

Our  
future.  
It's in  
our hands.



# MAKE SKILLS MEAN BUSINESS

**The Skills Pledge provides an opportunity to generate a single workforce strategy for skills development, whereby all your employees can make a full contribution to the success of your business.**

## **What is the Skills Pledge?**

The Skills Pledge is a voluntary, public commitment by the leadership of a business or organisation to support all its employees to develop their basic skills, including literacy and numeracy, and work towards relevant, valuable qualifications to at least NVQ Level 2 (equivalent to five good GCSEs). The purpose is to ensure that all employees are skilled, competent and able to make a full contribution to the success of the organisation. The Skills Pledge is open to all employers.

## **Why is the Skills Pledge important?**

If the UK is to compete with other economies its businesses will have to invest more in skills. The case was set out starkly in the Leitch Report: without a better skilled and qualified workforce productivity will not improve. Research has also shown that helping employees achieve their first qualifications can have a powerful impact on their confidence and motivation. The Skills Pledge has been created to help businesses address these issues.

## **How does it work?**

When an organisation registers its intention to make the Pledge, it will be able to access the support of a dedicated business adviser. They will work in partnership to understand business priorities, identify skills needs and design a training package that will best meet the organisation's needs. The business adviser will help identify available sources of public funding and the best suppliers of appropriate training.

## **What next?**

In all cases, the final decision on next steps will rest with the employer as to what any plans contain, which training providers are used, where training is delivered and how much they are prepared to pay in addition to any public funding.

**To find out how the Skills Pledge can benefit your business simply complete and return the faxback form overleaf. Alternatively, telephone Business Link on 0845 600 9966**

# SKILLS PLEDGE FAXBACK FORM

Add your contact details and fax this information to 01275 370857.  
Alternatively, call Business Link on 0845 600 9966, or e-mail [skills@businesslinksw.co.uk](mailto:skills@businesslinksw.co.uk)

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Please arrange for a business adviser to contact me.

My contact details are:

Title ..... First name ..... Surname .....

Position .....

Business name .....

Address .....

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..... Postcode .....

Tel ..... Fax .....

Mobile .....

E-mail .....

Website ..... No. of employees .....

