



**PRESS NOTICE 7.11.2011**

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**“Careers England welcomes Minister announcing a  
NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR THE CAREERS SERVICE”**

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*“The new National Careers Service goes live in April 2012. It is imperative that Ministers receive timely and informed views from users of the service as well as from key stakeholders. John Hayes’ aspiration to establish a world class Careers Service for England will have greater chances of success if Ministers receive independent advice from a nationally appointed and dedicated Advisory Council. The Minister’s choice of the Chair of the newly proposed National Council is eagerly awaited, and Careers England stands ready to assist in any way we can.”*

So says Paul Chubb on behalf of Careers England as today it warmly welcomes the announcement by John Hayes, Minister for Skills, that in the New Year he intends to establish a National Council for the Careers Service.

The Minister announced the National Council as part of his speech in Brighton to the Institute of Career Guidance’s Annual Conference on 3<sup>rd</sup> November.

The suggestion that a National Council or Advisory Board should be established was included in Careers England’s advisory note (30<sup>th</sup> October 2008) to the Conservative Party (whilst it was in Opposition) in response to its Green Paper No 7 “Building Skills, Transforming Lives”, within which the Conservatives proposed the establishment of an all-age Careers Service. In its response, Careers England advised the Conservative Party that:

*“Governance arrangements for the new service at national level should be carefully considered. We would suggest that a national framework, supported by complementary strategies for service provision for young people and for adults, should be determined by a form of ‘national advisory board’ to the relevant Secretary of State.*

*Such a board might draw upon the independent expert knowledge and skills from the worlds of learning and work, together with the important voluntary and community sector.*

*There would be much merit in the board functioning with two Committees – one focussing upon young people’s strategy, the other on adults. The board could then determine its overall annual business plan strategy for the national all-age service with the benefit of discrete yet complementary strategies for*



*young people and for adults. Ministers would have confidence that their policies for the new service would be informed by meaningful involvement of key voices from the community.”*

The Coalition Government’s policies will see a National Careers Service principally funded by the Department for Business, Innovation & Skills focussing upon face to face careers advice for adults as well as offering them on-line services. The Department for Education will fund a helpline and website for young people, and the responsibility to ensure that under 19s can access independent careers advice and guidance will be placed upon Schools through a new duty set out in the Education Bill currently completing its passage through the House of Lords.

In view of the differing approaches for the provision of careers advice and guidance for young people and that for adults, Careers England reiterates the points it made in 2008 about the added value an independent National Council would bring, and Paul Chubb concludes:

*“We urge Ministers to ensure that the new National Council has an inclusive brief to advise Ministers on the services provided by the National Careers Service, by Local Authorities for vulnerable young people, as well as services secured by Schools in fulfilling their new duty.”*

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FURTHER INFORMATION IS AVAILABLE FROM

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

1. Careers England is the Trade Association for employers in the careers advice and guidance industry in England.