

Cogent's Five Big Tickets for Industry

Cogent is the Sector Skills Council (SSC) for the Chemicals, Pharmaceuticals, Nuclear, Oil and Gas, Petroleum and Polymer Industries. These industries are a coherent 'fit' together, sharing common skills needs. They are science-based, process-technology driven and form a hugely significant part of the UK's manufacturing and energy infrastructure.

Cogent's Mission is to meet the skill needs of the Cogent industries to allow them to compete successfully.

We do this through articulating the employer voice on skills; designing fit-for-purpose qualifications; attracting young people into the Sector and understanding industry skills needs.

Our work and business is guided by a strategy which outlines our priority areas for action and addresses the challenges facing the Sector now and in the future.

The strategy is underpinned by five "Big Tickets" which drive our activities.



Skills Standards and Qualifications

Cogent is developing a suite of employer-led qualifications that underpin its competency-based Gold Standard (process) and Job Contexts (nuclear) which enable acquisition and recognition of competence.

Outputs:

- Fit-for-purpose qualifications in place and utilised
- Modular Foundation Degrees
- Training Standards



Apprenticeships

Apprenticeships provide the vital supply of skilled employees for the future and we are working to ensure sufficient numbers, with the right skills to meet the future Sector needs.

Outputs:

- Increased numbers of Apprenticeships being trained for the Sector
- Fit-for-purpose employer-led Apprenticeship Frameworks



Future Skills

Cogent's Future Skills research programme provides the essential intelligence to inform future skills needs. It includes skills reports for each industry to aid long term workforce planning.

Outputs:

- Industry State of the Nation Skills Reports
- Industry and Regional Factsheets
- Skills for emerging technologies



Career Pathways

This is the established reference point for careers in our Sector. The website provides comprehensive information, advice and guidance on career progression, jobs, training and salaries in the Cogent Industries.

Outputs:

- Attraction of young people into the Sector
- Web-based careers resource (cogent-careers.com)
- Up-to-date and accurate information on job roles, salaries and qualifications



Skills Benchmarking

Cogent is setting the standard for skills in the Sector and developing the tools to allow companies to assess their performance.

Outputs:

- Competency-based Gold Standards and Job Contexts led by industry
- Skills Matching and Competency Assessment tools

How we deliver

We work in partnership with a range of stakeholders and employers in a national skills alliance to drive forward our strategy to ensure that skills needs are identified, training is mapped out and solutions are in place.

Cogent believes that increasing the Sector's skills levels is not about a piecemeal approach. It's about a partnership between the Government, employers and stakeholders working from a joined-up strategy.

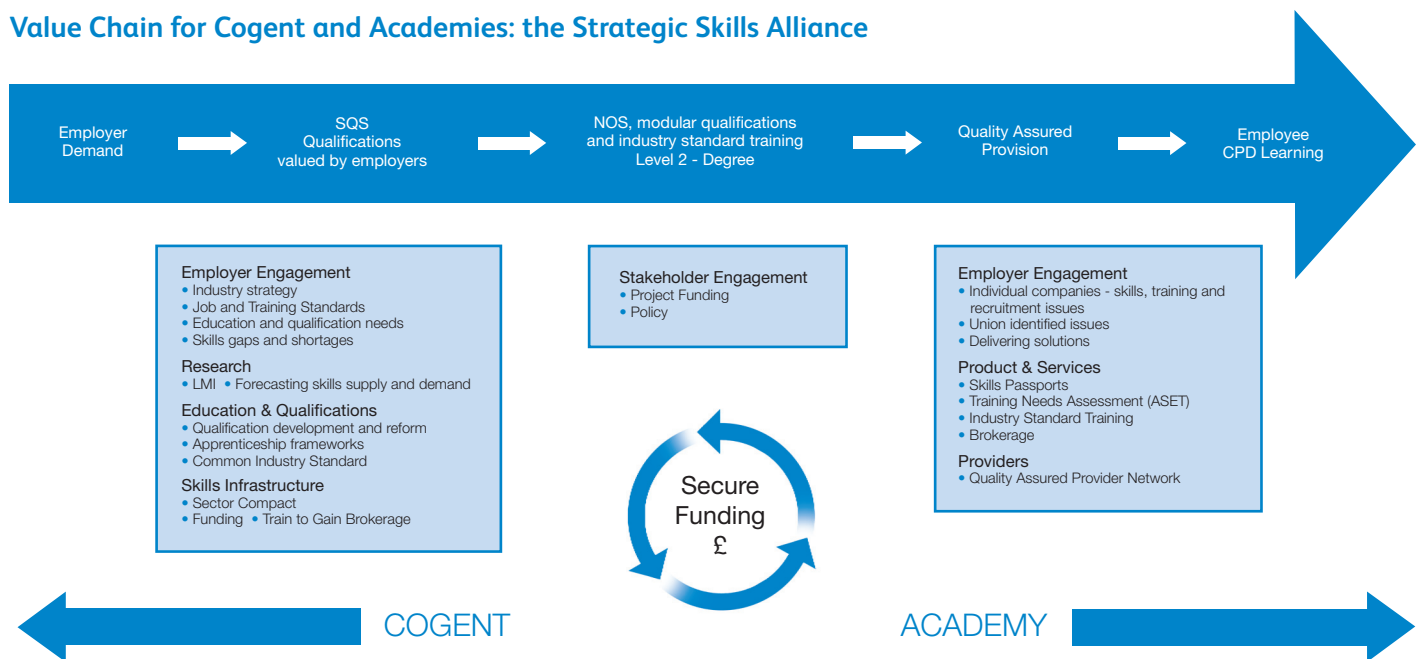
Cogent Advisory Councils

We work through our excellent Industry Advisory Councils and Employer Forums. These enhance the effectiveness of Cogent, taking forward the long term skills needs of the individual Cogent industries. They make a significant contribution to a range of developments including standards, apprenticeships and our longer term direction.

National Skills Academies

Meeting the skills challenge means delivering training in the right format, in the right place and at the right time, for both the employer and the learner. Cogent works in synergy with the Academies for Nuclear and the Process Industries in order to develop and quality assure vocational training that is valued and used by every company they represent. This relationship is represented in the Value Chain below.

Value Chain for Cogent and Academies: the Strategic Skills Alliance



Key partners

By working collaboratively with partner Sector Skills Councils, Trade Associations, Trades Unions and Regional Cluster Organisations we can ensure that we maximise our impact on common skills issues and that we reach every part of the Sector. For example the Manufacturing Skills Alliance of SSCs coordinates skills support to give easier access and a better quality offer to manufacturing and processing employers. The shared goal is to help manufacturing businesses raise productivity and competitiveness by developing a world-class skills base in the UK.

If you want to find out more about any of Cogent's programmes contact us on:

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The strategic skills alliance for the Science-based Industries