

# **Construction's Skills Mission Board**

**Spring Update – April 2026**

# Construction Skills Mission Board

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### Our Mission

The Construction Skills Mission Board was launched in summer 2025 as a collaboration between the UK Government and construction industry to make sure that the sector has the skilled workforce required to deliver its future workload.

It does not lack ambition – by 2029 it will target bringing in the 100,000 new workers needed by the sector.

And this ambition is backed by real resources - a £625 million Government Construction Skill Package will unlock the blockers that might otherwise stand in the way of industry.

Chaired by Government ministers working in partnership with Construction Leadership Council co-chair Mark Reynolds CBE and a panel of industry leaders, the Board has been put in place the strategy that underpins the Mission.

In this quarterly update, we want to tell you as industry the work that has been undertaken so far, what is to come, and how you can get involved.

### Delivering the Skills Package

The Government is moving quickly to implement its Skills Package, and is working with the CSMB to maximise its impact. Since the package was announced we have seen:

**Construction Technical Excellence Colleges** - £100 million in capital support is already being distributed to 10 regional hubs have been announced

**Skills Bootcamps** - £100 million has been committed to support construction skills bootcamps across England, to be developed over the next four years, supporting 60,000 new construction workers by 2029.

**Foundation Apprenticeships** – the Government is supporting foundation apprenticeships as a first step to gain the skills needed for a career in construction. A dedicated [tool](#) has been developed for providers to help promote the scheme

**Funding for courses** - £165 million has been secured to support colleges to deliver mode construction training through the High Value Course Premium, and the Free Courses for Jobs programme

Announcements on further interventions are expected imminently as the Government drives forward with its construction skills agenda

### What does the industry look like now?

Workforce Employment

Jun 2025: 2,268,000

December 2025: 2,295,000

Up 1.2 per cent

## Our Mission priorities

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <p><b>Joint Skills Intelligence and Planning</b></p> <p>What is it?</p> <p>A single integrated, data-led approach to capturing, analysing and responding to data on workforce supply and demand</p> <p>What have we done, and what's next?</p> <p>A project proposal to develop the single model has been developed, and a joint Government and industry team now working to take this forward</p>   | <p><b>Industry Placements</b></p> <p>What is it?</p> <p>A co-designed Industry Placement model that provides a bridge into employment.</p> <p>What have we done, and what's next?</p> <p>The model is now in development with guidance expected to be published before the summer Construction Skills Mission Board update.</p>   |
| <p><b>Construction support for NEETS</b></p> <p>What is it?</p> <p>A new pathway for those not in education, employment and training (NEETs) to get access to opportunities for a career in construction</p> <p>What have we done, and what's next?</p> <p>Further news on the pathway to be announced shortly.</p>  | <p><b>Level 4 Entry</b></p> <p>What is it?</p> <p>Industry tells us full professional training for new entrants can take too long. We are exploring a potential Level 4 qualification that could speed the passage of new entrants into junior professional roles.</p> <p>What have we done, and what's next?</p> <p>Level 4 proposal is at an early stage of development. Further details will be provided in subsequent quarterly updates</p>   |
| <p><b>Local Coordination</b></p> <p>What is it?</p> <p>We know that construction skills rely on local employers, training providers and support bodies working together. We want to bring everyone together to take a shared approach to skills at a local level</p> <p>What have we done, and what's next?</p> <p>We are working with Mayoral authorities to establish workforce pilots, with a Liverpool pathfinder in development. ECA is progressing eight Electrotechnical Training &amp; Careers Partnerships.</p> | <p><b>Major Infrastructure Engagement</b></p> <p>What is it?</p> <p>We know that large projects can have a significant impact on local labour markets, particularly where there are multiple projects in an area. We want to bring forward a coordinated approach between infrastructure clients and suppliers.</p> <p>What have we done, and what's next?</p> <p>Some of the leading infrastructure clients have pledged their support to collaborate, setting out more clearly the pipeline of skills demand for the sector</p> |
| <p><b>Skills frameworks</b></p> <p>What is it?</p> <p>We want greater consistency in the way that skills and training are managed on large projects, using the National Skills Academy for Construction model.</p> <p>What have we done, and what's next?</p> <p>The NSAfC model is now being rolled out by CITB across a series of high-profile projects and programmes</p>   | <p><b>Supporting Apprenticeships</b></p> <p>What is it?</p> <p>Apprenticeships are the key route for new entrants to join construction. We want to make that journey as easy as possible</p> <p>What have we done, and what's next?</p> <p>CITB's NEST team are supporting employers nationwide, while Build UK is exploring a potential national apprenticeship network</p>  |

## Section 106 and Social Value

### What is it?

Current planning and procurement rules are not delivering the expected skills outcomes they were put in place to secure. We are looking at how to make the system work better for construction.

### What have we done, and what's next?

CSMB has agreed a strategy and is taking forward a task force to drive change, with first meeting taking place in March 2026

## Sector Skills Plans

### What is it?

Targeted plans focusing on the specific needs of individual parts of the construction industry, backed by funding support from CITB for in-scope employers

### What have we done, and what's next?

[Homebuilding](#) and [Infrastructure](#) plans launched. [Engineering & Building Services sector skills plan](#) launched on 24<sup>th</sup> Feb. RMI, Commercial, and Engineering & Building Services in development

## The Infrastructure Pipeline

Launched by the National Infrastructure & Service Transformation Authority (NISTA) in July 2025, and updated in March 2026, the [Infrastructure Pipeline](#) is the ten-year forward look of investment into major UK capital infrastructure, developed with input from industry. It provides information on committed infrastructure projects which are in construction or under development, financed either by the public or private sector.

Crucially for construction skills, the March version of the pipeline provides workforce analysis provided by Project Infrastructure – a collaboration between [Whole Life Consultants Limited](#) (WLC Ltd) and a consortium of skills bodies: [Construction Industry Training Board](#) (CITB); [Cogent Skills](#); [Engineering Construction Industry Training Board](#) (ECITB); [Energy & Utility Skills](#) and the [National Skills Academy for Rail](#) (NSAR). This provides support to those planning for the skills needs of companies, projects and the sector as a whole. NISTA is committed to updating and enhancing this skills information twice a year.