
MEMBER UPDATE



09 February 2018

Dear Member,

Skills Strategy Anniversary

Today marks the first anniversary of the release of the Energy & Utilities Skills Partnership's Workforce Renewal & Skills Strategy which set out the first strategic plan to ensure the sector's workforce is resilient and sustainable, with the skills to meet the UK's needs.

We can look back proudly on the series of successful collaborative initiatives the Skills Strategy has progressed this past year, including:

- The [Energy & Utilities Independent Assessment Service](#), which provides high-quality end-point assessment services for 9 of the 11 new English standards in our sector. Now over 220 learners have qualified and moved into sector roles.
- The [Skills Accord](#), rolled out after a successful year-long pilot, which is promoting structured and sustained investment in technical and operational skills, through commitments in procurement practices across the supply chain. The 26 companies that originally pledged to its commitments have now grown to 40.
- [Talent Source Network](#), which is offering hundreds of vacancies from Skills Partnership members on a shared online platform. It is engaging more diverse audiences and showing achievable routes from entry level roles up to senior management.

Also, the Skills Strategy's calls to build sustainability and workforce resilience have since been replicated in policy:

- Ofwat recognises the skills an organisation needs to run its infrastructure are a vital part of resilience and stated that 'resilience in the round for the long term is a key focus in the 2019 price review.'
- Infrastructure has been retained in the changes from the Industrial Strategy Green Paper to its companion White Paper. With the latter containing skills and an expanded remit addressing the ageing sector, an increased share of the Industrial Strategy is occupied by issues raised in the Skills Strategy.

We are continuing to work with regulators, government ministers and other key stakeholders: the sector needs their support to ensure we grow the sector talent pool, enable the transferability of skills and reduce individual employer costs by working collaboratively. This will stimulate good outcomes for our customers, colleagues, companies and communities, so it can only be good for the UK economy.

To find out more about the Skills Strategy and its achievements please visit our new [website](#) and Members Area. Look out for more details in Sector Round-Up later this month.

Kind regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nick Ellins", with a horizontal line underneath.

Nick Ellins

Chief Executive
Energy & Utility Skills Group



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