

## East of England announces new LSC Regional Council

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Thirteen representatives from businesses across the region have been appointed to sit on the new East of England LSC Regional Council to help shape education and training for young people and adults in the region.

The East of England Regional Council is one of nine new councils to be formally established by the Learning and Skills Council (LSC) – the organisation responsible for ensuring the delivery of high quality education and training for young people and adults.

Chris Paveley, chairman of the Uniter Group, was appointed as chair of the new regional council in June and led the recruitment process for council members. The following appointments were made:

- Deborah Cadman – Chief Executive of the East of England Development Agency (EEDA)
- Stephanie Benbow – Head of St Mary’s High School in Cheshunt
- Deep Sagar - management consultant from Hertfordshire
- Jim Telford - Union Learning Fund Project Manager for Amicus the Union
- Mike Burrows – until recently partner at Grant Thornton Accountants in Norfolk
- Rick Dearing – Principal and Chief Executive of Cambridge Regional College
- Anne Swietlik – HR and Development Manager for Pilot Drilling Services Ltd in Lowestoft
- Johanna Finn – consultant specialising in the health sector, governor of West Suffolk College

- Edward Libbey - executive search consultant specialising in the international energy sector
- Jim McGivern - management consultant from Bedfordshire
- Anjana Parmar - company director for Luton Training and Mentoring
- Robert Powell – chair of the Princess Alexandra Hospital NHS Trust in Harlow
- Lynette Wieland – learner representative and office administrator at Management and Personnel Services Ltd in Bedfordshire

The council will inform the LSC's decision making at a regional level, guide progress and make sure the Government's strategy for education and skills works on the ground. The council will reflect both the local and regional needs of learners and employers by supporting the LSC in the region which has offices in Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire, Essex, Hertfordshire, Norfolk and Suffolk. The LSC is responsible for investing in, and working with, training providers and employers in order to give young people and adults the skills they need for sustainable employment so that employers can recruit individuals with the skills needed for business success.

Congratulating the new Regional Council members on their appointments, Caroline Neville, Regional Director for the LSC in the East of England, said: "We have a single aim; to improve the skills of the region. Over the next two years or so the East of England LSC, supported by the new regional council, has a huge and important job to do working with the Further Education sector to ensure that we can continue to respond effectively to the changing needs of individual learners, employers and wider communities, and to secure the skills we need to remain competitive as a country.

"I am delighted that we have been able to attract such a high calibre of membership to our new Regional Council. The Regional Councils will provide challenge, support and leadership to the LSC's work, and in doing so will help shape a world class education and skills system for the East of England region."

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**Notes to editors:**

**Learning and Skills Council**

The LSC exists to make England better skilled and more competitive. We are responsible for ensuring the availability of high-quality education and training for everyone. We have a single goal: to improve the skills of England's young people and adults to world class standards. Our vision is that young people and adults in England have knowledge and skills matching the best in the world and are part of a truly competitive workforce. We work nationally, regionally and locally to deliver this ambition on behalf of learners and employers.

Visit [www.lsc.gov.uk/inourhands](http://www.lsc.gov.uk/inourhands) or call 0800 011 30 30 for more information.

**Regional councils and the Further Education and Training Act 2007**

The new regional councils, established as part of the Further Education and Training Act 2007, will inform the LSC's decision making at a regional level, guide progress and make sure the Government's strategy for education and skills works on the ground.

The Act streamlines the LSC's "non-executive tier" replacing 47 Local Councils with 9 Regional Councils, resulting in a more simplified, less bureaucratic, structure, as well as being aligned to the organisation of the LSC executive team.

**EAST OF ENGLAND REGIONAL COUNCIL COMPOSITION**

	<b>NAME</b>	<b>ORGANISATION</b>	<b>Area</b>
1	Stephanie Benbow	St Mary's High School	Herts
2	Mike Burrows	Grant Thornton	Norfolk
3	Deborah Cadman	EEDA	EOE Region
4	Rick Dearing	Cambridge Regional College	Cambs
5	Jo Finn	Self employed	Suffolk
6	Chris Hilliard	GO East	EOE Region
7	Edward Libbey	Clive and Stokes International	Norfolk

8	Jim McGivern	Retired	Beds and Luton
9	Anjana Parmar	Luton Training and Mentoring	Beds and Luton
10	Chris Paveley	Uniter Group	CHAIR
11	Robert Powell	Princess Alexandra Hospital NHS Trust	Essex
12	Lynda Russell	Job Centre Plus	EOE Region
13	Deep Sagar	Self employed	Herts
14	Anne Swietlik	Pilot Drilling Services Ltd	Suffolk
15	Jim Telford	Unite trade union	Herts
16	Lynette Wieland	Management and Personnel Services Ltd (learner rep)	Beds and Luton