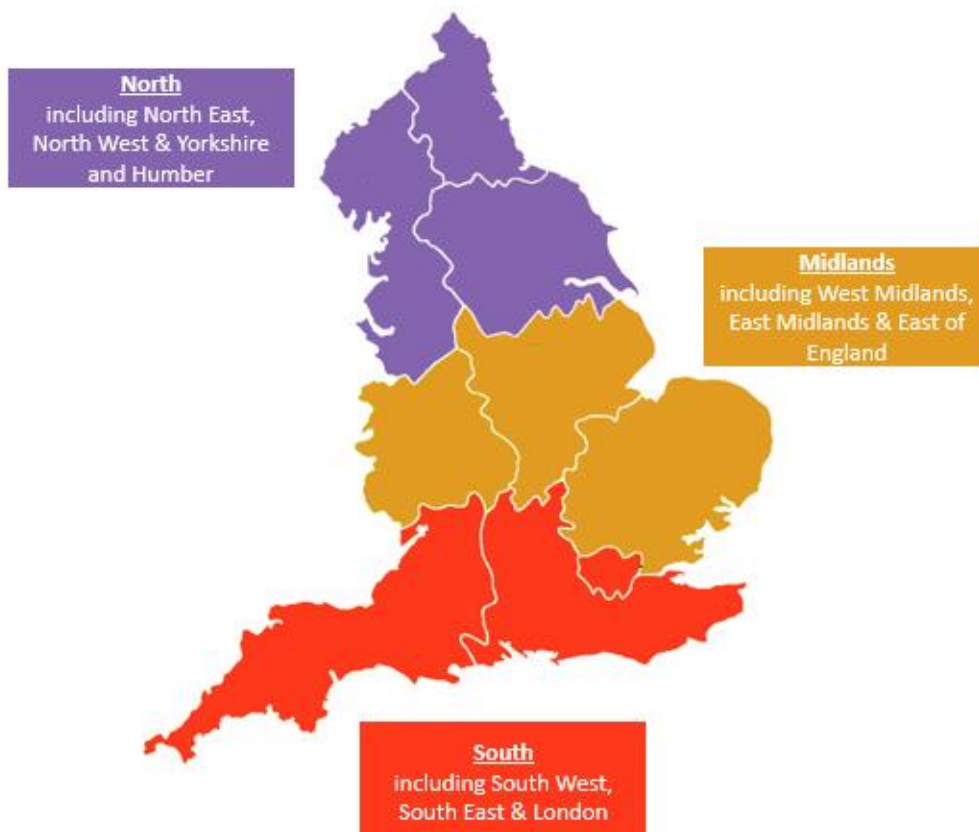


T-LEVELS

T Level Ambassador Network (TAN)

Regional Plan for the South

February 2026



I am delighted to introduce the South Region's T Level Ambassador Network (TAN) Regional Plan. Working towards our network's national goals, through a regional lens, this marks an exciting next step for our network. We will look to build a stronger and even more coordinated ambassador community across the South network, that can both respond to - and influence - local and regional needs and skills demands. Our brilliant region including London, the South East and the South West is home to a very wide range of sectors and our ambassadors play a vital role in connecting these industries with the next generation of talent coming through our T Level provision.

As ambassadors, you bring invaluable insights, local knowledge and enthusiasm for supporting young people and T levels. This plan sets out how we'll harness that energy over the coming years - focusing our efforts where technical skills are most in demand across the region, building meaningful relationships with employers and providers, strengthening engagement in harder-to-place routes, and amplifying the stories and successes that show the real impact of T Levels and industry placements in our communities.

Most importantly, this plan is designed to be supportive, collaborative and responsive. It draws on your feedback, sector intelligence and our shared national ambition to grow T Levels as a credible, high-quality route into skilled careers. Whether you've been part of the network for years or have only just joined, your voice, your connections and your experience matter, and together we can make a real difference for the learners, employers and communities across our region.

Thank you for your continued commitment, passion and generosity in giving your time. I'm genuinely excited for what we'll achieve this year, and I look forward to working alongside you all as we bring this plan to life.

