

**Scotland Policy Conferences Keynote Seminar:
Priorities for skills development and apprenticeships policy**

Timing: Morning, Thursday, 8th December 2016

Venue: Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh, Nicolson Street, Edinburgh EH8 9DW



**SCOTLAND POLICY
CONFERENCES**

Agenda subject to change

- 8.30 - 9.00 Registration and coffee
- 9.00 - 9.05 **Chair's opening remarks**
Elizabeth Smith MSP, Shadow Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills,
The Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party
- 9.05 - 9.15 **Youth employment and skills in Scotland: an overview**
Russell Gunson, Director, IPPR Scotland
- 9.15 - 10.15 **Promoting vocational qualifications, encouraging participation and building partnerships**
Julie-Anne Jamieson, Chair of Scotland Committee, Career Development Institute
Joanna Murphy, Chair, National Parent Forum of Scotland
Dr Ken Thomson, Principal and Chief Executive, Forth Valley College
Zoe Thomson, Depute Headteacher, Woodmill High School, Fife
Sharon McDowall, Qualifications Manager, English, Languages, Business and Core Skills, SQA
Questions and comments from the floor with **Russell Gunson**, Director, IPPR Scotland
- 10.15 - 10.45 **Policy priorities for training and youth skills in Scotland**
Jamie Hepburn MSP, Minister for Employability and Training, The Scottish Government
Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.45 - 10.50 **Chair's closing remarks**
Elizabeth Smith MSP, Shadow Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills,
The Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party
- 10.50 - 11.20 Coffee
- 11.20 - 11.25 **Chair's opening remarks**
Daniel Johnson MSP, Shadow Education Minister, Scottish Labour Party
- 11.25 - 11.35 **The future of apprenticeships funding: assessing the impact of the apprenticeship levy**
Ian Hughes, Strategic Director, Construction Industry Training Board Scotland
- 11.35 - 11.45 **Case study: apprenticeships in practice**
Kelly O'Rourke, Group Head of HR, Ferguson Marine and **Louise Larkin**, Apprentice Draughtswoman,
Ferguson Marine
- 11.45 - 12.30 **Delivering partnerships for apprenticeships: access and employer engagement**
Barry McCulloch, Senior Policy Advisor, FSB Scotland
Iain White, Principal, Newlands Junior College, Glasgow
Michael Moran, Assistant Manager, Council Employability Programmes, Renfrewshire Council and
Eileen Young, Headteacher, Linwood High School, Renfrewshire
Questions and comments from the floor with **Ian Hughes**, Strategic Director,
Construction Industry Training Board Scotland and **Louise Larkin**, Apprentice Draughtswoman, Ferguson Marine
- 12.30 - 12.55 **Next steps for skills development and the apprenticeship rollout**
Katie Hutton, Director of National Training Programmes, Skills Development Scotland
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.55 - 13.00 **Chair's and Scotland Policy Conferences closing remarks**
Daniel Johnson MSP, Shadow Education Minister, Scottish Labour Party
Stephanie Barr, Forum Lead, Scotland Policy Conferences