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The Review of Level 4-5 Education in England

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The Review of Level 4 and 5 Education in England

Independent HE Annual Conference 27th November 2018

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Background

- **L4-5 Review announced October 2017**
 - Classroom-based sub-bachelor education
 - Low qualification uptake, yet demand for higher technical skills expected to grow
- **Sainsbury Review and Post-16 Skills Plan**
- **Progress to date**
 - Research, stakeholder engagement, and policy development are well underway
 - [Interim evidence overview](#) published Summer 2018.



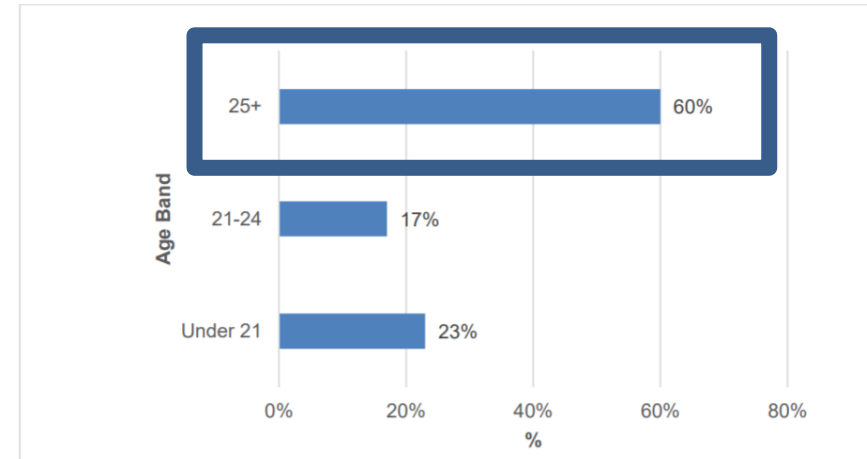
World class technical education

- **Bringing our technical education standards to the level of leading nations.**
- **Interaction across Higher and Further Education:**
 - T Levels
 - Career learning
 - Institutes of Technology and National Colleges
 - Apprenticeships
 - Independent Review of Post-18 Education and Funding.



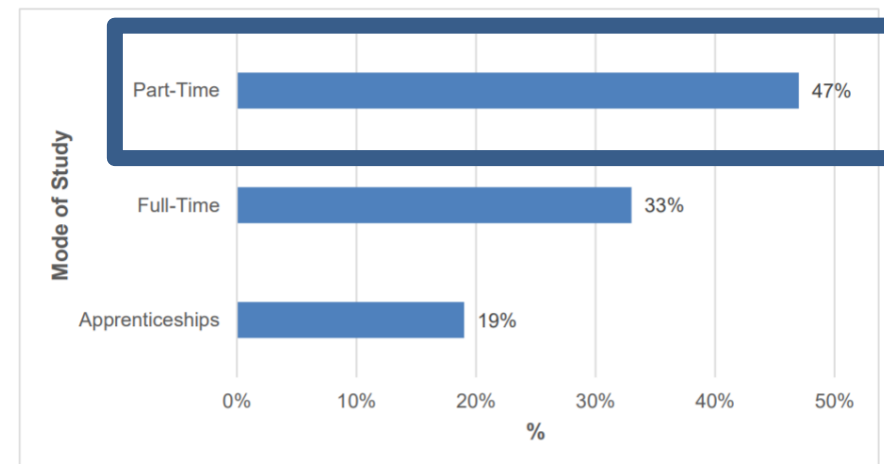
Learners: diverse, mature, part-time

- Higher and Further Education
- Learner demographics
- Low uptake
- Choice influenced by funding and information



Level 4-5 Learners by age

Provider Type	Learner numbers	%
FEC	116,640	52
HEI	69,820	32
PTE/Other	34,170	16
Total	216,170	100