Simon Bone
Regional Chair, South

The introduction of regional plans marks a significant moment for the T Level Ambassador Network. They reflect a shared commitment to continuing to grow T Levels with confidence, relevance and credibility, shaped by the realities of local economies, employers and T Level providers, while contributing to a strong national system.

By setting out a regional framework, these plans create the conditions for ambassadors to work with greater focus and purpose. They recognise the value of local relationships, trusted voices and sector knowledge, and the difference this makes when engaging employers, providers, schools and partners. Regionalisation is not about changing what the network stands for, but about strengthening how it operates—so that ambassador time, expertise and influence are used where they can make the greatest difference.

Above all, these plans are an invitation. An invitation for ambassadors to play an active role in shaping opportunity for young people, for partners to work alongside a coordinated and evidence-informed network, and for the system to continue learning about what works. With the dedication of ambassadors across England and the support of the Department for Education, national and regional partners, the network is well placed to deliver meaningful impact in the years ahead.

The National Leadership Team is proud of the work that has gone into developing these plans and is fully committed to supporting their delivery. We see them as living documents, reviewed, refined and strengthened through ongoing insight, feedback and collaboration, and as a foundation for a more connected, responsive and impactful T Level Ambassador Network.

Jo Simovic
National Chair

Natalie Jones
National Vice Chair

Danny Brett
National Vice Chair

1 Vision for the Ambassador Network in the South

The T Level Ambassador Network (TAN) in the South will be a strong, connected regional voice for T Levels, rooted in the South's economy and labour market, and aligned to government's industrial strategy. From global finance and professional services to fast growing digital and creative clusters, life sciences, construction, and coastal and rural economies, the network will focus its energy where it can make the greatest difference for employers, providers and young people.

Ambassador activity will be guided by what the evidence tells us works. Using a clear picture of LSIP priorities, T Level provider coverage and where ambassador presence is strong or thin, the network will target its efforts where T Levels can realistically grow and where industry placements are hardest to secure.

Ambassadors will be visible and active in the places that matter most - LSIP groups, Combined and Local Authorities, Chambers of Commerce, small business forums, key sector bodies and anchor employers. Through these connections, they will open doors in sectors that remain challenging, including digital, engineering and manufacturing, construction, legal, finance and accounting, and creative industries, while also helping build momentum in agriculture, environment and green industries, particularly in the South West.

By focusing on the right sectors, the right places and the right conversations, the network will help build stronger employer pipelines, increase industry placement capacity and boost confidence in T Levels across the region. By 2027, the South will have an active, well-connected ambassador community playing a visible role in a more joined-up and responsive technical education system.

2 Executive Summary

This Regional Plan sets out how the T Level Ambassador Network will work across London, the South East and the South West to turn insight into action. It explains how ambassador activity will be targeted to support national TAN goals while responding to the South's distinct economic and skills landscape.

The plan is grounded in a simple principle: to focus effort where it will have most impact. Drawing on regional mapping, LSIP intelligence and ambassador data, it brings together employer demand, provider capacity and existing ambassador coverage to guide decisions about recruitment, deployment and engagement of the network. It shows where the network already has strength, particularly in digital, creative and business routes and where there are clear gaps that need attention, including engineering and manufacturing, construction, and agriculture, environment and animal care.

Ambassadors will be supported to work through high impact routes into the system. This includes sustained engagement with LSIPs, Combined Authorities, Chambers of Commerce, anchor employers and sector networks, alongside practical support for providers and targeted work with schools and careers partners. Activity is aligned directly to national TAN objectives, with a clear focus on growing industry placements, raising awareness and building stronger, more confident regional networks.

This plan provides a clear direction for the South as the regional model moves into delivery. It is intended to be practical, adaptable and driven by evidence, evolving as new insight emerges and as the network learns what works best on the ground.

3 Regional Priorities

The following page provides an overview of the economic drivers, T Level delivery, and ambassador coverage underpinning the sector priorities for the region.

A number of important national sector priorities, aligned to the government’s Modern Industrial Strategy, will also be addressed through targeted regional activity. These are Health and Science, Digital, Engineering and Manufacturing, Construction, and Creative and Design.

