

When responding to articles in ALP's Connect bulletin, please be sure to mention where you saw it.

News

IPPR look at local level provision

The [Institute for Public Policy Research](#) (ippr) is launching a new project looking at local-level work to tackle poverty, discrimination and disadvantage; improve job opportunities and protect the environment. As part of our project, we would like to find out more about the work currently being done by local organisations across the UK. The aim is to build up a map showing local-level activity in tackling these problems across the country and to identify examples of best practice.

To help learn more, ippr have created a short survey. They would like to hear from employees, volunteers and trustees involved with locally-based organisations that are working to tackle poverty, improve job opportunities or protect the environment. The survey takes about 10 minutes to complete and all your answers will be confidential.

They are keen to hear from all types of organisations, including trade unions, local authorities, charities, social enterprises, campaign groups and service providers – anyone who is involved in tackling poverty, improving job opportunities or protecting the environment at a local level. The survey can be accessed here: <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/MXRWRQC> or there are paper copies to complete. In return, ippr are offering all respondents a priority place at their forthcoming conference on local job creation, which will feature keynote speakers from the US and UK.

More information about our project is available [here](#). If you would like any further details about the project or survey, or would like to request paper copies, please contact Kayte Lawton (020 7470 6169 / k.lawton@ippr.org) or Jenny Bird (020 7470 6118 / j.bird@ippr.org).

LLUK Impact of Standards and Qualifications Survey 2010

Professional standards for teachers, tutors, trainers and the associated qualifications

Lifelong Learning UK (LLUK) is conducting research into the impact of standards and qualifications (developed since 2007) on Work-Based Learning (WBL) Providers, FE College, and Adult and Community Learning (ACL) workforce. The aims of the research are to:

- *Identify strengths and weaknesses of the standards and qualifications*
- *Explore the use of the standards and qualifications by practitioners and employers*
- *Identify any issues to be addressed related to awareness and utilisation of the standards and qualifications.*



Skills for Learning Professionals

The work includes exploring the impact of the professional standards for teachers, tutors, trainers and the associated qualifications (PTLLS/CTLLS/DTLLS) as well as other standards and qualifications associated with *Learner Involvement* and *Learning Support Practitioner*. The formal research began on the 1st February with the launch of an on-line survey for practitioners/organisations to respond to. If you would like to take part in the survey, please click [here](#)

This survey closes on the 19th February 2010.

The research is being conducted by a team of independent market researchers and any responses to the on-line survey will be treated in strictest confidence. Your views and opinions about the standards and qualifications are important and we would encourage as many practitioners and or organisations to respond to the survey as time allows. LLUK have a web-based project page for the research of which this includes the link to the [survey](#).

If you have any queries or wish to discuss the research in more detail, please contact the Project Lead, [Warwick Andrews](#), or telephone 0113 258 7458.

Events

The 4th National Welfare to Work Conference: A Watershed in Welfare

23rd February - Barbican Centre, London

ALP has negotiated a **22% discount** off the standard delegate rates for all **ALP Members** for the national Welfare to Work Conference. This highly topical event will examine the key challenges for areas wishing to reduce unemployment and tackle long-term worklessness from raising skills and encouraging continued learning to redefining labour market investment: achieving more and better with less and using Apprenticeships as a vehicle to re-enter the workforce. Make sure your organisation is represented at this milestone event for welfare to work. The confirmed Speakers include:

- *Sir David Freud*, Shadow Minister for Welfare Reform
- *Stephen Bubb*, Chief Executive, ACEVO
- *Amanda McIntyre*, Director, Employment Related Services Association (ERSA)
- *Representative*, Qualifications and Curriculum Development Agency (QCDA)
- *Fran Parry*, Director of Employment and Skills, Centre for Economic and Social Inclusion (CESI)
- *Breege Burke*, Managing Director, Working Links
- *Stephen Evans*, Director of Employment and Skills, London Development Agency (LDA)
- *Stephen Lilley*, North West Regional Director, National Apprenticeships Service (NAS)

For further information and how to register attendance, please click [here](#)

ALP Members, please click here to obtain the [membership discount](#) code.

