



The Rt Hon Robert Halfon MP

Minister for Skills, Apprenticeships and Higher Education

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The Lord Moylan
Chair, Built Environment Committee
House of Lords
London, SW1A 0PW

9 June 2023

Dear Lord Moylan,

I am writing to you in my capacity as the Department for Education's Minister for Skills, Apprenticeships and Higher Education, with delegated sponsorship responsibility for the Industry Training Boards (ITBs). I wanted to update you on the government review of the Construction Industry Training Board (CITB) and the Engineering Construction Industry Training Board (ECITB).

The House of Lords Built Environment Committee report on Meeting Housing Demand, published in January 2022, stated that the CITB "has not addressed construction skills shortages in an effective manner over many years" and that "reform is needed to address this issue." In response to this report, government advised that it was considering the appropriate time for the next ITB review and committed to seek the committee's views as part of the review consultation process.

The Department for Education has now launched the review of the ITBs which will run until late 2023. This review is part of a wider programme across government to ensure that Arm's Length Bodies remain effective into the future.

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 ITB's operating models, governance, accountability models and impact.

I have appointed Mark Farmer, CEO and Founding Director of Cast Consultancy, as independent lead reviewer. 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 Built Environment 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.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Robert Halfon', written in a cursive style.

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