

The Livery Companies Skills Council (LCSC) evolved from an initiative in 1993 by the then Lord Mayor to establish a forum within the Livery to promote vocational and educational training and to represent the concerns of the Livery to Government and policy makers. Our objectives are to serve the Livery by:

Promoting Excellence in Skills. The Master Certificate Scheme, run in partnership with City & Guilds, celebrates excellence, encourages progression beyond National Vocational Qualifications and recognises the very highest levels of skill and experience. The Scheme now includes career progression from Apprenticeship through Journeyman to Master level. 18 Companies have adopted this Scheme. The most recent ceremony was held at The Mansion House in March 2020 when certificates were presented by the Lord Mayor, Alderman William Russell.



Maintain dialogue with Policy Makers. LCSC submitted evidence to the Leitch Review, *Prosperity for all in the Global Economy*. We submitted a paper jointly with City & Guilds, *The Contribution of the Livery to Skills for Sustainable Growth*, which has paved the way for new apprenticeship initiatives. More recently, in concert with the City Remembrancer, we have submitted evidence to the Parliamentary Select Committee enquiry on Apprenticeships, responded to consultations and made representations to Government on policy and legislation relating to apprenticeship and technical education.

Engage with Government bodies in setting standards and creating sound training frameworks. Responsibility for standards has now passed from Sector Skills Councils to Employer-led initiatives through the Trailblazer programme. LCSC is directly involved in the Trailblazer programme, with an initial emphasis on the craft, engineering and manufacturing sectors.

Secure adequate funding for apprenticeships and vocational training. Following the Lord Mayor's Apprenticeship Seminar held at Mansion House in July 2012, we successfully bid for funds for a Livery apprenticeship scheme under the Government's Employer Ownership of Skills pilot programme. The Livery Companies Apprenticeship Scheme Ltd was set up to manage the scheme which was designed to fund 52 one- and three-year apprenticeships in the age range 16-25, across some 13 different disciplines, against standards and frameworks developed by the respective participating Livery Companies.

The Pilot Scheme was completed successfully in October 2017 within budget. It stimulated increased interest in apprenticeship training and helped to reconnect some Livery Companies with their traditional trades; it provided funding for training direct to small businesses; it established a central Secretariat and it built a huge body of knowledge. LCAS offers advice and guidance to the Livery for both Government and private apprenticeship schemes and it continues to provide management support for privately-funded schemes.



Advice on training and career development. We need to raise awareness of the range of career opportunities in the many craft, technical and professional disciplines espoused by the Livery. This is a huge task, but there is scope for collaboration. For example, the LCSC arranged a Livery pavilion at World Skills held in London in 2011 where over 200,000 young people visited over four days. We support more local skills events and work in conjunction with Livery Schools Link to do all we can to engage and motivate young people

Professional Recognition Awards. Following the successful delivery of the Employer Ownership of Skills Pilot through the Livery Companies Apprenticeship Scheme, the LCSC looked for further opportunities to promote learning and training within the Livery movement. LCSC has a long-established relationship with City & Guilds, and the latter's Professional Recognition Awards (PRAs) offer an ideal vehicle for formally recognising and encouraging professional development throughout the Livery movement. A project is being developed to test the viability of expanding the use of PRAs across selected Livery Companies and identify a model for doing so.

Strengthen historic links with City & Guilds. The City and the Guilds came together in 1878 to create the City & Guilds of London Institute in response to a shortage of technical skills. C&G has a pre-eminent reputation in the eyes of Government and has grown to become a global business. We benefit enormously from their advice on policy and practice in education and skills and in turn we seek to reinforce their historic links with the Livery.

Why LCSC? While City & Guilds set standards and qualifications, there is no comparable mechanism for a collective approach to the delivery of skills training. A number of Livery Companies are fortunate and are able to run their own facilities; all support training to the extent that their limited resources will allow, but most do not have the capacity to organise training in house. We exist to support the Livery in these endeavours and to help those who wish to do more. lcsc.secretariat@gmail.com



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