For details about the conference contact [Nikki Insley](#) at Neil Stewart Associates on telephone 020 7324 4357.

A Brave New World: Machinery of Government, making it happen on the ground Regional MoG Provider Meetings - 1st /15th March



In the lead up to the implementation of the transfer of funding arrangements for all 16-19 education and training including post 19 funding, ALP has been gathering information from independent learning providers' opinions of Local Authorities in relation to the Machinery of Government changes due to take effect from **1st April 2010**.

ALP is pleased to announce it will be hosting a series of '**A Brave New World: Machinery of Government, making it happen on the ground**' regional half day meetings about the effects of MoG and the new commissioning agencies covering both 16-18 and 19+ funding. Chaired by *Paul Eeles*, Director of Sector Reforms and 14-19, who has led within ALP on the Machinery of Government Changes over the last 18 months; delegates will have the opportunity to ask **pressing questions** about *MoG* and the *National Commissioning Framework* for 16-18 year old provision and the arrangements for 19+ learners and the interconnections between the various agencies to senior personnel from, *LAs*, *YPLA*, *NAS*, *SFA* and the *React Programme*, the team responsible to preparing transition and capacity building for all Local Authorities across England.

These series of **half day events** is designed to give ALP Members the opportunity to ask and challenge the panel, to seek answers and to allay fears about the implications to their organisations. **The dates for the regional ALP MoG events are as follows:**

- *Manchester* – **1st March**
- *London* – **4th March**
- *Birmingham* – **10th March**
- *Taunton* – **15th March**

It's strongly advised to **book early** to avoid disappointment as there is a limited capacity per venue, so register **today**. The event fee for half day, including light lunch and refreshments is **£30 + vat for ALP Members**.

For more details about the **MoG Regional Meetings** please click [here](#)

Managing the Transition to QCF

10th March 2010 - Chelsea Football Club, London



The LSC will be hosting a one day conference with the aim of supporting learning providers to manage the transition to the QCF as part of the implementation of the vocational qualification reform. This is an opportunity for providers to be updated on latest QCF implementation developments and specifically to actively prepare for the delivery of QCF qualifications. This event is primarily for publicly funded providers in England, but representatives from Sector Councils and Awarding Organisations will also find the day of interest.

The keynote address will be given by *David Cragg* (Interim Head of the Skills Funding Agency at the LSC) and the conference will feature QCF related workshops on:

- funding and performance
- identification of priority qualifications
- the new Adult Advancement Service
- the Personal Learning Record

The conference is free of charge and will be held at **Chelsea Football Club**, London on **10th March 2010**, 10 am - 3 pm. For more information and a booking form please e-mail the [QCF Service Desk](#).

The VTCT conference

2010

VTCT Conference 2010

Monday 26th April - NEC, Birmingham

VTCT is the specialist awarding body for the hairdressing and beauty sector, offering vocational qualifications and the new Diploma in Hair and Beauty Studies. Our full qualification package also covers complementary therapies, sports and active leisure and business skills.

In VTCT's on-going investment into the education sector and hair and beauty industry, we are holding our first national conference which has been entitled **sharing of good practice within the teaching of hair, beauty and complementary therapies**. The conference, set to be a highlight of the year, will be held on Monday 26th April 2010 at the NEC, Birmingham in association with the Beauty UK/Holistic Health exhibition.

Designed for teachers, tutors and trainers of hair, beauty and complementary therapies, it will promote innovative and high-quality methods of teaching representing our dedication to improvements in teaching standards.

Guest speakers will look at features of excellence in the teaching of hair and beauty as highlighted in last year's OFSTED report; 'Identifying good practice: a survey of college provision in hairdressing and beauty therapy'. Senior executives from VTCT will also present on the day.

