

**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, 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2018*

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



**POLICY FORUM  
FOR NORTHERN  
IRELAND**

*Agenda subject to change*

- 8.30 - 9.00 Registration and coffee
- 9.00 - 9.05 **Chair's opening remarks**  
Chair to be announced
- 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, Employability & Skills, 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**  
Chair to be announced
- 10.15 - 10.45 Coffee
- 10.45 - 10.50 **Chair's opening remarks**  
**Dr 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  
**Trevor Johnston**, Head, Employer Engagement, Queen's University Belfast  
**Brian Doran**, Principal and Chief Executive, Southern Regional College and Chair, College Principals' Group  
**Kathleen O'Hare**, Headteacher, Hazelwood Integrated College, Newtownabbey, County Antrim  
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.15 - 12.55 **Promoting diversity and social mobility and meeting the needs of apprentices**  
**Mark Huddleston**, Interim Board Support, Colleges NI and Managing Director, JHE Solutions  
**Roisin Crawford**, Creative Director, STEM Aware  
**Celia O'Hagan**, Director of Public Learning, PeoplePlus NI  
**Laura Young**, Senior Associate, PwC  
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.55 - 13.00 **Chair's and Policy Forum for Northern Ireland closing remarks**  
**Dr Caoimhe Archibald MLA**, Vice Chairperson, All Party Group on Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics  
**Roger Greer**, Associate Producer, Policy Forum for Northern Ireland