



Department for  
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& Industrial Strategy

Lord Callanan  
Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State

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6<sup>th</sup> May 2022

Dear Lord Taylor

**QUESTION FOR WRITTEN ANSWER HL8014**

On 27<sup>th</sup> April 2022 you asked the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy the following Question for Written Answer:

To ask Her Majesty's Government what plans they have to introduce training vouchers for rural enterprises. (HL8014)

Please find my response below:

*The rural economy is a matter for the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, and they have provided the following reply:*

*We will continue to engage with and support DfE to ensure that the needs of rural communities are considered in skills policy, ensuring that skills provision and outcomes – including in key digital skills for the future economy - meet the needs of rural businesses. We recognise the vital role that land-based colleges have in meeting skills needs in rural areas, and in delivering high-quality skills provision for the farming, forestry, and other key rural sectors.*

*We plan to work closely with DfE to ensure that flexibilities in apprenticeship training and delivery continue to support employers in rural areas, and that available apprenticeship standards reflect emerging technology in key sectors.*

I will be placing a copy of this letter in the Libraries of the House.

**Lord Callanan**