

Policy Updates – July 2019

Apprenticeships performance and review

Apprenticeships

Apprenticeship performance

The official July 2019 reports on the performance of the apprenticeship programme offer detailed data and can be found [here](#). This shows that across all sectors there were 336,900 starts on apprenticeships between August 2018 and May 2019; 62.1% of which were on apprenticeship standards. There have been 480 apprenticeship starts since April 2018 as a result of apprenticeship levy transfers.

The last date for new starts for all remaining live apprenticeship frameworks will be 31 July 2020. All starts from 1 August 2020 will be on new, employer-designed standards. Guidance can be found [here](#).

The latest publication of the apprenticeship standard funding bands is [here](#). The latest edition of the Register of Apprenticeship Training Providers [here](#), and the latest edition of the Register of End Point Assessment Organisations is [here](#).

Apprenticeship standards review

[The Institute for Apprenticeships and Technical Education](#) (IfATE) announced that work to review the apprenticeship standards within the Engineering and Manufacturing route will begin in October this year. The review will consider the content for each standard and will recommend whether standards should be retained, revised, withdrawn or combined. IfATE will prioritise its first reviews on apprenticeship standards which are linked to the developing T-Level programmes. Energy & Utility Skills' policy team will update members as details of the review emerge.

T-Levels

T-Levels will be two-year, full-time classroom-based study programmes with a 45-day minimum Industry Placement. Designed to be complementary to A Levels and apprenticeships, the first T-Levels will be taught from September 2020. There will be three T-Level programmes within the Engineering and Manufacturing route: Engineering Design & Development; Engineering, Manufacturing, Process & Control; and Maintenance, Installation and Repair. These T-Levels will be taught from 2022/2023.

Following a meeting of the ATEAG group with representatives from the Institute for Apprenticeships and Technical Education in June, opportunities to inform the development of the three Engineering and Manufacturing T-Levels are being developed. Please contact Energy & Utility Skills Policy Manager Carl Jordan carl.jordan@euskills.co.uk for further information.

Details of the occupational routes and how these T-Levels will relate to apprenticeships can be found [here](#).

Policy Outlook

Electric vehicle charging

With an increasing proportion of the UK's electricity now being generated from low carbon or no carbon sources, attention is focussing on the electrification of transport. The UK Government has set ambitions to ensure that almost every car and van in the UK is a zero-emission vehicle by 2050, and to make the UK a world leader in electric vehicle (EV) and battery technologies.

A key issue in achieving the electrification of road vehicles is the consistent availability of safe and reliable vehicle charging. A rapid increase in demand for charging installations would require the provision of a sufficient and appropriately skilled workforce. A recent report by the House of Commons Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy Committee, '[Electric Vehicles: driving the transition](#)' observed that the market for training, assessment and assurance of competence to install and maintain EV charging infrastructure remains at a very early stage of development. The Energy & Utilities Skills policy team will continue to monitor developments in this area to ensure that members are supported in the workforce skills area of this emerging field. A summary of recent developments in electric vehicle charging can be found [here](#).

New cabinet

A summary of the new government's Secretaries of State and other cabinet members can be found [here](#). The Department for Education has announced that the previous role of Skills Minister is abolished, and that new Secretary of State for Education Gavin Williamson will take on responsibilities for skills, Further Education and apprenticeships directly.

For further information on ATEAG, apprenticeship and technical education policy please contact carl.jordan@euskills.co.uk or grace.storey@euskills.co.uk