<p>Economic drivers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High-tech and digital industries (Concentrations in IT, cyber security, AI. Innovation and research hubs) • Creative and cultural sectors (Major creative clusters. Tourism-related creative services in coastal and South West areas). • Finance and professional services (global finance hubs. Green finance and sustainable investment emerging). • Health and science (Life science clusters. London–Oxford corridor. Health workforce demand). • Construction and infrastructure (Housing growth corridors and coastal resilience projects). • Visitor economy (Tourism and hospitality as strategic drivers in coastal regions). • Green economy and net zero (Solar and offshore renewables. Electric Vehicle infrastructure). 	<p>T Level delivery</p> <p>Current data across the super region suggests:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strong provision in Digital, Creative & Design, Health & Science, and Business/Professional services, reflecting the South’s sector mix • Industry placement sourcing challenges in: Digital; Engineering and Manufacturing; Creative and Design; Legal, Finance and Accounting • Construction is a key priority and economic driver, but provider delivery and industry placements are patchy. • Some sectors heavily dominated by SMEs, creating high churn. • Agriculture & Environment is a clear Southwest gap/opportunity, although provider delivery is limited.
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<p>Current ambassador coverage</p> <p>Total ambassadors in region: 504</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • South East: 187 ambassadors • South West: 115 ambassadors • London: 202 ambassadors <p>By ambassador type:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Employer / employer body: 169 • Provider: 231 • Student: 78 • Other: 26 	<p>Current coverage by T Level route:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High coverage routes: Digital (Data, Software & Support), Creative & Design, Business & Administration and Legal, Finance & Accounting • Low coverage routes: Engineering & Manufacturing, Construction & Built Environment and Agriculture, Environment & Animal Care
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Route priorities for the region

The following routes will be a particular priority for the South:

- Construction and the Built Environment*
- Creative and Design*
- Digital*
- Legal, Finance and Accounting
- Engineering and Manufacturing*
- Health and Science*

** Also a national priority.*

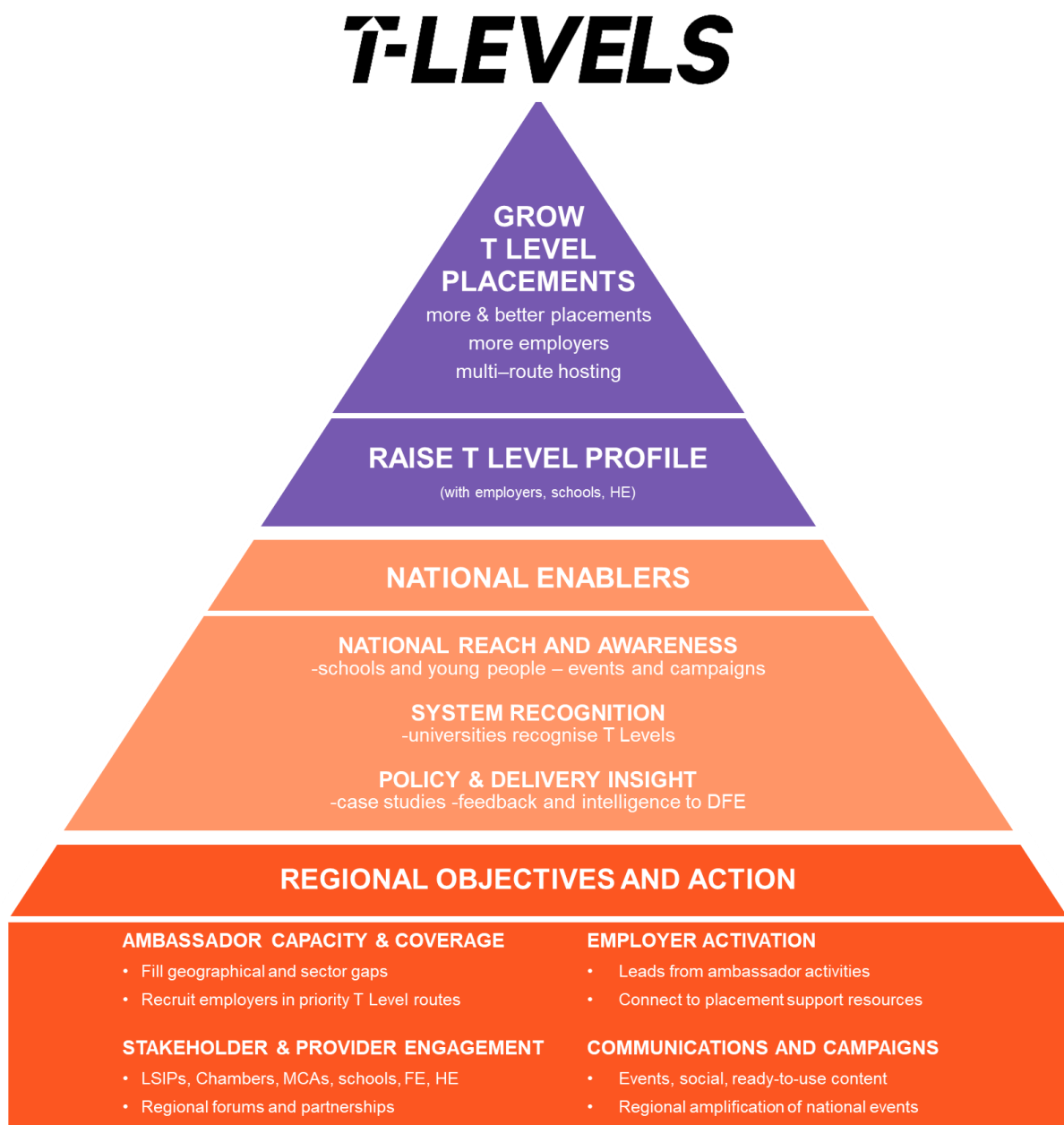
Targeted ambassador activity will also be supported in Agriculture, Environmental and Animal Care, aligned to key hotspots and gaps in the South West.

