

The National Federation of Roofing Contractors (NFRC) urges the incoming government to agree to support its campaign to professionalise the UK roofing industry specifically related to its two principle objectives:-

- Support for an accredited roofing sector, enabling through assessment those employees with existing skills, knowledge and experience, to be officially recognised, to provide a foundation for upskilling existing workers, and to launch a career path for new entrants and apprenticeships.
- The future Government's commitment to using only accredited roofing professionals on all public funded projects and to encourage uptake across the overall built environment.

The broader benefits for adopting an accreditation scheme include:-

- Assurance of the competency of the installer and all associated personnel.
- Clear differentiation between the professional accredited roofer and the opportunistic 'cowboy' element which undermines the reputation of the overall sector.
- Improved productivity and lower defects.
- Regulated well-being of all employees in the programme.
- Formalised complaints and whistle blowing procedures to protect client confidence.
- Creating clear career paths and establishing the industry as aspirational in a competitive recruitment market, which will only be accentuated in our post-Brexit economy.
- Providing an opportunity for all associated professional trade bodies and industry training providers to work to a common purpose.
- The industry demonstrating to government that it has ownership of its training needs, delivery and standards.
- Harmonising innovation in digital technology to improve working practices.

Outside its specific manifesto objectives, the NFRC supports cross-construction industry measures:-

- A bill to end the antiquated and unfair practices associated with cash retentions in the industry.
- Improving overall quality of building work through strengthening of Building Regulations.
- Incentivising energy efficiency measures in the existing housing stock delivered by a universal quality mark.
- The House Building Federation's blueprint to increase housing output.
- A flexible approach to immigration whilst the industry recruits and trains a substantially larger domestic workforce.
- Fully funding SME apprenticeships.
- The Construction Products Association's three key messages, centred on overall recognition for the sector, supporting market growth and reducing risk.

The NFRC is committed to raising the profile of the roofing industry with a concerted campaign to garner support from the future Government and key stakeholders. With your support we can realise accreditation for our sector which will ensure healthy future prospects for your company and the industry at large.