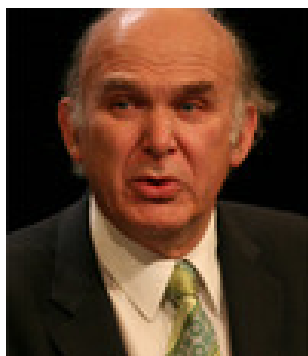


## ESOL in a changing world



**Chris Taylor**



**"Education and learning are of course desirable in their own right. Education for education's sake - learning how to learn - benefits the economy in the long term. Philistinism is bad economics. It is also fundamentally unacceptable."**



## John Hayes, Minister of State



“Education is the greatest civilising force that has ever existed or ever will. Knowledge really is power.

“It says to people, raise your heads and look to the future because your future is yours to build.

“And it says that what you become is in your hands.

“The system we want to build must harness both the economic and the social potential of lifelong learning.”



## ESOL in the Skills strategy

“ESOL provision is important to help those who do not speak English to gain employment and to contribute to society. However, we believe that those who come from other countries to work in England, or their employers, should meet the cost of their English language courses. Therefore we will not fund ESOL training in the workplace.”



## ESOL in the Skills strategy

“This will enable us to focus publicly-funded provision on people whose lack of English is preventing them from finding work. Full funding will only be available for those actively seeking work on Jobseekers Allowance and Employment Support Allowance (work related activity group) benefits. For others ESOL will be co-funded. In line with their increased accountability to their local communities, further education colleges and providers will be able to identify particularly vulnerable learners in their community and will be able to prioritise support for them as part of their business planning and local engagement.”



## Some of the issues

- A definition of settled communities
- Active and inactive benefits – the impact on learners
- Loss of funding weighting
- Discretionary Learner Support Fund
- Demand exceeds supply
- Loss of permanent posts and increase of casualisation



## Language and immigration

- Pre-entry language requirements for spouses introduced 29 November 2010
- Increasing demand for Entry level ESOL from ILR and citizenship applicants



## Learning from the past

- Proposals in 2007
- Convincing the Minister
- Exposure to ESOL
- Raising the profile of ESOL



## Next steps

- Proposed ESOL Equality Impact Assessment – case studies and statistics
- Inviting the Minister to visit provision
- Learner voice