

# LET'S CHAMPION MANAGEMENT DEGREE APPRENTICESHIPS



## MANAGEMENT DEGREE APPRENTICESHIPS ARE AT RISK

The Education Secretary, Gavin Williamson MP, has asked Jennifer Coupland, CEO of the Institute for Apprenticeships and Technical Education (IfATE), to review the level 7 Senior Leader Master's Degree Apprenticeship (SLMDA) standard, to ensure it is meeting its intended aims and providing value for money. He has asked the IfATE to report back by 1st June with its findings.

Management degree apprenticeships are a policy innovation that the government should be proud of. Revoking the level 7 standard will be counterproductive to the Government's agenda to boost prosperity, raise productivity and 'level up' the UK. That's why we're calling on everyone who believes in the value of management degree apprenticeships to join our campaign and become a vocal champion of the SLMDA.

## SLMDAs ARE A GOVERNMENT SUCCESS STORY

### LEVELLING UP

The SLMDA is allowing organisations across all regions of England to develop the highest quality management and leadership skills. We know that SMEs, Social Enterprises and the NHS are now using their levy to access this strategic training which in the past has been reserved for large corporations and the civil service. The unique levy system means this can be delivered in a flexible way, supporting a wider range of organisations to access training. Of the near half of CMI SLMDA apprentices where we can identify sectors:

- 61% work in the public sector or not for profit (52% in the public sector and 9% not for profit).
- Only 39% work in the private sector.
- Only 7% are employed in FTSE 350 companies.

### INCREASING NATIONAL PRODUCTIVITY

Productivity has flatlined in the UK since the financial crisis. To ensure the UK's economic prosperity we need to address the productivity gap relative to other G7 countries, and between regions in the UK. The Government's own 2019 Business Productivity Review stated: "Leadership and management practices, therefore, represent one of the greatest opportunities for firm-level productivity growth in the UK." CMI's own initial analysis shows that 70% of CMI SLMDA apprentices are in regions with lower than average UK productivity levels, whilst 40% are located in the 4 regions of England ONS identify as having the with the lowest levels of productivity.

### DIVERSIFYING THE LEADERSHIP PIPELINE

48% of CMI SLMDA apprentices are women whilst 11% of all SLMDA apprentices are from BAME backgrounds. The SLMDA is helping to ensure the future face of management is much more representative of the UK, through a diverse cohort of managers equipped with the skills and confidence to drive real change.

### EMPOWERING ALL AGE GROUPS

We recognise that falling apprenticeship starts, especially at lower levels and within SMEs, are a concern for many. However, part of this is attributable to the higher quality of new apprenticeship standards - definitely a good thing - and funding reforms which squeezed non-levy starts. This is an important structural issue that needs addressing. We stand ready to help with this.

Join our campaign by [downloading our pack](#) and [sharing on social media](#).

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