

TRAIN TO GAIN FACT SHEET	
Summary	In 2004 Lord Leitch was commissioned, by the Government, to lead an independent Review of Skills. The Review was undertaken to identify the UK's optimal skills mix in 2020, so as to maximise economic growth, productivity and social justice as well as to consider the policy implications of achieving the level of change required.
Location	The UK
Timing	Lord Leitch published his final report "Leitch Review of Skills: Prosperity for all in the Global Economy – World Class Skills" in December 2006. In July 2007 the Government formally signed up to the Leitch ambitions and the Department for Innovation, Universities and Skills (DIUS) issued its Leitch Implementation Plan "World Class Skills"
Why	If the UK wants world class skills, it needs world class attainment among young people. There has been a significant improvement in schools, but there is still a distance to go. However, 70% of the 2020 workforce are already over the age of 16 and have already finished their compulsory education. As the global economy changes and working lives lengthen, adults will increasingly need to update their skills in the workplace.
How	The Review recommends that in order to achieve world class skills, the UK will need to commit to achieving the following by 2020; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 95% of adults having basic skills of functional literacy and numeracy (up from 85% and 79% in 2005) • 90% of the adult population qualified to at least level 2 (an increase from 70% in 2005) • Shifting the balance of intermediate skills from level 2 to level 3 • Boosting the number of apprentices in the UK to 500,000 • 40% of adult population to be qualified to level 4 or above
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Website	To read the Leitch Review visit http://www.hm-treasury.gov.uk/leitch_review_skills.htm


Key messages

All adult skills funding should be routed through Train to Gain and Learner Accounts by 2010.

As Train to Gain continues to roll out, the National Employer Service should be expanded to provide a more effective advisory and brokerage service.

The Review recommends all Employers in the UK to make the Skills Pledge, enabling every employee to gain basic skills and a first full level 2 qualifications.

The Review recommends that all adults should be entitled to a free skills health check, which would identify an individual's strengths as well as their needs.

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Achieving world class skills requires shared action between Employers, employees and the Government.

The Government needs to

- Invest more, focusing on the least skilled.
- Ensure the education system delivers a highly skilled flow in to the workforce.
- Create a framework to ensure that Employers and individuals drive the skills system to deliver economically valuable skills.
- Be prepared to act on market failures, targeting help where it is most needed.

Employers need to

- Increase investment in skills to impact on productivity, where possible increasing investment in portable accredited training.
- Ensure skills system delivers economically valuable skills by effectively influencing the system.
- Pledge to support low skilled employees to reach at least a first full level 2.

Individuals (employees) need to

- Raise their aspirations and awareness.
- Demand more of their Employers.
- Invest more in their own skills development.