprenticeships?**

6. How might more employers be encouraged to commit more funding and resources to Apprenticeships?
7. How might public money be used more efficiently when funding Apprenticeships?
8. How might the education and training system be better able to deliver more high quality Apprenticeships? And adapt to changing skills needs in future?
9. How can a greater number of higher level Apprenticeships be encouraged? What is the role of the Higher Education sector in this?
- 10. How can we ensure that the quality and quantity of Apprenticeships does not fall during future recessions?**

We would be grateful if you could send submissions to commission.apprenticeships@demos.co.uk by the **12th September 2014**.

For further details about the Commission please contact Ian Wybron, Secretary to the Commission, at ian.wybron@demos.co.uk.