

Lord Storey  
House of Lords, London, SW1A 0PW  
By email: [storeym@parliament.uk](mailto:storeym@parliament.uk)

24 July 2018

Dear Lord Storey,

**Re: Parliamentary Question HL8996 on higher level apprenticeships apprenticeships**

The Department for Education (DfE) has asked me to respond to you directly regarding your Parliamentary Question HL8996, in which you enquire when the Institute of Apprenticeships will approve the framework for the Higher Level Apprenticeships.

The Institute is responsible for developing and improving apprenticeship standards and has published clear criteria and guidance to help support groups of employers, known as trailblazer groups, to develop apprenticeship standards:

<https://www.instituteforapprenticeships.org/developing-new-apprenticeships/>

As of 16 July, the Institute website shows that 117 higher level standards – at Level 4 and above - have been approved for delivery, and there are a further 115 Level 4 and above standards currently in development.

Standards can be submitted by trailblazer groups for approval every six weeks and a range of standards at different levels will be approved at each Approval and Funding committee. The expectation is that a trailblazer group should be able to get through the whole process within 12 months. Between January 2018 and June 2018 the Institute approved over 90 standards, the highest number of standards approved for delivery in any half-year period since the reforms began in 2014.

Yours sincerely,



Sir Gerry Berragan  
Chief Executive Officer  
Institute for Apprenticeships