



Department
for Business
Innovation & Skills

TRIENNIAL REVIEW OF THE UKCES

Call for Evidence

FEBRUARY 2014

Introduction

This call for evidence seeks your views on the UK Commission for Employment and Skills (UKCES). The results will feed into the Triennial Review of the UKCES. This is part of the Coalition Government's commitment to review public bodies every three years, with the aim of increasing accountability for actions carried out on behalf of the state.

The UKCES is a publicly funded, industry led organisation providing strategic leadership on skills and employment issues in the four home nations of the UK.

Together, the Commissioners comprise a social partnership that includes CEOs of large and small employers across a wide range of sectors; trade unions and representatives from the Devolved Administrations.

UKCES strategic objectives in 2013/14 are:

- To provide world-class labour market intelligence which helps businesses and people make the best choices for them
- To work with sectors and business leaders to develop and deliver the best solutions to generate greater employer investment in skills
- To maximise the impact of changed employment and skills policies and employer behaviour to help drive jobs, growth and an internationally competitive skills base

How to respond

If possible, please complete the online survey at:

www.surveymonkey.com/s/UKCESreview

Alternatively, an email response to this call for evidence can be sent to the UKCES Triennial Review mailbox: ukcestriennialreview@bis.gsi.gov.uk.

The deadline for responses is 5:00 pm on 14 March 2014.

Questions

Question 1

What do you think the functions of the UKCES are?

Please tick all that apply.

Maximising the impact of employment and skills policies and employer behaviour across the four nations	
Developing market solutions to leverage investment in and better use of skills	
Providing labour market intelligence to government and employers	
Commissioner insight (e.g. unique perspective provided by breadth and depth of Commissioner's experience)	
Helping to ensure the creation of more and better jobs across the UK	
Increasing employers investment in skills	
Increasing career opportunities for young people and the unemployed	
Increasing collective action by employers	
Increasing employer ownership of skills (key role in Employer Ownership Pilot)	
Enhancing the value and accessibility of vocational training, especially apprenticeships	
To continue to develop the Investor In People (IIP) Framework	
Reform of qualifications to ensure fit-for-purpose occupational standards and frameworks	
Managing the UKCES investment programme (including managing implementation of Growth and Innovation Fund, contract managing delivery of Employer Investment Funds with Sector Skills Councils (SSCs) and delivering Standards and Frameworks funding through lead SSCs and partners)	
Research	
Working with BIS to develop recommendations on future of SSCs	

Other (please specify)	
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Question 2

Are any of these functions also delivered by another organisation? In which areas do you think the UKCES has the greatest impact or adds the most value? In which areas do you think the UKCES has the least impact or least added value?

Please tick all that apply.

	Delivered elsewhere	Greatest impact	Least impact
Maximising the impact of employment and skills policies and employer behaviour across the four nations			
Developing market solutions to leverage investment in and better use of skills			
Providing labour market intelligence to government and employers			
Commissioner insight (e.g. unique perspective provided by breadth and depth of Commissioner's experience)			
Helping to ensure the creation of more and better jobs across the UK			
Increasing employers investment in skills			
Increasing career opportunities for young people and the unemployed			
Increasing collective action by employers			
Increasing employer ownership of skills (key role in Employer Ownership Pilot)			
Enhancing the value and accessibility of vocational training, especially apprenticeships			
To continue to develop the Investor In People (IIP) Framework			
Reform of qualifications to ensure fit-for-purpose occupational standards and frameworks			
Managing the UKCES investment programme (including managing implementation of Growth and Innovation Fund, contract managing delivery of Employer Investment Funds with Sector Skills Councils (SSCs) and delivering Standards and			

	Delivered elsewhere	Greatest impact	Least impact
Frameworks funding through lead SSCs and partners)			
Research			
Working with BIS to develop recommendations on future of SSCs			

Additional comments

Question 3

Is there anything you think the UKCES should stop doing?

Please tick all that apply. Please select N/A if you do not think the row represents an existing UKCES function.

