

Apprenticeships and Skills (Public Procurement Contracts) Bill

CONTENTS

- 1 Apprenticeships requirements
- 2 Advertisement of workforce vacancies
- 3 Provision of skills training
- 4 Interpretation
- 5 Short title, commencement and extent

A

B I L L

TO

Require certain public procurement contracts let by public authorities to include a commitment by the contractor to provide apprenticeships and skills training; and for connected purposes.

BE IT ENACTED by the Queen’s most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:—

1 Apprenticeships requirements

- (1) When a public authority (“an authority”) prepares to issue a relevant contract the authority must—
 - (a) give due consideration to the relevant guidelines issued by the Office of Government Commerce (OGC) or by the Cabinet Office or any related body, and 5
 - (b) ensure that the provisions in the guidelines issued by the OGC or by the Cabinet Office or any related body relating to apprenticeships and skills training are reflected in that contract, where relevant.
- (2) An authority issuing a contract under subsection (1)(a) may require that a minimum proportion of the apprentices employed by the contractor are higher or advanced apprentices. 10

2 Advertisement of workforce vacancies

A relevant contract must require the contractor to—

- (a) advertise all vacancies for members of the workforce in all job centres in the local authority area in which the main site relating to the relevant contract is situated, and in all job centres in neighbouring local authority areas, and 15
- (b) include in these advertisements details of the training on offer.

3 Provision of skills training 20

Skills training provided by the contractor must form part of a nationally accredited scheme.

4 Interpretation

In this Act –

“apprentice” has the meaning given in section 32 of the Apprenticeships, Skills, Children and Learning Act 2009;

“higher or advanced apprentice” is a person studying either – 5

(a) for an apprenticeship at level 3 or above, or

(b) under the Government arrangements known as Advanced and Higher apprenticeships;

“public authority” means any body or person discharging functions of a public nature, including local authorities; 10

“relevant contract” means a contract which –

(a) exceeds a total value of £1 million, and

(b) is issued by a public authority;

“relevant guidelines” include guidance issued by the Office of Government Commerce as “Promoting skills through public procurement 2009” or guidelines issued by the Cabinet Office or any related body. 15

5 Short title, commencement and extent

(1) This Act may be cited as the Apprenticeships and Skills (Public Procurement Contracts) Act 2013. 20

(2) This Act comes into force at the end of the period of 12 months beginning with the day on which it is passed.

(3) This Act extends to England and Wales.

Apprenticeships and Skills (Public Procurement Contracts) Bill

A

B I L L

To require certain public procurement contracts let by public authorities to include a commitment by the contractor to provide apprenticeships and skills training; and for connected purposes.

*Presented by Andrew Gwynne,
supported by
Alan Johnson, Mr David Blunkett,
Catherine McKinnell, Mr Jamie Reed,
Dan Jarvis, Barbara Keeley,
Tom Greatrex, Bill Esterson,
Robert Halfon, Andrew George
and Caroline Lucas.*

*Ordered, by The House of Commons,
to be Printed, 19 June 2013.*

© Parliamentary copyright House of Commons 2013

*This publication may be reproduced under the terms of the Open Parliament Licence, which is published at
www.parliament.uk/site-information/copyright.*

PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS
LONDON – THE STATIONERY OFFICE LIMITED
Printed in the United Kingdom by
The Stationery Office Limited
£x.xx

Bill 17

(xxxxxx)

55/3

xxxbarxxx