

Mark has praised the 70% increase in apprentices

New figures recently released show that Milton Keynes has had a rise in apprenticeship starts from 540 to 920 in the past two years.

Following an exchange in the chamber with John Hayes, the Minister for Business, Innovation and Skills where Mark pressed for a cut in the red tape businesses needed to wade through in order to gain an apprentice, Mark was delighted at the specific mention of Milton Keynes' success.

The news follows Mercedes-Benz's recent pledge of a further 330 apprenticeships to be offered at their Training Academy facilities on their Tongwell site.

Mark said "The staggering increase in apprenticeships is a great credit both to the cities local businesses and to the young people securing them. With a national average increase of 58%, Milton Keynes has proved yet again to be a trail blazer and I am delighted that so many young people are benefiting from gaining qualifications by hands on experience."