4 Linking regional to national objectives

This section provides a framework of how regional activity will be aligned with the national objectives of the T Level Ambassador Network and national policy goals. Although each region will follow the same framework, activity will be focussed on the specific sectors and priorities set out for this region (Section 3 above).

The diagram below summarises the alignment of national and regional ambassador action. The network's ultimate aim is to raise the profile of T Levels and increase the number of T Level industry placements (purple), supported by national enablers around reach, system recognition and policy and delivery (peach). Underpinning this will be regional objectives and action (red).

The table on the next page sets out the full national and regional network objectives mapping how national goals correspond to regional actions.



	National objectives	Regional objectives (to August 2027)
Growing T Level industry placements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Triple ambassador-hosted T Level industry placements At least 50% of TAN employers to offer industry placements in two+ T Level subjects by 2027 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Engage employer ambassadors and provider ambassadors, connecting them to account management support, resources and events that increase industry placements
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase industry placement opportunities generated through TAN influence. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Capture employer leads from ambassador activity and direct them to industry placement support Recruit new ambassadors prioritising employers aligned to key T Level routes
Supporting ambassadors to raise the profile of T Levels in the region	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Build and sustain strategic partnerships with national stakeholders to expand influence and reach of TAN 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Engage regional stakeholders to support ambassador recruitment, deployment and awareness-raising activity
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support the growth of T Level awareness amongst young people 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Work with careers partners and provider liaison teams to reach secondary schools and raise T Level awareness among 14–16-year-olds
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Influence the inclusion of T Levels in university entry requirements. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Engage HEIs to support T Level recognition in admissions and explore hosting of industry placements
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase public engagement with T Levels via social media, events, and campaigns 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Equip ambassadors to speak at regional forums/events Create targeted campaigns and ready-to-use content every two months for ambassadors and stakeholders to promote in the region
T Level policy and delivery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide actionable feedback and insights to inform and enhance the development of T Level policies 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Facilitate ambassador input into DfE policy and identify regional case study leads

Over the coming months, a small number of key measures will be put in place and shared with ambassadors to focus effort, track progress and steer future activity and priorities as regional insights and opportunities arise.