



Skills England

Skills England Overview

22.04.2026

Our vision

Better skills for better jobs

Building our nation's world-class skills, enabling growth and opportunity



Understand our nation's skills needs and **improve** our skills offer



Simplify access to skills to boost economic growth



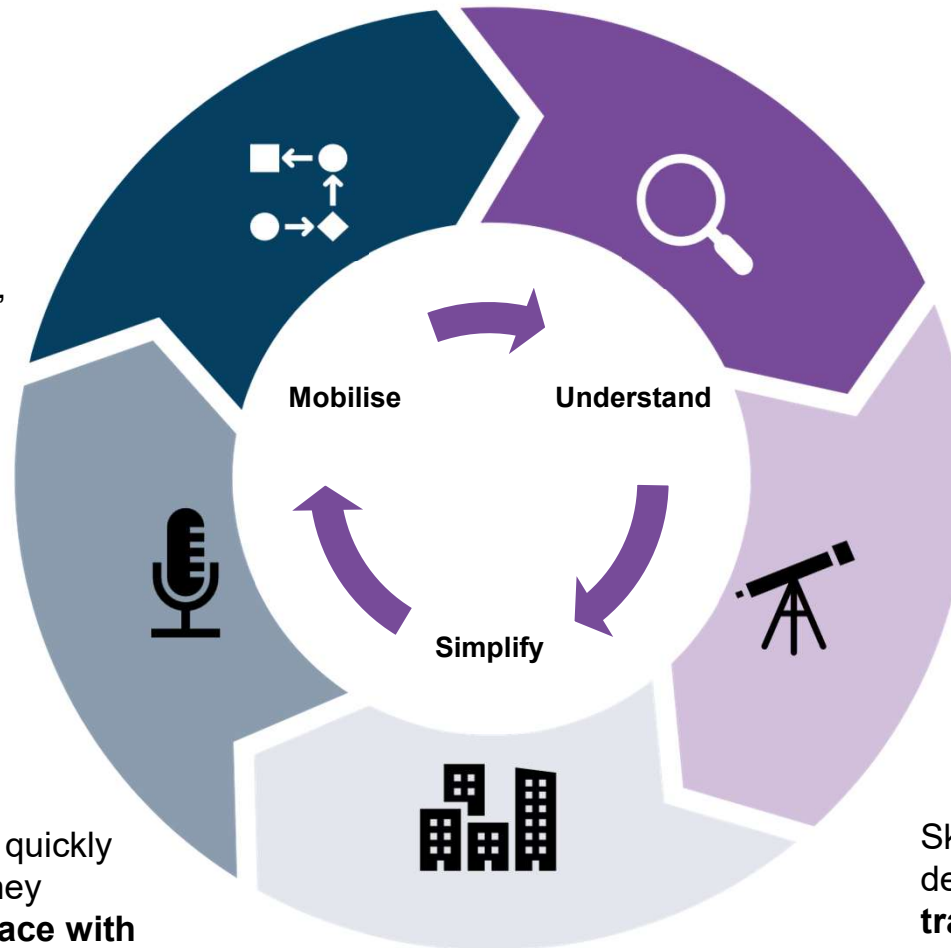
Mobilise employers and other partners, **co-creating** solutions to meet national, regional and local skills needs

How we work

Skills England provides data, intelligence & insights from a wide range of stakeholders to **allow Government to make informed decisions** on skills, migration and labour market policy

Skills England uses insight to work with partners to co-create solutions for training at a **national, regional and local level**

Skills England will respond quickly to what employers tell us they need, innovating to **keep pace with technological changes and the needs of the labour market.**



Skills England is the single authoritative voice across Government on **current and future skills needs**

Skills England will **simplify the system** so employers can recruit and train the skilled workforce they need

Skills England uses data to develop and refine the **right training solutions** for young people and adults

Delivery

Informed development of the **Growth and Skills Levy** and **priority apprenticeship units (short courses)**



Published new **foundation apprenticeships** and **shorter duration apprenticeships**.



Supported development of **government-industry AI skills package**, with **benchmark** and **badging**



Unveiled **new guidance** to inform second round of **Local Skills Improvement Plans (LSIPs)**; published **38 LSIP Annual Progress Reports**; and launched quarterly meetings with Mayoral Strategic Authorities.



Strengthened sector skills capability - co-developing sector skills packages with other government departments for **construction, defence, engineering** and **defence** sectors.



Published **series of data reports**, informing **Industrial Strategy** sector skill plans and work of **Labour Market Evidence Group**. Also, reported on **AI skills needs** for the economy.



Announced development of a new **Skills Investment and Infrastructure Service** to support industry to develop the skilled workforce for major projects in key sectors critical for economic growth.



