

FROM THE MINISTER



Department for
**Employment
and Learning**
www.delni.gov.uk

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Our Ref: SUB/061/13

14 February 2013

Dear *Leslie*

FOLLOW UP FROM ORAL 1 – 29th January 2013

In my response to you in the Assembly on 29th January 2013, I agreed to write to clarify the situation on adult apprenticeships with regard to economically important sectors.

As you will be aware, ApprenticeshipsNI is a demand-led programme; employers in Northern Ireland create apprenticeship places on the basis of their business need. Each apprentice follows an industry-recognised framework, which is agreed with the relevant sector skills council or industry-led representative body.

Funding for apprenticeship training for those aged 25 years and over is focused exclusively on the priority sectors, identified as being economically important and contributing most to the rebalancing of the economy. These economically important sectors which are constrained by skills needs are: business services (specifically ICT); financial services; food and drink manufacturing; advanced engineering; advanced manufacturing.

At 1st February 2013, there were a total of 1,086 participants following an apprenticeship framework at either Level 2 or Level 3 in a priority sector of which 302 were aged 25 and over when they were registered on the ApprenticeshipsNI



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

Programme. A breakdown of participation by framework and level is attached at Annex A.

Yours sincerely

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

DR STEPHEN FARRY MLA
Minister for Employment and Learning

cc: The Speaker's Office
NIA Library

Priority Sectors' Frameworks

Framework Title	Occupancy at 1 st February 2013	
	Level 2	Level 3
Engineering	56	51
Providing Financial Services	13	9
IT Services & Development	3	3
Polymer Processing & Signmaking	4	1
Communication Technologies	1	n/a
Pharmacy Services	13	7
Laboratory & Science Technicians	1	0
Food & Drink	112	28
TOTAL	203	99