

Major Capital Contracts (Skills Training Requirements) Bill

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Require public authorities letting contracts for major capital works to require contractors to provide apprenticeships and skills training; and for connected purposes.

BE 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

“local people” means people who live either in the local authority area in which the main site relating to the major capital contract is situated or a neighbouring local authority area;

“local provider” means a provider which has an office within a reasonable commuting distance of the main site relating to the major capital contract; 10

“major capital contract” means a contract which—

- (a) exceeds a total value of £50 million,
- (b) is issued by a public authority, and 15
- (c) includes, but is not limited to, the construction of power stations and other energy-generation facilities;

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

“workforce” means— 20

- (a) full-time employees,
- (b) part-time employees,
- (c) casual workers,
- (d) directly employed workers, and
- (e) sub-contracted workers. 25

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- 2 Apprenticeships and major capital projects**
- (1) When a public authority (“an authority”) issues a major capital contract the contract must require the contractor to ensure that a minimum average of 2% of the workforce are apprentices or advanced apprentices.
- (2) An authority issuing a contract under subsection (1) may require that a minimum proportion of the apprentices employed by the contractor are advanced apprentices. 5
- 3 Provision of skills training**
- When an authority issues a contract under section 2(1) the contract must require the contractor to make continuous skills training available to all members of the workforce. This training must consist of – 10
- (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.
- 4 Ongoing skills training** 15
- (1) When an authority issues a contract under section 2(1) the contract must require the contractor to fund skills training for the workforce and local people, provided by local providers, for a period of ten years from the commencement of the contract.
- (2) The contract issued under section 2(1) 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. 20
- 5 Advertisement of workforce vacancies**
- When an authority issues a contract under section 2(1) the contract must require the contractor to – 25
- (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 major capital contract is situated, and in all job centres in neighbouring local authority areas, and
- (b) include in these advertisements details of the training on offer. 30
- 6 Short title, commencement and extent**
- (1) This Act may be cited as the Major Capital Contracts (Skills Training Requirements) Act 2010.
- (2) This Act comes into force at the end of the period of 12 months beginning with the day on which it is passed. 35
- (3) This Act extends to England and Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland.

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To require public authorities letting contracts for major capital works to require contractors to provide apprenticeships and skills training; and for connected purposes.

*Ordered to be brought in by John Mann,
Mr Jamie Reed, Mr Lindsay Hoyle,
Mr Frank Field, Bob Spink and Mr Robert Ffello.*

*Ordered, by The House of Commons,
to be Printed, 2 March 2010.*

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