

SKILLS FOR SCOTLAND: ACCELERATING THE RECOVERY AND INCREASING SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIC GROWTH (2010) [[POLICY DOCUMENT](#)]

The Scottish Government has refreshed the Skills for Scotland Strategy. This refreshed Strategy details the Scottish Government's plans for training and skills and sets out a flexible, responsive, partnership approach to meeting Scotland's skills needs in the context of working towards economic recovery. It gives a clear commitment to young people (16-24) regarding the routes on offer to education, employment and training and focuses on young people who are at risk of moving into a negative destination.

It sets out new objectives to stimulate new strategies and initiatives through increased partnership working across the community. It established high-level targets for the National Training Programmes in 2010-11, including Modern Apprenticeship places, more training places to support the unemployed, flexible training opportunities to meet the needs of businesses and use of ESF for additional all-age Modern Apprenticeships. It sought to promote better understanding and assessment of the skills employers need for future success and to ensure that the supply of skills, training and qualifications can be responsive to this. It also aimed to simplify the skills system to make it more coherent with better UK and Scottish integration and easier to understand for individuals and employers. We see the objective of strengthening partnerships and collective responsibility between public, private and third sectors to help improve skills and the contribution they make towards achieving Scotland's social and economic aspirations.

A key feature of the above policies is the Scottish Government's focus on development of the Modern Apprenticeship (MA) programme and is committed to a year on year increase to the annual number of new Modern Apprenticeships starts taking this to 30,000 per year by 2020. Within this programme, there are variations including initiatives to safeguard apprenticeship opportunities for young people, for example the Adopt an Apprentice scheme (organised by Skills Development Scotland) which enables apprentices to complete their training with a new employer if their current employer was unable to continue to employ them. The role of employers working in partnership with local government and other stakeholders also runs throughout all of the above policies.

NAME OF POLICY DOC	<i>SKILLS FOR SCOTLAND: ACCELERATING THE RECOVERY AND INCREASING SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIC GROWTH</i>
Date	2010
Level (e.g. National, regional etc.)	National with regional/ local enactment
Source (e.g. Govt, academic etc.)	Scottish Government

Focus/ field objectives	Promoting skills to address economic recovery
Core problems	Revising previous policy, <i>Skills for Scotland: A Lifelong Skills Strategy</i> which set out strategy for skills in a lifelong learning context, to take account of new economic challenges.
Means	Promoting new objectives, stimulating new strategies and initiatives through increased partnership working across the community. Establishes high-level targets for the National Training Programmes in 2010-11. Inc.' Modern Apprenticeship places, more training places to support the unemployed, flexible training opportunities to meet the needs of businesses and use of ESF for additional all-age Modern Apprenticeships.
Solution proposals	<p>Empowering people to ensure they have the opportunity to access the right advice, support and opportunities to acquire the skills and attributes to both contribute to and benefit from future economic success;</p> <p>Supporting employers by better understanding and assessing the skills they need for future success, and ensuring that the supply of skills, training and qualifications can be responsive to this;</p> <p>Simplifying the skills system to ensure that it is more coherent (with better UK and Scottish integration) and easy to understand for individuals and employers;</p> <p>Strengthening partnerships and collective responsibility between public, private and third sectors to help improve skills and the contribution they make towards achieving Scotland's social and economic aspirations.</p>
Key actors	Extensive: educational/ skills providers (esp. colleges); local government;, and third sector partners; employers, National skills agencies (integrating the employment and skills services provided by Job Centre Plus Scotland and SDS); careers advice services, voluntary orgs, national professional associations/ unions; Community Planning Partnerships and local community services.
Target groups	Extensive: Whole population but particular focus on groups seen as vulnerable using specific strategies Inc. unemployed, economically disadvantaged, those in rural areas; offenders,

Success criteria	Increased level of skills, qualified population, better matching of skills to opportunities; increased employment; increased take up of courses; reduction in numbers of those in poverty; increased economic activity.
Evaluation perspectives	National and local statistics on above criteria
Mutual compatibility and integration (with other policies/areas)	Strategy aims to promote greater coherence with other national policies that promote employment and wellbeing and related services and better integration of related services and programmes
Bibliographic reference	Scottish Government (2010) Skills for Scotland: Accelerating the Recovery and Increasing Sustainable Economic Growth. Edinburgh. ISBN: 9780755994137.