

Policy Forum for Northern Ireland Keynote Seminar

Priorities for skills and apprenticeships in Northern Ireland: key issues for business, developing partnerships and the future for policy

Timing: Morning, Thursday, 3rd May 2018

Venue: Hilton Belfast, 4 Lanyon Place, Belfast BT1 3LP



POLICY FORUM
FOR NORTHERN
IRELAND

Draft agenda subject to change

- 8.30 - 9.00 Registration and coffee
- 9.00 - 9.05 **Chair's opening remarks**
Dr Steve Aiken MLA, Vice Chairperson, All Party Group on Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics
- 9.05 - 9.45 **Meeting Northern Ireland's skills needs - business and sectoral priorities, impact of the levy and delivering the skills to support the Belfast City Region Deal**
Gareth Hetherington, Director, Ulster University Economic Policy Centre
Sam Davidson, Chair, Employment and Skills Forum, CBI and Group HR Director, Henderson Group
Sinead O'Regan, Economic Development Manager, Economic Development Unit, Belfast City Council
Questions and comments from the floor
- 9.45 - 10.10 **Lessons in apprenticeship policy from outside NI**
Dr Lutz-Peter Berg, Head of Science & Innovation (UK, Ireland, Nordic Countries),
Embassy of Switzerland in the United Kingdom
Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.10 - 10.15 **Chair's closing remarks**
Dr Steve Aiken MLA, Vice Chairperson, All Party Group on Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics
- 10.15 - 10.45 Coffee
- 10.45 - 10.50 **Chair's opening remarks**
Caoimhe Archibald MLA, Vice Chairperson, All Party Group on Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics
- 10.50 - 11.20 **Key issues in delivering curriculum and assessment in apprenticeships: regulating standards, ensuring flexibility and meeting the needs of students and employers**
Justin Edwards, Chief Executive, CCEA
Questions and comments from the floor
- 11.20 - 12.15 **Delivering high quality apprenticeships: qualifications, careers and building effective pathways**
Colin Hagan, Managing Director, Riverpark Training
Stephanie Gowdy, Student Recruitment Lead, PwC
Kathleen O'Hare, Principal, Hazelwood Integrated College, Newtownabbey, County Antrim
Trevor Johnston, Head, Employer Engagement, Queen's University Belfast
Brian Doran, Principal and Chief Executive, Southern Regional College and Chair, College Principals' Group
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.15 - 12.55 **Promoting diversity and social mobility and meeting the needs of apprentices**
Celia O'Hagan, Director of Public Learning, PeoplePlusNI
Laura Young, Senior Associate, PwC
Senior speaker confirmed from the **Institution of Civil Engineers**
Senior speaker confirmed from **Colleges NI**
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.55 - 13.00 **Chair's and Policy Forum for Northern Ireland closing remarks**
Caoimhe Archibald MLA, Vice Chairperson, All Party Group on Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics
Roger Greer, Associate Producer, Policy Forum for Northern Ireland