HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT
RESTORATION & RENEWAL

Video transcript
Jobs and skills

Hello, I'm Scott Young and I'm the Head of Skills, Employment and Education at the Restoration and Renewal Programme, of the Palace of Westminster – home of the Houses of Parliament.

As the biggest restoration project ever undertaken in the United Kingdom, our programme will provide opportunities for businesses – large and small, nationwide – to work on the project, and create jobs in towns, cities and communities right across the UK.

It will also be a chance for lots of people from around the country to become apprentices or train in new skills, as part of our programme. And some of them, like me, may be able to do their jobs from home or from the towns and cities where they live rather than having to move to London to get involved in the programme.

Thousands of people of all ages will benefit from meaningful training and will learn new skills to help them get jobs on the project.

Many of the people who will eventually work on restoring this amazing building are currently still in education. We want to make sure our project inspires young people to pursue careers in the construction and heritage industries.

So, what could this look like in practice?

Well, Parliament already sources cast iron roof tiles from Somerset and Yorkshire; limestone from Rutland; and slate from North Wales. We'll search all corners of the UK to find the materials and the specialist skills we need.

We've already established a partnership with the Social Mobility Foundation to provide opportunities for people right across the country. And we'll be looking for talent in lots of different places to try to make our industries that little bit more diverse.

Across our supply chains, we will support small and medium sized enterprises to recruit apprentices, passing on skills to future generations – from engineering and high-tech design to traditional building skills like carpentry and stonemasonry.

We're building partnerships with colleges and other training providers to train people in the skills we need, and we've committed to pay everyone who works on our project the Real Living Wage, both directly and through our contracts.

So, the Restoration and Renewal project will provide huge opportunities for people across the United Kingdom. But we want your ideas too.

What else can we do to ensure that these opportunities reach as many people as possible across the UK?

Please share your ideas about how we can support jobs in the digital, heritage and construction sectors, or about how we can ensure people from all communities across the UK can benefit from the programme.

Please join the conversation below.

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