

# **APPRENTICESHIPS SELECT COMMITTEE**

## **Hearing 1**

**Thursday 10 January 2013**

### **Witness Guide for Members**

*Below are suggested themes and questions. They have been provided in advance to the witnesses to allow them to prepare for the types of issues that Members may be interested to explore. All Members are welcome to ask these questions or pose additional ones to the witnesses via the Committee Chairman.*

### **Themes and Questions**

#### **Peter Hobbs, Chief Executive, Kent Channel Chamber of Commerce**

- Please introduce yourself and outline the roles and responsibilities that your post involves.
- What are the benefits of apprenticeships for businesses and young people?
- To what extent, in your view, do apprenticeships meet local labour market needs and the expectations of growth industries in Kent?
- In what ways, if any, can collaboration between employers, schools and learning providers be promoted in order to improve the quality and quantity of apprenticeships? To what extent are employers currently engaged in these processes?
- In what ways, if any, can local employers (with particular regards to small businesses) be supported so that it is easier for them to offer apprenticeships to young people?
- Please discuss employer-led models with regards to apprenticeships? What is the role of national management with regards to apprenticeships?
- Please discuss the issue of qualifications without skills in relation to apprenticeships.
- How best can apprenticeships be marketed to young people and businesses in Kent?

- Please discuss the role and impact that local career education and information, advice and guidance have in enabling young people in Kent to make informed choices about their future education and employment.
- In what ways – if any – can Kent County Council improve the quality and provision of apprenticeships in Kent? What can KCC do to increase the number of employers offering apprenticeships in Kent?
- Are there any other issues, with relevance to the review, which you would like to raise with the Committee?