All-Party Parliamentary Group on Artificial Intelligence
Evidence Meeting 5 – Education: Skills
Monday, 8 July 2019 | 5:30-7:00 PM - Committee Room 4A, House of Lords

David Nash, Head of Policy & Corporate Affairs, ECITB

Biography: David Nash is the Head of Policy and Corporate Affairs at the ECITB and has over 10 years of experience working in Westminster. He worked as a Senior Policy Adviser for the Federation of Small Business, where he was responsible for overseeing and managing FSB’s UK policy work across a number of key portfolios, including education and skills. Before that, David was a Research Fellow at the Institute for Public Policy Research. He has an MSc on Politics & Public Policy and is a Fellow at the RSA.

SUMMARY OF EVIDENCE

About the ECITB
The Engineering Construction Industry Training Board (ECITB) is the statutory skills organisation for the Engineering Construction Industry (ECI) in Great Britain. We cover 8 critical sectors for the UK economy, such as Nuclear, Water Treatment, Oil & Gas, Renewables, Power Generation, Chemical, Pharmaceutical, and Food & Drinks. Employer-led, we fund training to enhance skills across the engineering construction industry: last year, the ECITB invested more than £21 million to support skills development within the industry.

This includes providing technical, management and professional training, and supporting apprenticeships and careers programmes. The ECITB plays a vital role, along with the education sector, government and employers, in ensuring the UK has workers with the skills to meet the needs of the engineering construction industry.

About the report: Industry 4.0: The impact of technological change on the ECI
The report examines the impact that new and emerging technologies might have on the employment environment of the ECI – from recruitment to training and development. It explores the industry’s response to the emergence of new technology, methods and processes, and the implications for skills. The report is based on findings from 829 surveyed employers from the 8 sectors we cover. It highlights the need to develop and broaden the technology skillset of future generation in anticipation of the impact of disruptive technologies. Our findings reveal that, of the employers surveyed, the greatest perceived skills challenge in adopting new technologies in the work place is that the workforce lacks the skills to be able to adopt them. The report has several
major takeaways in terms of young people and skills, and we hope to discuss it with the panel and the audience.