

## GENERAL ELECTION 2017: ENERGY AND UTILITIES SECTOR PRIORITIES FOR WORKFORCE RENEWAL AND SKILLS

The next government **must take action** on **workforce renewal and skills** in order to **empower the energy and utilities sector** to **maximise its contribution** to productivity and growth.

**1** A **strategic and multi-administration approach to workforce renewal and skills** is required, prioritising key sectors, and **bringing together all four nations** within a single coherent plan.



- ▶ The new Government should build **a workforce renewal and skills strategy for the whole UK**
- ▶ We need **policy alignment** between government departments, regulators and other relevant bodies **across all four UK nations**

**2** Development and reform of **UK apprenticeship and technical education policy must be responsive to the needs of employers** in the energy and utilities sector.



- ▶ Technical education must **meet the business needs of employers**, and address skill gaps and shortages
- ▶ **Funding must be flexible**, particularly for employers operating across national borders

**3** A **transparent and predictable skills policy environment** across all four UK nations will enable the energy and utilities sector to flourish and **maximise its contribution to economic growth and productivity**.



- ▶ Explicit and consistent recognition of **the importance of strategic workforce renewal and skills** for our sector within future infrastructure policies
- ▶ **Clear and practical regulation and policy** to reduce costs and 'red tape' for employers