The conference will be the climax of a competition that VTCT is running to find centres of further education, schools and private training centres with examples of good practice in the teaching of hair, beauty and complementary therapies. Winning centres will be asked to present at the conference with full support from VTCT and presented with £500 to spend within their centre. This will be an excellent opportunity to showcase good practice and raise the profile of your centre.

The conference will cost £100 per delegate or £75 if you book before Friday 26th February. For more information visit us at www.vtct.org.uk

Advertising

Save time and effort when registering learners with Awarding Bodies

For many years training providers have had to dedicate massive amounts of time and resource to register and request certificates for their learners with Awarding Bodies.

The logo for Capita, consisting of the word "CAPITA" in a bold, blue, sans-serif font.

Capita Further and Higher Education (FHE) can offer you a solution.

Capita FHE's Vocational Qualification Management Tracking (VQMT) solution has been developed to give you greater access to reliable methods of planning and tracking training provision across the whole of your business.

VQMT provides peace of mind by offering:

- Full CRM functionality
- Income vs. cost comparison reports
- Advanced funding reports
- Contract profile planning
- Integrated e-Portfolio
- Employer and learner email/SMS marketing

- Credit card payments
- Web site integration
- Personnel management
- Online enrolments and more...

Where published formats exist our VQMT solution allows you to automatically import and export the necessary data to and from Awarding Body systems. This includes qualifications that conform to the standards of Edexcel (Edifact) as well as City & Guilds (Walled Garden).

To learn more about how Capita FHE's VQMT solution is ready to change your business for the better contact us on **01285 647500**, email marketing@capitafhe.co.uk or visit www.capita-fhe.co.uk

You're Hired!



Perspective, a company that specialises in web-based training and learning solutions is partnering with an increasing number of UK employers and training organisations to implement Sunesis software that will support the management of learners for Apprenticeships, Train to Gain, NVQ's and other work based learning, where learner progression management is key to success.

In this current difficult financial climate, efficiency, quality, and performance are crucial factors for maximising access to the ever decreasing pot of Government money available for Work Based Learning.

Perspective's solution to learner management is user friendly, cost effective, meets all current OFSTED as well as LSC financial standards, and was designed by a unique team of educational experts with extensive experience of managing work based learning.

Sunesis approaches learner management via a secure web interface that provides access to Managers, Administrators, Tutors, Assessors, Verifiers, Employers, and Learners, creating a fully dynamic interface for all key stakeholders.

Sunesis provides a number of fully integrated modules that effectively manage all aspects of a learner's journey from:

- Employer engagement and relationship management
- Health and safety
- Sub-contract delivery partner management
- Qualification import and framework building
- Learner progression tracking
- Fully populated and validated ILR's and ILP's
- Contract management, batch validation, submission, financial profiling and reporting
- Course delivery management, attendance monitoring and reporting
- MI reporting to OFSTED requirement

Director of Perspective, Gary Harlock commented *"By working in partnership with our clients, we have gained a thorough understanding of their needs, philosophy and working methods when it comes to tracking learner and course progression. We have developed a solution that suits the needs of all parties involved in the delivery of work based learning to ensure a high level of communication, compliance and ultimately course success."*

Vacancies

Senior Executive - Science/Engineering/Technology

New Engineering Foundation

Up to £36k per annum

Initial 1 year contract, renewable



Closing date: 21st February 2010

The New Engineering Foundation is seeking to recruit a Senior Executive to help take their vital work to the next stage. The NEF is a London based independent charitable organisation that supports the development of skills in Science, Engineering and Technology.

This is an exciting opportunity to be involved in a rewarding and dynamic environment that influences policy and makes a difference to the world of science, engineering and technology in Further Education.

The appropriate candidate will possess a strong understanding of the skills issues/challenges and industry needs in science, engineering and technology as well as an extensive knowledge of the further and higher education sectors. Experience in Knowledge and Technology Transfer (KTT) as well as an understanding of UK educational policies is also essential to this post. The Senior Executive will report to the senior management team and key duties will include programme delivery and project management.

For more information and details on how to apply please visit www.neweng.org.uk/jobs.

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