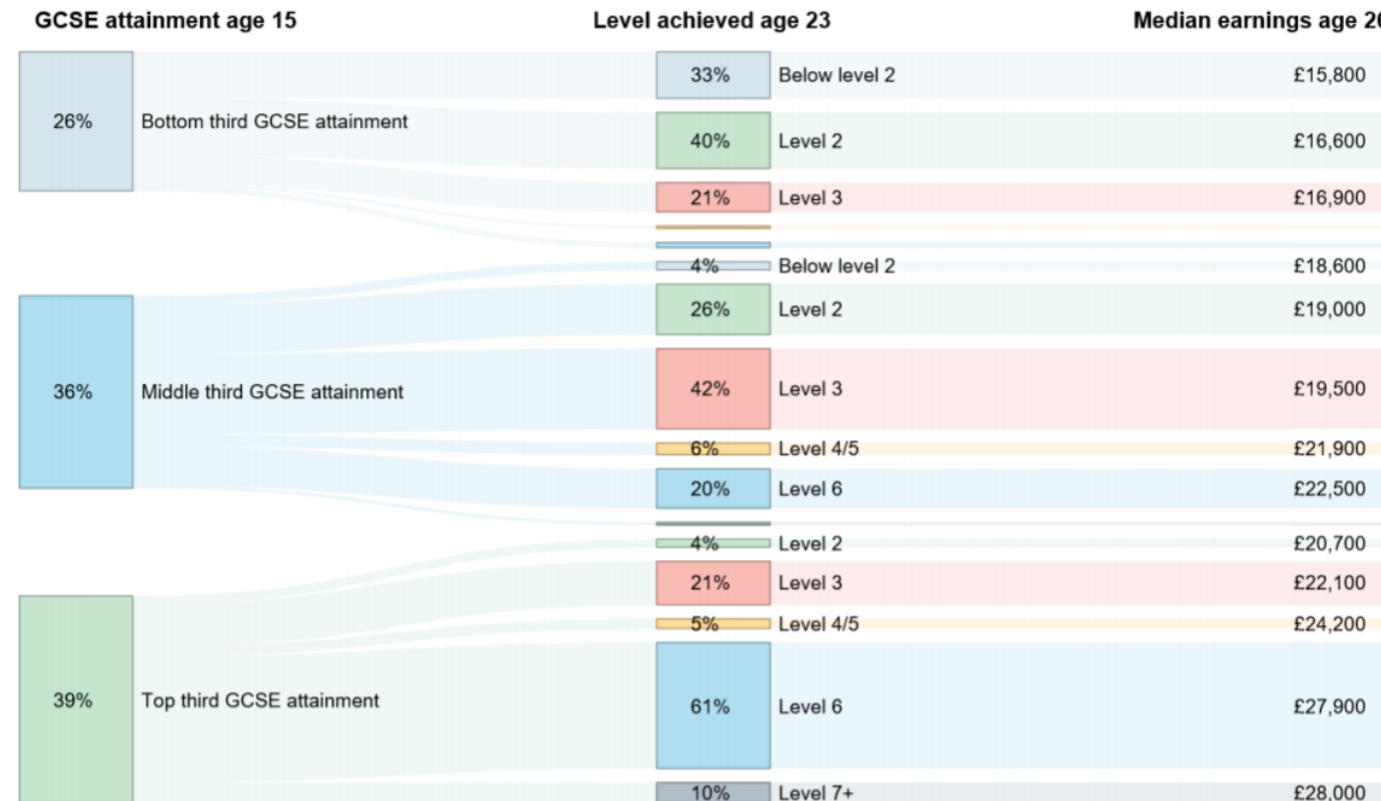


Level 4-5 Learners by mode of study



Economic demand for higher technical skills

- Employers recognise a need for Level 4-5 skills.
- Employers value some L4-5 provision, but understanding varies.



