

May 2018

Welcome to this month's Sector Round-Up where we highlight policy updates and important news from across our sector. As always, your comments and contributions are welcome.

Top Stories



Apprenticeship Reform Policy - Refinement and Evaluation

There have been further adjustments to the apprenticeship funding rules. Also, the Education Select Committee and DfE have been evaluating the progress of apprenticeship reforms.

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Skills Accord recognises investment through procurement

The achievements of 28 sector companies that have met the requirements of the Procurement Skills Accord have been acknowledged at a special event.

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EUIAS approved to provide end-point assessment for ten standards

The Energy & Utilities Independent Assessment Service (EUIAS) has been approved to deliver end-



Labour Market Brexit Dashboard Updated

The Energy & Utility Skills Brexit dashboard, which presents the key figures of our labour market

point assessment on a tenth apprenticeship standard, Electrical Power Network Engineer.

analysis, has been updated.

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Policy Updates

Summary of Select Committee discussion on apprenticeships and skills training

Energy & Utility Skills has produced a summary of the recent session of the Education Select Committee's inquiry examining whether employers, learners and tax payers are getting value for the time and money invested in training. It also explored whether more needs to be done to detect poor quality provision. [Read more.](#)

DfE releases report on apprenticeship programme progress

A progress report on the Apprenticeship Reform Programme has been released by the Department for Education. It charts progress towards the apprenticeship targets in England, including figures on the number of starts and participation with groups defined as 'hard to reach.' Read the report [here](#).

Smart meter barriers to be addressed by UK Government

A 'forward plan of activity' on how the UK Government plans to overcome operational and technical barriers that are affecting its smart meter programme will be published before the end of 2018. The announcement was made during a recent House of Lords debate.

Inquiries and Consultations

Ofqual calls for evidence

Ofqual has made a call for evidence on centre-based assessment judgements in vocational and technical qualifications. The deadline for replies is Friday 15 June. [Read more.](#)

Contribute to Fourth Industrial Revolution Inquiry

The Education Committee has launched an inquiry into the challenges posed and opportunities presented by the Fourth Industrial Revolution. The deadline for submissions is Thursday 21 June 2018. [Read more.](#)

Youth Select Committee inquiry on obstacles to work experience

Employers and learners that have experienced obstacles in organising or receiving work experience have until Monday 18 June to respond to this inquiry, which was launched by the Youth Select Committee. [Read more.](#)

Other News

GDPR

As you're no doubt aware, the new General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) comes into effect on 25 May. This is being introduced to ensure all companies treat your personal data fairly, transparently, accurately and with appropriate security measures. As a result of these changes we have a [new privacy notice](#). You can also update your communication preferences at any time using the link at the bottom of this newsletter.

Baroness Wolf comments on post-18 education review

Baroness Wolf, whose 2011 Wolf Report review of vocational education sparked major reforms, writes that the ongoing review of post-18 education is as much about the people who do not go to university as those who do. [Read more.](#)

Call for investment in vocational education ahead of Brexit

The policy lead for the Northern Council for Further Education (NCFE) has called for the Government to invest in lower-level vocational qualifications to address the skills gap. [Read more.](#)

Sector Awards

NSAP's People in Power Awards

The deadline for nominations for the 2018 People in Power Awards from the National Skills Academy for Power (NSAP) has been extended. Categories include Rising Star, Inspirational Leader, Outstanding Contribution to Health, Safety and the Environment, Inclusion, Best Learning and Development Initiative and Training Provider of the Year. All nominations must be submitted by the new deadline, 5pm on 15th June. [Read more.](#)

Water Industry Achievement Awards

Energy & Utility Skills' Chief Executive Nick Ellins joined senior figures from leading stakeholder organisations as a judge at the Water Industry Achievement Awards. The winners across its 14 categories included Affinity Water, Northumbrian Water, Severn Trent Water, South East Water and Welsh Water. [Read more.](#)

Severn Trent CEO Wins Business Award

Congratulations to Liv Garfield, Chief Executive Officer at Severn Trent Water, for winning this year's Veuve Clicquot Business Woman Award. [Watch her acceptance on video.](#)

Recommended Reading

Technology and the Scottish Labour Market Report

Events

*Energy & Utility Skills members can claim discounted entry on events marked * by using the EUS15 promotional code when booking.*

8 June, Collab Annual Conference, London. Dr Jacqueline Hall of the Energy & Utilities Independent Assessment Service will be a guest speaker. [Read more.](#)

20 – 22 June, Institute of Water Annual Conference, Glasgow. [Read more.](#)

21 June, Utility Week Energy Summit, Westminster.* [Read more.](#)

21 June, Institute of Water Presidents' Dinner & Awards, Glasgow. [Read more.](#)

28 June, National Recycling Awards, London. [Read more.](#)

29 June, Utility Week Star Awards, Manchester. [Read more.](#)

12 Sep, NSAP Conference and People in Power Awards, Burton on Trent. [Read more.](#)

1 Nov, Utility Week Health & Safety Conference, Birmingham.* [Read more.](#)

Visit www.euskills.co.uk/news-events for more sector events

Your News and Success Stories

If you would like to share your stories and success with the Sector Round Up readership, consider sending details to the PR Manager at Energy & Utility Skills, [Veron Graham.](#)



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