

Press release: Thursday, 30 May 2019

Institute of Student Employers responds to Post-18 Education and Funding recommendations

[Institute of Student Employers](#) (ISE) responds to the recommendations for the Government's review of Post-18 Education and Funding in England published today (30 May) and led by Philip Augar.

Stephen Isherwood, ISE Chief Executive said: "The arrival of these findings will be welcomed by many employers, particularly the recommendation to reintroduce maintenance grants for disadvantaged students. Better funding for students combined with the Office for Students' focus on graduate outcomes would align policy with our employer members' efforts to increase the diversity of their student intakes.

"While the recognition that further education needs greater focus and funding is also welcomed, disincentivising businesses from creating the highly skilled apprenticeships they need at level six and above puts us in danger of recreating a two-tier system.

"Signs that funding for degree apprenticeships should be curtailed is disappointing and puts their development at risk, at a time when employers are just starting to make the most of the levy and realise the benefits. Changing the rules this early makes a mockery of the government's position that the levy is employer led. We would like to see employers listened to regarding the qualification levels they need such as keeping the digital degree apprenticeship."

Ends

Media enquiries

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Notes to editors

About the Institute of Student Employers

The Institute of Student Employers (ISE), [formerly the Association of Graduate Recruiters \(AGR\)](#), is an independent, not-for-profit member organisation that was established in 1968.

As the UK's leading independent voice for student employers, the ISE's vision is that the success of every business is maximised by full access to student talent.

The ISE achieves this by bringing together employers, the education sector and supplier partners, providing leadership and support in all aspects of student recruitment and development.

ISE activities include:

- Promoting excellence and innovation in the resourcing, assessment and development of emerging talent including school leavers, apprentices and graduates
- Providing expert information and insight to ISE member organisations, creating engaged communities for professional networking and sharing of best practice
- Delivering comprehensive research on a range of issues affecting graduate, intern and apprenticeship recruitment and development, including current and future trends and benchmarking data
- Investing in the professional development of members to enhance their skills and knowledge, maximising their career opportunities within the profession
- Influencing key policy areas affecting student employment and the education sector
- Building a strong professional organisation with the right structure and team capabilities to deliver the services and support members require to fulfil their objectives

For further information:

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