

Local Government Association

Welcome to the LGA Apprenticeship newsletter for **January 2019**, highlighting the latest news and developments on apprenticeships relevant to local authorities. Please feel free to circulate this to your own networks.

Joining the KHub

The KHub is the place to find all of our information and best practice as well as to engage in discussions with colleagues from across the country. If you've not yet joined, please first register using the following link <https://khub.net/sign-up>. Once you have registered, please email Sadique.miah@local.gov.uk to be invited into the apprenticeship levy group. The direct link to our group is <https://khub.net/group/apprenticeship-levy-group-2016-2020/group-home>. Please note we are not currently accepting any membership from schools or academies and if your Council is set-up as shared/outsourced service please provide your [.gov](mailto:) email address.

Got an urgent question on apprenticeships? Email us on our 24/7 query line on info@spark.org.uk

LGA 2019 Apprenticeships Survey

Thank you to everyone who has filled in the LGA's apprenticeship survey so far. If you haven't responded yet, there is still time to do so – we're keeping the survey open until **Monday 11th February at 5pm**.

There are two versions of the survey – one for larger councils (Counties, Mets, Unitaries and London Boroughs) and one for districts (only district councils in two-tier areas). You can find links to both surveys below. We are conducting the survey through survey monkey, so if your council's IT system has a problem accessing the website, please fill out one of the word versions of the survey, which are attached to this newsletter.

[Large Councils](#) [Districts](#)

It is extremely important that you fill out this survey, as the results will help inform our ongoing lobbying, identify priority areas for support, identify and collect data on problems the sector is experiencing and ensure that we remain on top of the progress the sector is making on towards meeting the public sector target and allow us to respond accordingly. We had a really good response to last year's survey with 125 councils out of the 151 large LAs responding, giving us a really good and robust set of data to work from.

All of the aggregated results will be shared with the sector later in February once the responses have been analysed.

If you have any questions about the survey, please contact Jamie Saddler (jamie.saddler@local.gov.uk).

Are you struggling to find training providers?

One of the consistent issues that has been fed back to us in recent months is that many councils are struggling to find training providers for some standards and/or that will deliver in their area.

We want to build up a better picture of the gaps in the sector to allow us lobby on this point more effectively. There is interest at ministerial level in doing more to ensure adequate training provision is available, and we want to use this opportunity to develop a more detailed understanding of the extent of the problem.

We are looking for more information on (1) which standards you cannot find local providers for and (2) which standards do not currently exist that you want to see developed and (3) any areas where frameworks existed previously or will disappear by 2020 for which standards have not yet been developed.

We would be grateful if colleagues could contact Sadique Miah (Sadique.miah@local.gov.uk) to provide this information by **31st Jan 2019**.

Government's Apprenticeship Levy Review: Update

As many of you will be aware, the Government announced at the Conservative Party Conference and reaffirmed in the Budget that they would be engaging with employers and providers during 2019 on the long-term operation of the apprenticeship levy.

In the coming weeks, the Government will be sending out a short survey to apprenticeship employers and providers. This will offer an opportunity to comment on how employers have responded to the introduction of the levy, and how government can help develop demand for, and provision of, apprenticeships.

In the meantime, an additional mailbox has been set up to allow employers to share their thoughts and feedback – apprenticeships.feedback@education.gov.uk.

Please do share your views directly with government, and we will provide more details on the extent and timing of the more formal consultation as soon as we have them.

National Apprenticeship Week 2019: Theme Announced

Apprenticeships and Skills Minister Anne Milton has [announced the theme of the 12th annual National Apprenticeship Week](#) will be 'Blaze a Trail', linking to the government's new apprenticeship campaign, launched last week (keep reading for more info on that below).

Taking place from 4 to 8 March 2019. National Apprenticeship Week, will highlight the benefits of apprenticeships to employers, individuals, local communities and the economy.

As in previous years, National Apprenticeship Week will see a range of activities and events being hosted across the country, changing perceptions on apprenticeships and who considers them, whilst encouraging people of all ages and backgrounds to apply. Last year over 780 events were held across the country and the Government is keen to increase the number this year.

As with 2018, you can share your events online. For events already planned, please share information on the government's [events form](#) and they'll ensure it appears on the National Apprenticeship Week 2019 [events map](#). This will maximise exposure to your events ahead of the Week. For those events open to the public, they will promote these across their social media channels, allowing thousands more to hear about your event and to help with securing more attendees.

More information, including a toolkit, will be made available in January. Follow [@Apprenticeships](#) on Twitter and the [National Apprenticeship Service](#) on LinkedIn to keep up to date with announcements as they are made.