	Stop doing	N/A
Maximising the impact of employment and skills policies and employer behaviour across the four nations		
Developing market solutions to leverage investment in and better use of skills		
Providing labour market intelligence to government and employers		
Commissioner insight (e.g. unique perspective provided by breadth and depth of Commissioner's experience)		
Helping to ensure the creation of more and better jobs across the UK		
Increasing employers investment in skills		
Increasing career opportunities for young people and the unemployed		
Increasing collective action by employers		
Increasing employer ownership of skills (key role in Employer Ownership Pilot)		
Enhancing the value and accessibility of vocational training, especially apprenticeships		
To continue to develop the Investor In People (IIP) Framework		
Reform of qualifications to ensure fit-for-purpose occupational standards and frameworks		
Managing the UKCES investment programme (including managing implementation of Growth and Innovation Fund, contract managing delivery of Employer Investment Funds with Sector Skills Councils (SSCs) and delivering Standards and Frameworks funding through lead SSCs and partners)		
Research		
Working with BIS to develop recommendations on future of SSCs		

Additional comments

Question 4

Is there anything you think the UKCES should do more of or less of?

Please tick all that apply. Please select N/A if you do not think the row represents an existing UKCES function.

	More of	Less of	N/A
Maximising the impact of employment and skills policies and employer behaviour across the four nations			
Developing market solutions to leverage investment in and better use of skills			
Providing labour market intelligence to government and employers			
Commissioner insight (e.g. unique perspective provided by breadth and depth of Commissioner's experience)			
Helping to ensure the creation of more and better jobs across the UK			
Increasing employers investment in skills			
Increasing career opportunities for young people and the unemployed			
Increasing collective action by employers			
Increasing employer ownership of skills (key role in Employer Ownership Pilot)			
Enhancing the value and accessibility of vocational training, especially apprenticeships			
To continue to develop the Investor In People (IIP) Framework			
Reform of qualifications to ensure fit-for-purpose occupational standards and frameworks			
Managing the UKCES investment programme (including managing implementation of Growth and Innovation Fund, contract managing delivery of Employer Investment Funds with Sector Skills Councils (SSCs) and delivering Standards and Frameworks funding through lead SSCs and partners)			

	More of	Less of	N/A
Research			
Working with BIS to develop recommendations on future of SSCs			

Additional comments

Question 5

The contestable funding of the Sector Skills Councils (SSCs) is due to come to an end in March 2014 and the future role of the SSCs is being considered. How important do you think the SSCs are to the success of the UKCES and the delivery of its functions?

Please rate with a score from 1-10, 1 being low importance, 10 being high importance?

Please explain your answer

Question 6

The mission of the UK Commission, as stated on their website, is to work with and through our partners to secure a greater commitment to invest in the skills of people to drive enterprise, jobs and growth. Do you think the UKCES is achieving its mission?

Yes	
No	
Partially	

Please explain your answer

Question 7

Do you think there are any other viable delivery options for any of the UKCES functions e.g. local government, central government, charitable status, private sector?

Please tick all that apply

	Local gov	Central gov	Charitable Status	Private Sector	Other
Maximising the impact of employment and skills policies and employer behaviour across the four nations					
Developing market solutions to leverage investment in and better use of skills					
Providing labour market intelligence to government and employers					
Commissioner insight (e.g. unique perspective provided by breadth and depth of Commissioner's experience)					
Helping to ensure the creation of more and better jobs across the UK					
Increasing employers investment in skills					
Increasing career opportunities for young people and the unemployed					
Increasing collective action by employers					
Increasing employer ownership of skills (key role in Employer Ownership Pilot)					
Enhancing the value and accessibility of vocational training, especially apprenticeships					
To continue to develop the Investor In People (IIP) Framework					
Reform of qualifications to ensure fit-for-purpose occupational standards and frameworks					

	Local gov	Central gov	Charitable Status	Private Sector	Other
Managing the UKCES investment programme (including managing implementation of Growth and Innovation Fund, contract managing delivery of Employer Investment Funds with Sector Skills Councils (SSCs) and delivering Standards and Frameworks funding through lead SSCs and partners)					
Research					
Working with BIS to develop recommendations on future of SSCs					

Other (please specify)

Question 8

Do you have any other comments about the UKCES?

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