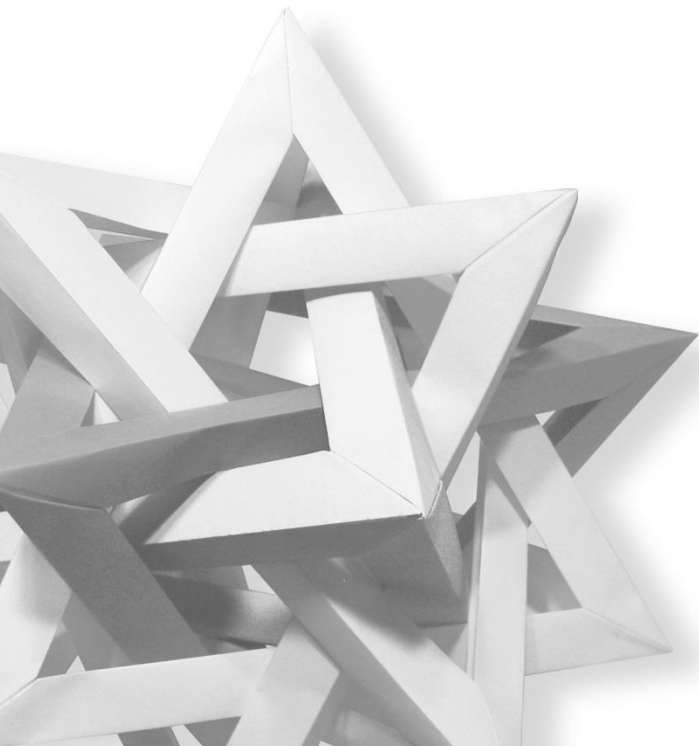


# Degree Apprenticeships and Accreditation

Catherine Elliott  
[celliott@engc.org.uk](mailto:celliott@engc.org.uk)



# Degree Apprenticeships and accreditation

## Why seek accreditation or other professional recognition?

- The Government wants apprenticeships in relevant disciplines to link to professional registration.
- Linkage to professional recognition, including through degree accreditation, may make a degree apprenticeship more attractive to employers and individuals.
- Legislation requires apprenticeship standards to be examined by an independent third party before approval – a professional engineering institution could be involved in this scrutiny.

# Degree Apprenticeships and accreditation

## Accredited engineering degrees

- Accreditation confirms that degrees deliver knowledge and understanding required for registration as a professional engineer.
- 3000+ programmes are listed on the Engineering Council's database as accredited for 2017 entry, of these 1000+ are listed as having a part time delivery mode accredited and 90+ are listed as having a distance learning delivery mode accredited.
- The Accreditation of Higher Education Programmes (AHEP) [www.engc.org.uk/ahep](http://www.engc.org.uk/ahep) sets out the requirements for accreditation.
- If a degree that is already accredited sits within a degree apprenticeship that accreditation will only apply if apprentices are studying through a mode of delivery that is accredited.
- An accredited degree does not address all the requirements for registration.

# Degree Apprenticeships and accreditation

## Registration requires more than a degree

To achieve professional registration individuals need to meet the competence requirements set out in the UK Specification for Engineering Competence (UK-SPEC [www.engc.org.uk/ukspec](http://www.engc.org.uk/ukspec)).

A degree apprenticeship can deliver the knowledge and understanding demonstrated through an accredited degree plus some or all of the competences required for registration.

# Degree Apprenticeships and accreditation

## Reviewing Engineering Council policy, standards and guidance

- Higher apprenticeships and degree apprenticeships are not explicitly addressed in Engineering Council regulations, standards and guidance.
- Engineering Council processes do not currently provide clear mechanisms for recognising:
  - higher apprenticeships or degree apprenticeships that do not include an accredited degree
  - competence developed through higher apprenticeships
  - qualifications other than degrees that provide knowledge and/or skills needed by Incorporated or Chartered Engineers.
- An Engineering Council working group is being established to develop policy and guidance to support recognition of higher apprenticeships and degree apprenticeships.

# Degree Apprenticeships and accreditation

## Questions (slide 1 of 2)

The Engineering Council would welcome views on the following questions:

- Would universities, individuals and employers welcome an extension to current Engineering Council and professional engineering institution recognition processes to more formally recognise competences developed and assessed through degree apprenticeships?
- Should accreditation of degrees within degree apprenticeships, and recognition of competence gained through work based aspects of a degree apprenticeship, be kept separate or combined?

# Degree Apprenticeships and accreditation

## Questions (slide 2 of 2)

The Engineering Council would welcome views on the following questions:

- Would HEIs and other training providers (including employers) want to develop and deliver individual specialist modules that could be included in degrees awarded by other HEIs?
- Would HEIs want to award degrees that include modules delivered elsewhere?
- Would individuals and their employers want to be able to select for inclusion in their degree modules from providers other than the awarding HEI?

# Degree Apprenticeships and accreditation

## Thank you and next steps

Any relevant feedback from today's event will be taken back for consideration when developing Engineering Council policy related to recognition of higher apprenticeships and degree apprenticeships.

If you have any questions or comments related to degree accreditation or recognition of degree apprenticeships please email [celliott@engc.org.uk](mailto:celliott@engc.org.uk)