

## National Land Based College – Recruitment of Non-Executive Directors

The National Land Based College (NLBC) is an exciting initiative, established in 2015 to *Champion Skills Development for Land Based Industries* and was formally launched by the Minister of State for Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, George Eustice, at the House of Lords on 10th May 2016.

NLBC's **Vision** is to support land based industries in developing a strong life-long learning culture, which will result in improved productivity and quality across the whole sector.

NLBC seeks to add value by providing a focal point for Continuing Professional Development (CPD) and the development of higher level skills, linked closely to knowledge exchange activities and the application of applied research.

NLBC's **Strategic Priorities** are to:

- Champion land based industries as providing a professional and progressive career.
- Increase employer engagement in the skills agenda by collaborating with employers, industry bodies, key government departments and education professionals.
- Develop and refine qualifications to meet the needs of businesses and their future employees.
- Maximise the accessibility of professional development opportunities by using on-line and flexible learning methods.

NLBC's **Successes** to date include:

- Developing a suite of land based technical qualifications at levels 2 and 3 in partnership with City & Guilds.
- Securing a partnership with Land Based Learning Ltd. to secure a platform that will cost-effectively host its on-line learning materials.
- Securing in partnership with Landex, DfE funding to develop on-line learning materials for horticulture and veterinary medicine.
- Establishing a high-quality website to promote the land based industries and career development for its employees.

NLBC is a Company Limited by Guarantee and a Registered Charity. The company is overseen by a team of non-executive directors, all of whom also serve as trustees: their role is to inform the strategic direction of the Company and to promote its vision to employers and sector organisations. The directors are collectively responsible for Board decisions, and for scrutinising the performance of the company.

The first Chair of the NLBC was Lord Curry of Kirkharle, who committed a great deal of time and energy to steer it through its first two years of operation. During this period NLBC employed a team of specialist staff that was particularly effective in creating the brand and generating support from sector bodies.

In the next stage of its development, the NLBC is seeking to recruit further Board members who are actively engaged in and have a thorough knowledge and understanding of the needs of businesses and their employees in at least one of the land based sectors.”

Further details of this exciting voluntary opportunity to help shape the future of the College are available from [www.nlbc.uk](http://www.nlbc.uk) or from [zoelee@landex.org.uk](mailto:zoelee@landex.org.uk).

Interested applicants are invited to hold an informal discussion with NLBC's Vice-Chair, Charles Matts [charles.matts@brixworthfarming.co.uk](mailto:charles.matts@brixworthfarming.co.uk).