## The Ards Advertiser

## Ards Advertiser | 07/01/2020

Media Source	Press	Page	8
Circulation	31,323		
Торіс	CITB		



## Launch of Northern Ireland Apprenticeship Week (NIAW) 2020

The Department for Economy recently launched the first Northern Ireland Apprenticeship Week which will take place from 3 to 7 February 2020.

Northern Ireland Apprenticeship Week 2020 is a new initia-tive in Northern Ireland and offers an oppor-tunity through a dedicated week of events and promotional activity to demonstrate how apprenticeships work for individuals, businesses, communities and the wider economy. Officially launching Northern Ireland Ap-prenticeship Week 2020, Deputy Secretary of DfE Heather Cousins said: "I am delighted to launch the first ever Northern Ireland Apprenticeship Week which will run from 3 to 7 February 2020. Northern Ireland Apprenticeship Week provides the opportunity for everyone involved in

apprenticeships, or interested in finding out more about apprenticeships, to come together during a week-long programme of apprenticeship events

of apprenticeship events and activity." The introduction of Northern Ireland Ap-prenticeship Week 2020, led by the Department for the Economy, aims to bring all key partners from local councils, employers, FE colleges, universities private universities, private training providers and many more apprentice-ship partners within the development and delivery of apprenticeships together to raise the pro-file of the apprenticeship concept across Northern Ireland.

Heather Cousins added: "The Northern Ireland Apprenticeship Week 2020 Events Map is now available with over 25 apprenticeship events already confirmed to take place during the week and events be-

Pictured at the launch of the NI Apprenticeship Week in Belfast are (I-r) Chris Corken, Belfast Met; William Greer, South Eastern Regional College (SERC); Heather Cousins, DfE; Barry Neilson, Construction Industry Training Board (CITB); and Rhonda Lynn (Mid and East Antrim Borough Council). ing added all the time. We would like all ap-prenticeship partners to get involved by hosting their own apprentice-ship events or in colgov.uk

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laboration with others. If you would like to get involved you can contact us by email at appren-ticeweek@economy-ni.

"Let's all discover the Let's all discover the benefits apprenticeships can bring to businesses, individuals and our economy and consider attending the wide range

of apprenticeship events and activity taking place near you during appren-ticeship week by visiting www.nidirect.gov.uk/ apprenticeship-events.

