



We helped the government roll out its traineeship programme

The UK government's flagship traineeship programme is designed to support young people into an apprenticeship or job. Thinking behind the policy is sound – the programme has three core elements: work experience, maths and English support and work preparation training.

In practice, the initiative needed the best start to make sure it was as effective as possible.

This year, we worked with the government to increase referrals to the programme – offering training for 200 Jobcentre Plus work coaches, raising awareness of the scheme and busting some myths. Our training helped the Department for Work and Pensions reach 10,000 referrals and raised participation rates.

We also came up with solutions that improved the programme's inclusiveness, for example extending the eligibility criteria to 19–24-year-olds and exempting trainees from the Job Seekers' Allowance

'16 hour rule'. Our proposals were accepted, which meant that many more young people could access the programme and change their lives.

And we demonstrated the benefits of a sector-specific approach. We adapted traineeships to the science, technology, engineering and maths sector, in a pilot with the Humber Local Enterprise Partnership.

The pilot showed how this approach can address local skill gaps. We will continue working with the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills on more sector-specific traineeships.



WORK AND CAREERS

“Participating in the national pilot to promote STEM traineeships has helped unite and focus young people, training providers and employers around the LEP’s vision of the economic future for the Humber.”

- Humber LEP



Read *FE Week*’s feature on our work on traineeships
feweek.co.uk/2014/04/11/traineeships-are-making-a-difference-despite-slow-uptake



Read *Training Journal*’s coverage of our STEM pilot with the Humber LEP
www.trainingjournal.com/articles/news/niace-expands-national-traineeship-programme-humber-lep



Download our discussion paper on STEM in a traineeship programme
www.niace.org.uk/our-resources/improving-system/can-and-how-might-traineeships-work-stem-within-context-lep-area