

Policy Forum for Northern Ireland keynote seminar
Next steps for skills and apprenticeships in Northern Ireland

Timing: Morning, Thursday, 8th October 2020

*****Taking place online*****



**POLICY FORUM
FOR NORTHERN
IRELAND**

Draft agenda subject to change

- 8.30 Registration
- 9.00 **Chair's opening remarks**
Senior Parliamentarian
- 9.05 **Key priorities for upskilling and training in Northern Ireland**
Graeme Wilkinson, Director of Skills, Department for the Economy NI
Jim Wilkinson, Director of Youth Policy, Department for the Economy NI
Questions and comments from the floor
- 9.35 **Developing the framework for Northern Ireland's future skills system**
Gareth Hetherington, Director, Ulster University Economic Policy Centre
Andrew Bell, Head, National Skills Strategy Projects, OECD
Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.15 Break
- 10.20 **Meeting Northern Ireland's skill needs - priorities for businesses and sectors, funding, and delivering for City and Growth Deals**
Barry Neilson, Chief Executive, CITB NI
John Healy, Vice President and Managing Director, Allstate Northern Ireland
Philip McNally, Corporate Immigration and Employment, KPMG Ireland
Sinead O'Regan, Economic Development Manager, Employability and Skills, Belfast City Council
Questions and comments from the floor
- 11.05 **Chair's closing remarks**
Senior Parliamentarian
- 11.10 Break
- 11.15 **Chair's opening remarks**
Dr Caoimhe Archibald MLA, Chair, Committee for the Economy
- 11.20 **Developing a skilled workforce - effective pathways, parity of esteem, and up-skilling**
Richard Kirk, CEO and Founder, Workplus
Leo Murphy, Principal and Chief Executive, North West Regional College
Elizabeth Crowley, Senior Skills Policy Advisor, Chartered Institute of Personnel and Development
Peter O'Reilly, Chief Executive, Transport Training Services
Senior representative, post-primary
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.05 Break
- 12.10 **Raising quality in apprenticeships - assessment, qualifications and promoting excellence**
Louise Warde Hunter, Principal and Chief Executive, Belfast Metropolitan College
Terry Fennell, Chief Executive, FDQ
Joanne Lennox, Training and Development Manager, Farrans
Monica McNally, Apprentice Civil Engineer, Atkins Global
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.55 **Chair's and Policy Forum for Northern Ireland closing remarks**
Dr Caoimhe Archibald MLA, Chair, Committee for the Economy
Sean Cudmore, Deputy Editor, Policy Forum for Northern Ireland