Launch of 'Fire it Up' Campaign

For anyone who missed it last week, the Government has launched its new Apprenticeship Campaign 'Fire it Up', aiming to inspire and excite key groups and influencers about apprenticeships. A short toolkit has been developed (see attached) for employers and a full campaign pack is available on the DfE partnership website [here](#). Please do take a look at this, it will contain all the campaign material and will also have collateral for you to use to promote apprenticeships using the Fire It Up campaign look and feel.

Webinar: INLOGOV's MSc Public Management and Leadership Degree Apprenticeship

INLOGOV at the University of Birmingham will be holding the second of their regular lunchtime webinars for their September 2019 intake for their Degree Apprenticeship in Public Management and Leadership.

The apprenticeship includes both an MSc in Public Management and Leadership and a Level 7 Senior Leader Master's Degree Apprenticeship. The MSc consists of six taught modules and a work-based dissertation and is provided through a mix of online and campus-based teaching. Apprentices will also complete an e-portfolio of work-based experiences and projects to feed into the End Point Assessment of the apprenticeship.

The webinar will offer an overview of our programme and our approach to working in partnership with sponsoring organisations and learners. It will be an opportunity to ask questions and learn more about our degree apprenticeship programme. Further details on the degree apprenticeship programme, together with the programme dates for 2019/20 are attached.

The webinar will take place on **Monday 18 February at 12 noon**. You can register for the webinar via Eventbrite [here](#). Once registered, participants will receive full joining instructions.

Youth Worker Standards Level 2 and 3

The National Youth Agency (NYA) would like to thank councils who put their names forward for the trailblazer and who supported them in developing the Level 6 Youth Worker occupational standard. Going forward the NYA would like to start working on Level 2 and Level 3 Youth Worker standards and are looking for further volunteers to support the trailblazers.

To help the NYA get on its way they have produced a very simple survey <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/YouthWorkWorkforceStrategy> and would like local authorities to take a moment to complete this.

The survey will take less than 20 minutes to complete and it will help the NYA get a current picture of Youth Services in local authorities, volunteering capacity and also engage better with central government and its stakeholders.

Sharing Good Practice: Brighton and West Sussex collaborate on animated apprenticeship film for schools

Brighton and Hove City Council and West Sussex County Council have partnered up to produce a short animated film that explains to their schools how the apprenticeships system works and how they can access the funding that is available to them. You can view the film [here](#). If you want to share any good practice from your council to highlight in the next newsletter, or on the KHUB, please contact Sadique (Sadique.miah@local.gov.uk).

IT Support L2 standard

We've had several enquiries from Local Authorities recently regarding the status of the IT Support L2 standard. Unfortunately, due to lack of employer diversification in the trailblazer group, the IfA will not be moving forward with the standard at this level at the present time.

We have got the impression from the number of enquiries we've had that there is some appetite from councils for this standard to be developed. If this is a standard that you would be interested in seeing developed, and are potentially interested in being part of the trailblazer group that develops it, please contact Sadique Miah (Sadique.miah@local.gov.uk) to register your interest and we can explore how we might be able to help take this forward. More information on the rules on setting up a trailblazer and what is involved are available [here](#).

Apprenticeships in the News

ESFA shake-up places new director of funding in charge

Pippa Allen-Kinross, FE Week, Fri 11th Jan 2019

[Read more here](#)

Skills minister vows to 'dig deeper' into level 2 apprenticeships drop

Jude Burke, FE Week, Fri 11th Jan 2019

[Read more here](#)

2019: The year ahead in FE and skills

Jude Burke, FE Week, Fri 11th Jan 2019

[Read more here](#)

Top DfE civil servant claims T-levels timetable is 'on track' following ministerial direction

Jude Burke, FE Week, Wed 16th Jan 2019

[Read more here](#)

Government launches £2.5m apprenticeship campaign

George Ryan, Times Educational Supplement, Thu 17th January 2019

[Read more here](#)

UCAS 'needs extra funds to run apprenticeship portal'

George Ryan, Times Educational Supplement, Tue 22nd January 2019

[Read more here](#)

Previous Newsletters

Missed one of our previous newsletters? They are now archived on the KHUB. You can find copies at the links below:

[February 2018](#)

[April 2018](#)

[May 2018](#)

[July 2018](#)

[August 2018](#)

[October 2018](#)

[November 2018](#)

Your suggestions/ideas

If you have any suggestions for what you'd like to see in future newsletters, have items you want to add yourselves, want to sign a colleague up to our mailing list or want to **unsubscribe** yourself from the mailing list, please contact Sadique.miah@local.gov.uk

Best wishes

Sadique, Jamie, Nigel and Welna

Sadique Miah
Apprenticeship Programme
Local Government Association
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