

Skills Economy and Growth Scrutiny Commission 23 February 2026 Item 4 – Green Skills and Construction	Item No 4
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Outline

The agenda will cover national skill needs, referencing reports from TrustMark (the only UK Government-Endorsed Quality Scheme for work carried out in and around the home.) and National Retrofit Hub (a nonprofit organisation that brings together all those involved in retrofit to collectively drive and accelerate the local delivery of retrofit at scale) as background information.

The meeting will receive presentations from New City College, who will discuss the skills provision and facilities for retrofit at the college. The discussion will also examine the skills needed and current formal and informal qualifications available to students (adults and existing trade professionals) and explore strategies for developing the necessary skills, acknowledging that transitioning to new skill requirements and demands.

NCC's presentation should cover several key areas related to green skills and retrofit. it will detail NCC's existing Green Skills training for local residents, including provision for individuals new to construction and upskilling opportunities for established trade professionals. Identify the barriers to learning e.g., funding issues and cover the work by NCC in relation to green skills development pathways and qualifications offered to the construction sector.

Hackney Council's presentation will provide an update on the local green skills offer and the support available for local provision, building on the information shared in September 2024. This will specifically cover the work of ESAL (Employment, Skills and Adult Learning) and related partnership working.

Links to previous scrutiny commission discussions on this topic are provided below for reference.

- Further background can be found in the [Sept 2024](#) minutes from the Skills, Economy and Growth Scrutiny Commission meeting on 30 September 2024, and the [ESAL Presentation](#) to SEG at the same meeting.

Purpose of the meeting

The purpose of this meeting is to address the national skills gap, particularly as it relates to the Construction industry covering the retrofit and green skills agenda, and to discuss how Hackney is responding to this challenge.

Report in the agenda:

To support this discussion the presentation and reports below has been included in the agenda for background reading.

Background reports

- TrustMark Report skills gap research - [Skilled to Build](#)
- National Retrofit Hub Report [Policy Recommendations for a National Retrofit Workforce Strategy](#)

Presentations

- New City College (Hackney Campus)
- London Borough of Hackney Employment, Skills and Adult Learning

Invited Guest

London and Partners

- **Alison Arnaud**, Principal: Tower Hamlets College and Hackney College
- **Stephen Brayshaw**, Group Curriculum Director: Construction and Technical Skills
- **Colleen Marshall**, Principal - Rainham Campus and Hackney Sixth Form Campus

London Borough of Hackney

- **Cllr Carole Williams**, Cabinet member for Employment, Human Resources and Equalities
- **Suzanne Johnson**, Director of Regeneration, Economy, and Housing Development
- **Anish Pillai**, Programme Manager Employer Engagement

Action

The Commission is asked to note the presentations, background information and ask questions.