

# Apprenticeships and Skills (Public Procurement Contracts) Bill

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## CONTENTS

- 1 Interpretation
- 2 Apprenticeships requirements
- 3 Provision of skills training
- 4 Advertisement of workforce vacancies
- 5 Short title, commencement and extent

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**B I L L**

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Require certain public procurement contracts let by public authorities to include a commitment by the contractor to provide apprenticeships and skills training; and for connected purposes.

**B**E IT ENACTED by the Queen’s most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:—

## 1 Interpretation

In this Act—

“advanced apprentice” is a person studying under the Government arrangements known as Advanced Apprenticeships;

“apprentice” has the meaning given in section 32 of the Apprenticeships, Skills, Children and Learning Act 2009; 5

“public authority” means any body or person discharging functions of a public nature, including local authorities;

“relevant contract” means a contract which—

- (a) exceeds a total value of £1 million, and 10
- (b) is issued by a public authority.

“relevant OGC guidelines” include guidance issued by the Office of Government Commerce “Promoting skills through public procurement 2009”

“workforce” means— 15

- (a) full-time employees,
- (b) part-time employees,
- (c) casual workers,
- (d) directly employed workers, and
- (e) sub-contracted workers. 20

## 2 Apprenticeships requirements

- (1) When a public authority (“an authority”) prepares to issue a relevant contract the authority must—

- 
- (a) give due consideration to the relevant OGC guidelines, and
- (b) ensure that the provisions in the OGC guidelines relating to apprenticeships and skills training are reflected in that contract, where relevant.
- (2) An authority issuing a contract under subsection (1) – 5
- (a) may require that a minimum proportion of the apprentices employed by the contractor are advanced apprentices, and
- (b) may include provisions relating to Apprenticeship Training Agencies in that contract.
- 3 Provision of skills training 10**
- (1) A relevant contract must require the contractor to make continuous skills training available to all members of the workforce. This training must consist of –
- (a) a nationally accredited scheme, and
- (b) a total equivalent to not less than one hour of training each week to every member of the workforce for the lifetime of the contract. 15
- (2) A relevant contract must provide that the total value of the skills training to be provided under subsection (1) is a minimum of 1% of the total value of the contract.
- 4 Advertisement of workforce vacancies 20**
- A relevant contract must require the contractor to –
- (a) advertise all vacancies for members of the workforce in all job centres in the local authority area in which the main site relating to the relevant contract is situated, and in all job centres in neighbouring local authority areas, and 25
- (b) include in these advertisements details of the training on offer.
- 5 Short title, commencement and extent**
- (1) This Act may be cited as the Apprenticeships and Skills (Public Procurement Contracts) Act 2011.
- (2) This Act comes into force at the end of the period of 12 months beginning with the day on which it is passed. 30
- (3) This Act extends to England and Wales.

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## B I L L

To require certain public procurement contracts let by public authorities to include a commitment by the contractor to provide apprenticeships and skills training; and for connected purposes.

*Ordered to be brought in by Catherine McKinnell,  
Mr Charles Kennedy, Ms Angela Eagle,  
John Healey, Tony Lloyd, Jack Dromey,  
John Cryer, Grahame M. Morris,  
Mrs Sharon Hodgson, Tony Cunningham,  
Geraint Davies and Mr Iain Wright.*

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*Ordered, by The House of Commons,  
to be Printed, 14 September 2010.*

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