



The Rt Hon Robert Halfon MP

Minister for Skills, Apprenticeships and Higher Education

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Mr Clive Betts
Chair, Levelling Up, Housing and Communities Committee
House of Commons
London, SW1A 0AA

9 June 2023

Dear Mr Betts,

I am writing to you in my capacity as the Minister for Skills, Apprenticeships and Higher Education, with delegated sponsorship responsibility for the Industry Training Boards. I wanted to notify you of the launch of the government review of the Construction Industry Training Board (CITB) and the Engineering Construction Industry Training Board (ECITB). This review is part of a wider programme across government to ensure that Arm's Length Bodies remain effective into the future.

The Industry Training Boards (ITBs) are responsible for facilitating the improvement of skills and training in their respective industries. They are primarily funded by statutory levies on employers within their industries. The CITB and ECITB raise approximately £190m and £27m respectively each year.

The review will consider the ongoing need for the ITBs, the effectiveness of the levy process and how it is invested, so that they continue to deliver for the public and represent a responsible use of levy funds. It will consider the ITBs' operating models, governance, accountability models and impact.

Mark Farmer, CEO and Founding Director of Cast Consultancy, has been appointed to lead the review which will run until late 2023. Mark will be supported by a team of civil servants from the Department for Education. The review will also access expertise from the respective industries that the ITBs support as well as from across Whitehall.

Mark would welcome the opportunity to discuss the review and specifically to seek the Committee's views on the ITBs and industry skills needs. If you are agreeable to a meeting, then Mark will be in contact to arrange this later in June.

I am also writing to the Chair of the Education Select Committee.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Robert Halfon". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large initial 'R'.

The Rt Hon Robert Halfon MP
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