



National Skills Academy for Retail

The Vision: A one-stop shop for retail skills

A Retail Skills Network giving access to world class skills and business support for retailers whatever their size, wherever they are located

Following a successful bid to the Learning and Skills Council, Skillsmart Retail, the Sector Skills Council (SSC) for Retail has been given the go-ahead to develop plans for a National Skills Academy (NSA) for the retail sector.

The proposal – put forward by Skillsmart Retail and supported by industry partners – John Lewis Partnerships, Marks & Spencer, Land Securities, Hammerson, Westfield and the British Council for Shopping Centres – would involve the development of a UK-wide network of physical and virtual retail 'skills shops', offering a range of services in order to raise the skills levels of individuals entering or working in retail.

This innovative scheme, which will build on the current network of over 30 Skills Shops already in place in shopping centres and retail locations around the country, aims to transform skills in the retail sector. The initial phase of activity will be to develop a business plan that will shape the implementation of the NSA for Retail over the next three years.

Find out more about the NSA for Retail at: <http://www.skillsmartretail.com/nsa/index.php>

