

Rt Hon. the Baroness Garden of Frognal  
House of Lords  
London  
SW1A 0PW

9 April 2020

Dear Baroness Garden

The Department for Education (DfE) has asked me to respond to you directly on behalf of the Institute for Apprenticeships and Technical Education regarding the following Parliamentary Question:

**To ask Her Majesty's Government what consideration they have given to postponing the consultation by the Institute for Apprenticeships and Technical Education on changes to the funding recommendation process during the COVID-19 pandemic. HL 2939**

We understand that in the current situation, many organisations are having to make difficult decisions in relation to their businesses. In order to allow them to focus on their business needs at this time, we have extended the consultation on a proposed new model for making funding recommendations by six weeks. The consultation will now close on Monday 18th May at midday.

The Institute has already received a large number of responses to this consultation, but we appreciate that it is important to provide more time, as it is possible that other consultees may wish to contribute, but currently have more pressing priorities.

Full details of the extension are provided here:

<https://www.instituteforapprenticeships.org/reviews-and-consultations/consultations/>

Yours sincerely



**Jennifer Coupland**  
Chief Executive Officer  
Institute for Apprenticeships and Technical Education