

# AGENDA

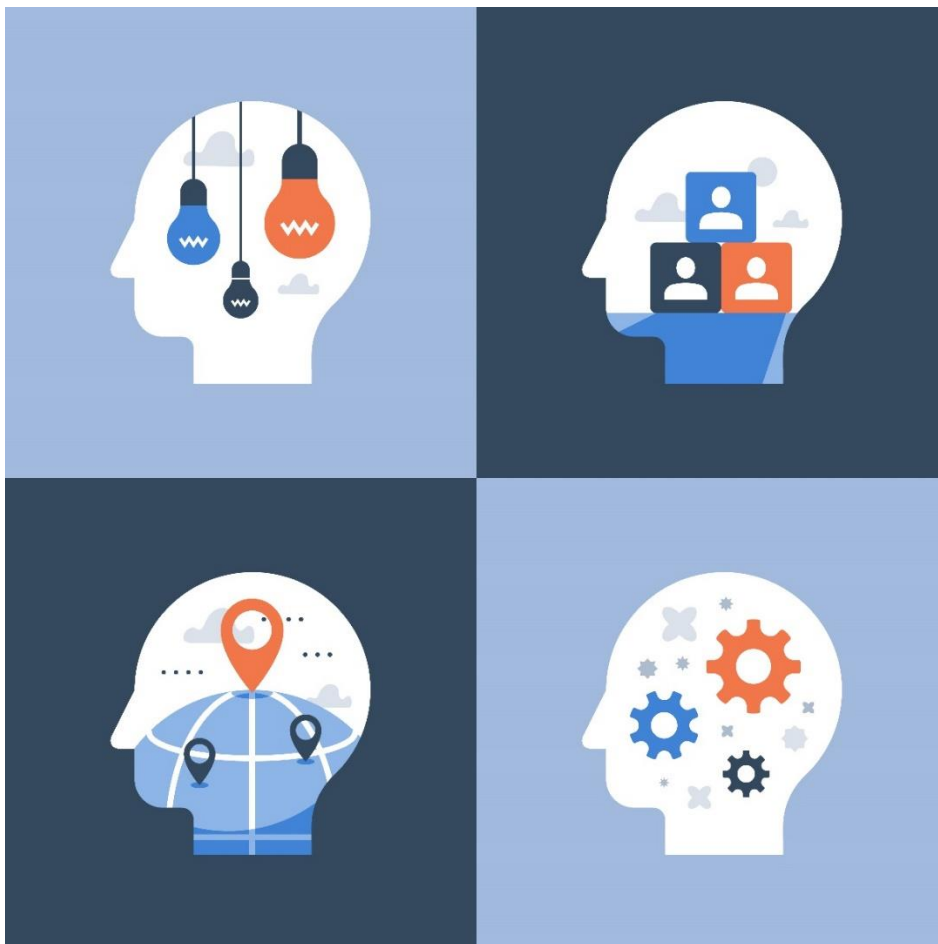
9 March 2021

14:00 – 15:30 GMT (London)

15:00 – 16:30 CET (Paris)

OECD Launch Event:

## Future-Proofing Adult Learning in London, UK



# Future-Proofing Adult Learning in London, UK

## ■ What's the issue?

**COVID-19 has created a labour market shock in London.** Jobs are down 229,000 since March 2020. The tourism and hospitality sectors have been devastated. In the three months to October 2020, the unemployment rate rose a record 1.2 percentage points to 6.3% – the largest quarterly rise since this data started being collected in 1992. The city has seen record numbers of unemployment claims, while there were 712,200 furloughed employments as of 31 January 2021.

**Cities are at the forefront of the COVID-19 response.** Their capacity to design effective adult learning programmes will be critical to building back better and preparing for the future of work. COVID-19 puts significant pressure on adult learning systems – whether it is provided as part of government programmes or administered by the public employment service, private training providers, or employers.

**London is the first major city within the OECD to introduce a comprehensive skills strategy (the Skills for Londoners Strategy).** For the first time, the Adult Education Budget is being devolved to the city. While the crisis could further exacerbate inequalities, this new funding will enable London to take a leadership role in expanding access and relevance of skills training to prepare people and firms for the recovery. The OECD's report *Future-Proofing Adult Learning in London, UK* sheds light on major challenges facing London, especially in light of COVID-19, while also pointing to opportunities for London to design a future ready adult learning system that responds to the impacts of COVID-19 and aligns training to rapidly evolving labour market demands.

## ■ About the launch event and panel discussion

In collaboration with the JPMorgan Chase Foundation, the OECD has undertaken an in-depth review of London's labour market as well as its adult learning system. The OECD has developed a number of actionable policy recommendations for London's adult learning system to make it more comprehensive, more inclusive, and better aligned with labour market needs through stronger involvement of employers.

The virtual event will commence with a scene setting presentation covering the main insights of the new OECD report, which consists of new data analysis on the changing geography of jobs, as well as international comparisons with other major OECD cities. During the event, there will be a panel discussion featuring representatives from London's adult learning system as well as practitioners from other UK cities. Speakers will discuss how effective adult learning policies can be leveraged to ensure that London can meet labour market challenges emerging from COVID-19 as well as structural changes that could accelerate from automation and digitalisation to build a resilient and sustainable recovery.

## ■ Venue

Virtual via Zoom

# AGENDA

14:00-14:15  
(GMT)

## Welcome and Opening Remarks

**Jules Pipe**, Deputy Mayor for Planning, Regeneration & Skills, Greater London Authority

SPEAKERS **Nadim Ahmad**, Deputy Director, OECD Centre for Entrepreneurship, SMEs, Regions, and Cities

**Patrick Thomson**, EMEA CEO of J.P. Morgan Asset Management (video message)

14:15-14:25

## Presentation of the Report

DESCRIPTION Presentation of the main findings of the report and its policy recommendations for London. The presentation will focus on: (i) the impact and consequences of COVID-19 on London's labour market; (ii) the effects of automation and the future of work; and (iii) getting employers on board.

PRESENTER **Lukas Kleine-Rueschkamp**, Policy Analyst, OECD Centre for Entrepreneurship, SMEs, Regions, and Cities

14:25-15:15

## Implications for Adult Learning and Skills Development in London

DESCRIPTION How can the findings help improve the adult learning system in London? What are the key priorities for adult learning in London going forward? What new challenges arise through COVID-19 and how can they be addressed? How are providers and individuals coping with the drastic impact of COVID-19 on learning?

MODERATOR **Jonathan Barr**, Deputy Head of Division, OECD Centre for Entrepreneurship, SMEs, Regions, and Cities

**Angus Knowles-Cutler**, Commissioner of the London Skills Commission and Deputy Chair and Business Lead of the London Economic Action Partnership (LEAP)

**Clare Coghill**, Leader of the London Borough of Waltham Forest

PANELLISTS **Kabir Rattu**, Adult learner via Access to Higher Education Diploma in Medicine at Morley College

**Gerry McDonald**, Principal of New City College

**Andrew Carter**, Chief Executive Officer, Centre for Cities

**Joe Billington**, Deputy Director, Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) of the Department for Education

15:15-15:30

## Closing: Outlook on Implications for Future Work

CLOSING SPEAKERS **Jules Pipe**, Deputy Mayor for Planning, Regeneration & Skills, Greater London Authority

**Karen Maguire**, Head of Division, OECD Centre for Entrepreneurship, SMEs, Regions, and Cities

## Contact

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