



BUSINESS LETTERS

Apprentices are a shot in the arm

ALL employers should welcome the new measures from Vince Cable, the business secretary, to ensure more young people benefit from an apprenticeship, and to help employers gain the skilled workers they need to grow. Nevertheless, there remains a need for a continued focus on helping small businesses take on apprentices and remove the perceived barriers that prevent them from doing so.

Small companies often shy away from recruiting apprentices as they worry about the costs, bureaucracy, and the potential risks to their business. At my company we have witnessed how apprentices have contributed to the growth of the business and we would urge others to take advantage of the new finan-

cial incentives announced last week. They have everything to gain by doing so.

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