Apprenticeship Assessment Reform

[Apprenticeship assessment principles](#) launched by DfE in February 2025

Proportionate

No unnecessary duplication

Allow on-programme assessment where appropriate

Allow centre-assessment where appropriate

Shorter plans with minimal level prescription

Employer-verified behaviours

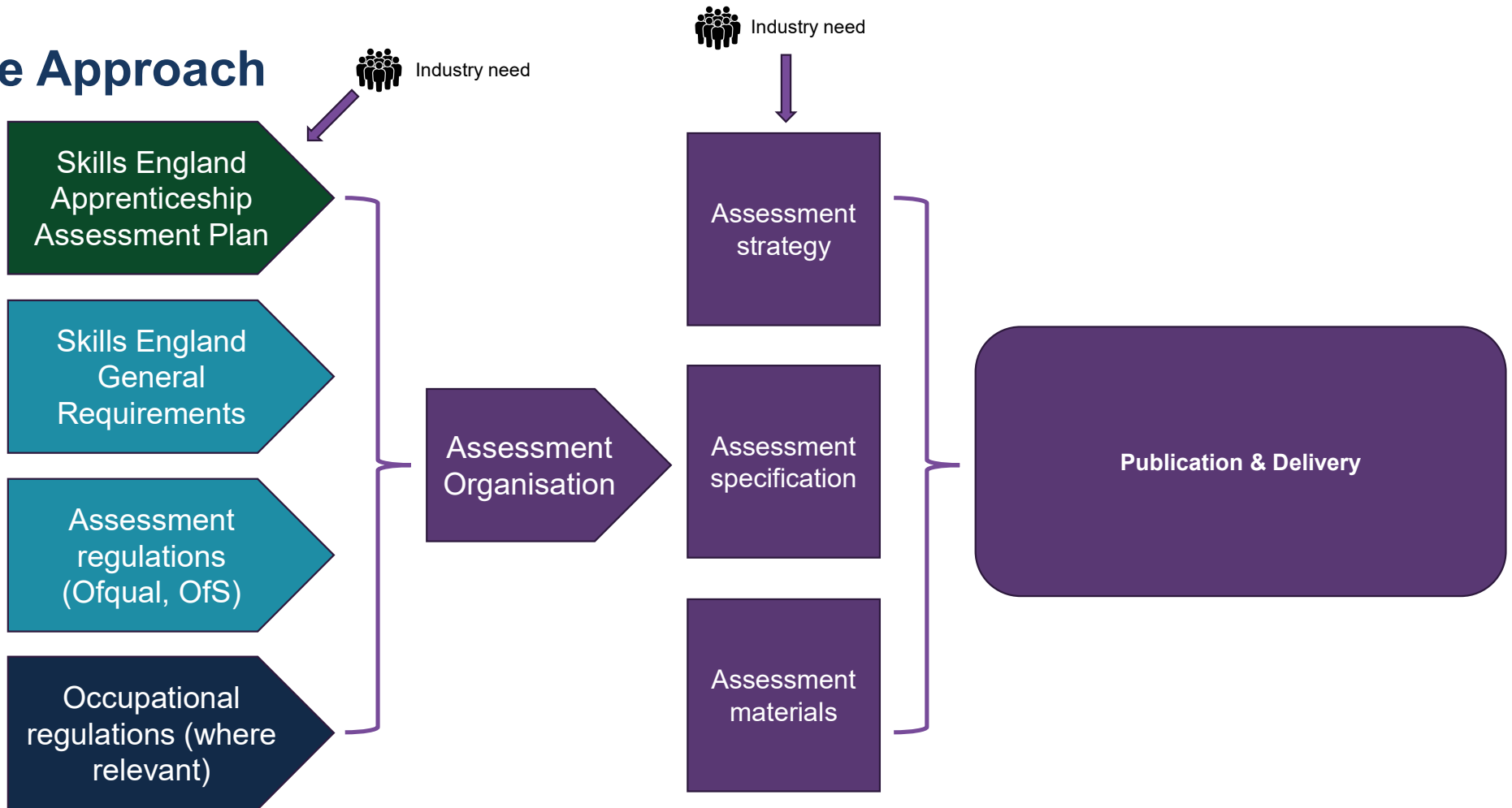
Minimum number of assessment methods

Make best use of technology

Assessment at the right time, in the right place

2 Stage Approach

- Assessment Outcomes
- Mandatory method/s
- Performance descriptors
- Synoptic assessment requirement
- Independent assessment requirement
- Requirement on AOs to reflect industry need
- Guidance/clarity on rules around assessment approaches, e.g. sampling
- As relevant to the requirements of the occupation's regulator



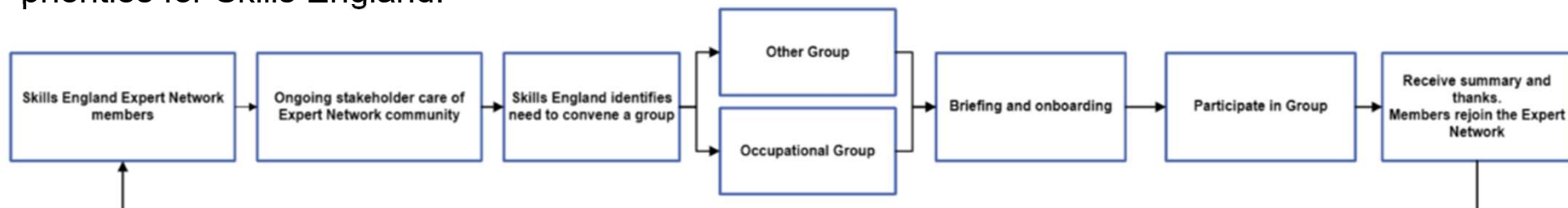
Skills England's Expert Network

What is the Expert Network?

The Expert Network expands upon our existing Trailblazer, Route Panel and wider employer communities. It will bring together over 4,500 employers, SMEs, providers, trade unions, assessment organisations, mayoral authorities and sector and regulatory bodies to ensure employer expertise remains central to decision making on apprenticeships and technical qualifications.

Skills England will convene time limited, task-focused groups from members of the Expert Network for two main purposes:

- **Developing and updating occupational standards and assessment plans**, delivered by **Occupational Groups**
- **Providing strategic insight and co-developing solutions** on sector and cross-sector skills challenges, skills system improvements, progression and assessment challenges and other strategic priorities for Skills England.



Questions