

Workforce Solutions Showcase

Thursday 10 May 2018



Workshop session – Helen Thomas

SYREC

South Yorkshire Region Excellence Centre

Working together to develop our care and support staff





Apprenticeship update

Helen Thomas

Apprenticeship reforms

- Government has reformed the way apprenticeships are delivered and funded in England. Its ambition is to increase the number of high-quality apprenticeships that meet the needs of employers. As part of the reforms apprenticeships are more rigorous, better structured, independently assessed and more clearly aligned to the needs of employers

Apprenticeship reforms

- The reforms address the skills shortages reported by many industries and help keep the UK internationally competitive. Most importantly, apprenticeships offer high-quality opportunities for people to develop their talents and progress their careers.

The Apprenticeship Levy

- If you're an employer with a pay bill over £3 million a year, you must pay the apprenticeship levy from 6 April 2017. Read guidance on how to pay the apprenticeship levy. You will report and pay your levy to HMRC through the PAYE process.

The Apprenticeship Levy

- The levy will not affect the way you fund training for apprentices who started an apprenticeship programme before 1 May 2017. You'll need to carry on funding training for these apprentices under the terms and conditions that were in place at the time the apprenticeship started.
- Less than 2% of UK employers pay the levy. Levy funds will create opportunities for young people across the country, delivering the skills British businesses need.

The Apprenticeship Levy

- The levy will give employers control of their training, agree a total price for each apprenticeship, which includes the costs of training and assessment.
- In England, the government will top up employers' levy with an extra 10%, paid directly to employers' apprenticeship accounts.

The Apprenticeship Levy

- An employer's pay bill is made up of the total amount of the employees' earnings that are subject to Class 1 National Insurance contributions, such as:
 - – wages – bonuses – commissions – pension contributions

What about non-levy-paying employers?

Employers with a pay bill of less than £3 million a year will not need to pay the levy.

At least 90% of non-levy-paying employers' apprenticeship training and assessment costs in England will be paid for by the government. The government will ask these employers to make a 10% cash contribution to the cost, paid directly to the provider, and the government covers the rest (up to the maximum agreed funding band).





What is an apprenticeship?

An apprenticeship is a genuine job with an accompanying assessment and skills development programme. It is a way for individuals to earn while they learn gaining valuable skills and knowledge in a specific job role. The apprentice gains this through a wide mix of learning in the workplace, formal off-the-job training and the opportunity to practise new skills in a real work environment. Apprenticeships benefit employers and individuals, and by boosting the skills of the workforce they help to improve economic productivity.

Apprenticeship levels

There are various levels of apprenticeship available

Name	Level	Equivalent educational level
Intermediate	2	5 GCSE passes
Advanced	3	2 A level passes
Higher	4, 5, 6 and 7	Foundation degree and above
Degree	6 and 7	Bachelor's or master's degree

How do they work?

Apprentices must spend at least 20% of their time on off-the-job training, however, they may need more than this if, for example, they need training in English and maths. It is up to the employer and training provider to decide how the off-the-job training is delivered. It may include regular day release, block release and special training days or workshops. It must be directly relevant to the apprenticeship framework or standard and can be delivered at the apprentice's normal place of work as long as it is not part of their normal working duties. It can cover practical training such as shadowing, mentoring, industry visits and attending competitions.

On-the-job training helps an apprentice develop the specific skills for the workplace and they should be supported by a mentor.

Once an apprentice completes their apprenticeship they should be able to demonstrate that they can perform tasks confidently and completely to the standard set by industry.





Who are they for?

Individuals over the age of 16, spending at least 50% of their working hours in England over the duration of their apprenticeship and not in full-time education can apply for an apprenticeship.

Employers can offer apprenticeships to new entrants or use them to grow talent from among current employees.

Apprenticeships equip individuals with the necessary skills, knowledge and behaviour they need for specific job roles, future employment and progression.

Benefits of hiring apprentices

Hiring an apprentice is a productive and effective way for any business to grow talent and develop a motivated, skilled and qualified workforce.

Employers who have an established apprenticeship programme reported that productivity in their workplace had improved by 76% whilst 75% reported that apprenticeships improved the quality of their product or service.

Other benefits that apprenticeships contribute towards include:

- increasing employee satisfaction
- reducing staff turnover
- reducing recruitment costs





Employer responsibilities

There must be a genuine job available with a contract of employment long enough for an apprentice to complete their apprenticeship. Employers must pay an apprentice's wages and the role must help them gain the knowledge, skills and behaviours they need to achieve the apprenticeship with support from the employer.

Employers can select a training provider from the Register of Apprenticeship Training Providers and agree a total price for the cost of training and assessment. For an apprenticeship standard, this should include the cost of the end-point assessment which must be agreed with the provider selected from the Register of End-Point Assessment Organisations.

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Employers need to have:

- an apprenticeship agreement in place with their apprentice for the duration of the apprenticeship
- a commitment statement signed by the apprentice, their employer and the provider
- a written agreement with providers, for employers who pay the apprenticeship levy and use the apprenticeship service, they will need to have a contract for services with their main provider
- an apprenticeship in place for at least one year
- the apprentice on the correct wage for their age, for the time they are in work, in off-the-job training and doing further study

- apprentices who are paid a wage consistent with the law for the time they are in work and in off-the-job training, updates on progression and average weekly hours and changes to working patterns must be logged and checked with the training provider.

The government is offering additional support to organisations with fewer than 50 employees. Please refer to the 'Additional Payments and Funding' section for more details.

Additional payments and funding which may be available

- Employers are not required to pay National Insurance Contributions for apprentices under the age of 25 on earnings below the higher tax rate of £827 a week (£43,000 a year).
- £1,000 payment to both the employer and provider when they train a 16- to 18-year-old.
- £1,000 payment to both the employer and provider when they train a 19- to 24-year-old who has previously been in care or who has a local authority education, health and care plan.



In Summary

quality

Employer-led

Partnership with apprentice

Transferable

Skilled occupation

Institute approved standard

On-the-job training

20% off-the-job training

Literacy and numeracy

Occupational competence

End-point assessment

External Quality Assurance

Certification

= AN APPRENTICESHIP