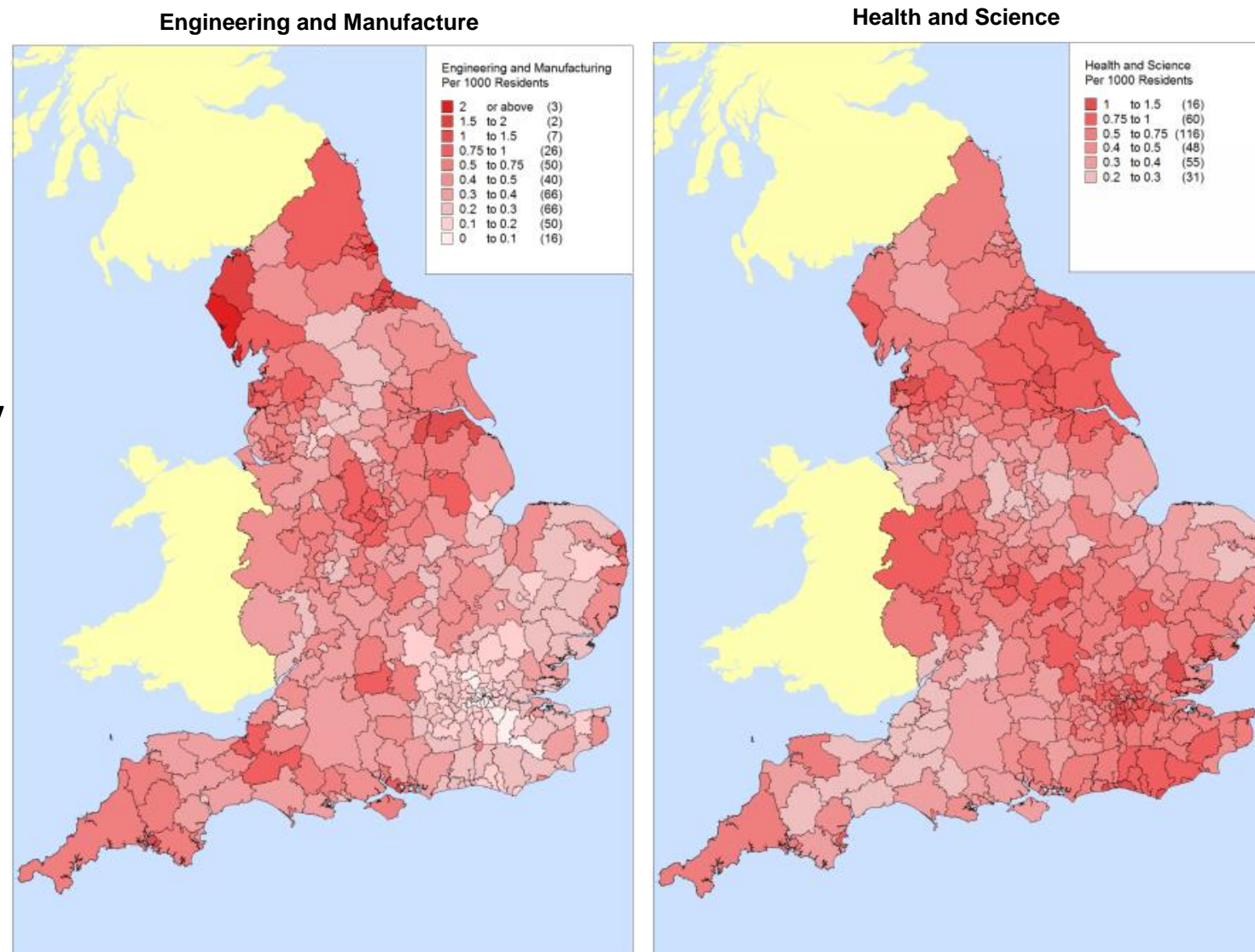
Median earnings by level achieved at age 23 and GCSE attainment score- England, cohort that undertook GCSEs in 2004/5
Source: Post 16 Education Pathways – cohort study of individuals who undertook GCSEs in 2004/5, DfE (2018)



Level 4-5 education in practice

Number of Learners by Local Authority District

- Employer engagement
- Student demand
- Comparability and innovation



Learning from other countries

- We have **visited 3 countries with strong offers** in higher technical skills training:
 - **Switzerland**
 - Historically well recognised prestigious training
 - Primarily market led.
 - **Sweden**
 - High levels of employer engagement
 - Mainly state led.
 - **France**
 - Two well recognised qualifications with distinct purposes
 - Enrolment numbers growing.



Level 4-5 Policy Focus

- I. Qualification quality**
- II. Quality and quantity of provision**
- III. Demand**
- IV. Funding**
- V. Assurance/regulation**



Next steps & Questions

- **Further research** to be published this year: Review of the L4-5 qualification and provider market
- We expect to publish Level 4-5 proposals for formal **consultation** alongside the conclusion of the Post-18 Review in **early 2019**.

Questions and discussion:

- What can we learn from how you involve employers in the delivery and development of higher technical qualifications?
- If you could change one thing in higher technical education, what would it be?

