

APPRENTICESHIPS SELECT COMMITTEE

Hearing 2

Friday 11 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

Tony Allen, South East Area Relationship Director, Skills Funding Agency

- Please introduce yourself and outline the roles and responsibilities that your post involves.
- Please provide an overview of the services supplied by the Skills Funding Agency (SFA).
- What are the benefits and challenges surrounding apprenticeships in England?
- To what extent can the SFA influence and support the quality of the Further Education system so that the expected demand for apprenticeships can be met?
- Please discuss the impact and implications of RPA (raising the participation age in compulsory education) on the growth of apprenticeships for 16-18 year olds.
- Please inform the Select Committee of any policy changes at national level with relevance to this review.
- How do you see the role and shape of apprenticeships evolving in the next five years?
- 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?