



# VET 2050

## Blog post

### Launching Vision Workshops

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Emily Erickson & Terence Hogarth

Warwick Institute of Employment Research

In late 2025, we published the [VET2050 scoping paper](#) to stimulate an open, evidence-based conversation about the future of vocational education and training (VET) in England. That paper laid the foundation for an ambitious endeavour: to create and articulate a shared, long-term vision for what a high-quality VET system should look like by 2050. Our guiding objective is to support the Youth Futures Foundations' 'north start goal; to position England as a leader among OECD countries in youth participation in education and employment. A high-quality VET system is an essential piece to achieving this goal.

England's VET system plays a critical role in supporting young people to make successful transitions into skilled work, to pursue fulfilling careers and to access lifelong learning. The system also underpins economic growth, social mobility and regional prosperity. Yet, as our scoping paper highlights, the current system is often too fragmented, difficult to navigate and subject to continual cycles of reform. Achieving a high-quality system by 2050 requires bold vision and a collaborative approach to shaping it.

## **From Scoping to Vision: Entering Phase 2**

This Spring we will launch Phase Two of VET2050 with a series of four thematic [Vision Workshops](#) designed to broaden the national conversation about what quality in VET should mean. The workshops bring together diverse voices to consider what quality means for young people, providers, employers and local communities.

At last year's initial stakeholder event which gathered representatives from policy, academic, provider organisations and foundations, it was clear that there is a strong appetite for a shared and future-focused discussion. Participants highlighted both the urgency and the opportunity of the moment. Building on that momentum, the Vision Workshops will explore what it will take to create a system that is coherent, equitable and capable of supporting high-quality outcomes well into the middle of the century.

Each of the four workshops will centre on a key dimension of what a successful, high quality ET system must deliver. Together these workshops will explore:


- What high quality vocational pathways should look like for learners
- How the system can support providers and the VET workforce
- The role of employers, labour market partners and regional ecosystems
- What funding, incentives and governance structures are needed

### **An Invitation to Engage**

A central principle of VET2050 is that the vision we develop must be shaped by the people who work within, dependent upon, care about England's VET system. To support this effort, we are opening a range of opportunities to share feedback throughout this phase.

Our newly updated project website includes an overview of the themes we are addressing and invites anyone to share reflection on what quality in VET should mean and what markers of quality we should strive for.

We invite everyone to share their input through the online portal:

 [Share your input](#)

### **Stay Connected**

We invite colleagues and interested stakeholders to join our mailing list to receive updates on workshops and their outputs, emerging findings, and opportunities to participate in the next stages of the project.

 [Join the VET2050 mailing list](#)

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## **Funding**

VET2050 is funded by the Youth Futures Foundation



## **Project Team**

[Terence Hogarth, Emily Erickson and Stefanie Poole at the Institute for Employment Research \(IER\), University of Warwick](#)

[James Robson and Yushan Xie at SKOPE, University of Oxford](#)

## **Website**

[Project homepage:](#)

<https://warwick.ac.uk/fac/soc/ier/researchthemesoverview/researchprojects/vet2050/>

## **Disclaimer**

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