

Luke Fletcher MS

Chair

Apprenticeships - Cross Party Group

Joyce Watson MS

Chair

Apprenticeships - Cross Party Group

25 February 2025

Dear Luke and Joyce,

### **Apprenticeship pathways**

I am writing to you in your capacity as joint Chairs of the Apprenticeships Cross Party Group. You will be aware the Committee is currently holding an inquiry into [apprenticeship pathways](#). We felt that the CPG could have some valuable insight into the issues we are examining. We would welcome any information the Group may wish to provide on the issues we are examining, namely:

- Pathways between apprenticeship levels: The extent to which there are challenges in mapping out career routes through the different apprenticeship levels, such as from a junior apprenticeship to a degree apprenticeship. Whether this is more difficult in some careers/sectors than others.
- Economy: The extent to which apprenticeship pathways support the needs of Welsh businesses and contribute to filling skills gaps in the Welsh economy.
- Employers: The engagement of employers in facilitating these pathways and attracting apprentices. Is specific support needed for micro, and small and medium enterprises (SMEs) to engage with the apprenticeship programme.



- Information about apprenticeships: Good practice between careers services, schools, colleges and employers in terms of promoting apprenticeships and the provision of meaningful work experience.
- Equity of support and access for learners: The extent to which apprenticeship pathways are made open to all young people in Wales and any barriers facing specific demographic groups or geographical areas.
- The Welsh Government's role: How policies support apprenticeship pathways and any barriers that need addressing in that regard. The role of the Welsh Government, Regional Skills Partnerships and other stakeholders in identifying and communicating economic and skills needs to inform apprenticeship frameworks and the delivery of qualifications.

Thank you for your time considering this request. I would be grateful if you could reply by Friday 14 March.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Andrew RT Davies". The signature is written in a cursive style with some capital letters.

**Andrew RT Davies MS**

Chair: Economy, Trade and Rural Affairs Committee

We welcome correspondence in Welsh or English