



Press Release

July 9, 2020

## **Uniper welcomes UK Government's incentive to create new apprenticeships, but calls for reform of Apprenticeship Levy**

Uniper welcomes the announcement in the UK Chancellor's Summer Statement, of £100m funding for new apprenticeships over the next six months, but Uniper urges the UK Government to take action to make the Apprenticeship Levy more effective.

"The Uniper Engineering Academy delivers an award winning Level 3 apprenticeship pathway into engineering careers for several leading employers across the UK. We are very keen to hear further details of the funding announced today and to work with industry employers to increase the engineering apprenticeship opportunities for 18 – 19 year old school leavers." commented Nick Booth, Head of Uniper's Engineering Academy.

"To deliver an effective skills and training programme to help drive the economic recovery over the coming months and years, will require fundamental changes to the current Apprenticeship Levy"

"We believe that by changing the current rules around the Apprenticeship Levy to allow more flexibility in how it can be used, such as allowing the levy to be used for, short duration retraining courses, will make the levy more effective in developing the skills needed across sectors for large and small businesses." He added.

Reskilling and upskilling the workforce is an essential part of successfully delivering Net Zero. Uniper will play a key role in training the engineers of the future through our programmes, such as the Wind Turbine Technician apprenticeship and Electric Vehicle Charging training course.

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### **About Uniper**

Uniper is a leading international energy company with around 11,500 employees and activities in more than 40 countries. With about 34 GW of installed generation capacity, Uniper is among the largest global power generators. Its main activities include power generation in Europe and Russia as well as global energy trading, including a diversified gas portfolio that makes Uniper one of Europe's leading gas companies. The company is headquartered in Düsseldorf, being the third-largest listed German utility. Under its new strategy, Uniper aims to become climate neutral in its European power generation by 2035.

**About Uniper UK** <https://www.uniper.energy/uk>

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