

POCAST Interview



#VirtualCoffee with Kirstie Donnelly - NAW and Gavin O' Meara - Founder of FE News

White Paper, learning all lifelong and a
joined up and flexible future.

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This Podcast discusses National
Apprenticeship Week, and the importance
of showing the love to Apprenticeships.

Kirstie asks, do we need to have flexibility
around the Apprenticeship Levy?
For example in hospitality, as an industry
we have had a lost year due to Covid for

Apprenticeships, so is there scope to
have increased flexibility for the Levy for
employers to engage more Apprentices
as we come out of the pandemic.

How do we encourage DfE, DWP and
BEIS to all come around the same table?



Join Gavin O'Meara, and Kirstie Donnelly,
CEO of City & Guilds
for a #VirtualCoffee and chat.



Kirstie discusses the importance of DfE, DWP and BEIS coming together for a more joined up approach and they explore, could data be the key to bringing these different Government departments all around the same table to come up with a holistic approach for the future.

How do we encourage DfE, DWP and BEIS to all come around the same table?

They then discuss the FE White Paper, the Skills for Jobs White Paper, why the change in the title is significant. Kirstie highlights that ITP's (Independent Training Providers) didn't get much of a mention in the White Paper. They unpack College Business Centres, what could be learnt from Colleges without walls report, and what a College Business Centre of the future could be? Could College Business Centres transform the high street, live-work units are old hat now, but could we move into a new age of work / learn business spaces through College Business Centres?

Learning all lifelong

Lifelong learning is massively important to Kirstie, so they discuss the concept of learning loans that are mentioned in the

White Paper and if this can help adults with level 4 and 5 and above. Kirstie interestingly starts to explore outcomes, rather than be restricted by qualification levels by 'selling opportunities' to learners. This is very interesting, when you think about her day job!

This past year has been the age of flexible digital delivery, so they then explore the FE Digital real estate, compared to physical buildings and the importance of accessibility. Should and could the sector be thinking about more funding or support around the FE sector's real estate and is there a need again for a combined Government department approach to help remove the digital divide and digital poverty?

25% of learners are willing to pay for new learning and an access route to new opportunities.

Listen to what more Kirstie has to say by listening to the full Podcast:



<https://www.fenews.co.uk/featured-article/62908-virtualcoffee-with-kirstie-donnelly-naw-white-paper-learning-all-lifelong-and-a-joined-up-and-flexible-future>