

GTA England news

29th April 2020 weekly update

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If you have any problems registering your attendance on to an event please contact

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Upcoming Events

GoToWebinar

Thank you for attending this weeks webinar

The link to the recording of the webinar held on 29th April 2020 can be found [here](#)

The link to register for next weeks webinar can be found [here](#) on 6th May 2020 at 10.00am

Thank you for your ever positive feedback on the weekly webinars and content.

We started with a re-arrangement of the Agenda to ensure a full complement of member panel to discuss continuing arrangements for furlough and the Procurement Note 02/20 on Supplier support.

*** Remember, we need your suggestions for topics to ensure we are responding to your needs. Also, please don't be shy on volunteering to share information and content in the webinars – the wider the input the richer the content.**



Looking over the immediate horizon

We are all now considering when and how to commence the re-opening of centres and activities. Considerations occupying minds including:

- What attendance patterns.
- How to manage social distancing in centre, social areas, canteens
- Timetabling in order to play catch up enabling Apprentices to get on track
- Timings: now; when schools and colleges and universities are allowed to open?

Accordingly, this will be next week's main agenda item and members are invited to share thoughts.

In order to assist the discussion and your decision making we have established a short questionnaire around these four considerations.

In order to influence the content of the webinar on Wednesday 6th May; apologies for the tight turn around but please could you aim to complete at your very earliest opportunity but by **Monday lunchtime 4th May 2020**

PLEASE CLICK THE kwiksurveys ICON TO COMPLETE THE SURVEY

kwiksurveys

- ◇ We are delighted to welcome **Rob Nitsch, COO from IFATE at the next GTA England Board meeting** to engage in what the “new normal” will look like; the role of the flexibilities and adaptations currently approved; and other topics.
- ◇ I also mentioned a discussion document which makes for great reading on the forecasts for the economy; its impacts on employers – their behaviour in hiring and firing (it they continue to be around). Entitled: COVID-19 and Post-16 Education - Planning for a very different September and published by NCFE and the Campaign for learning It concludes with the number of seven suggestions and it makes an interesting read. Please remember, however, it is a discussion document. A copy is contained here or in the Members area of the website. [LINK](#)
or [filepath Membersarea>Membersresources>Library>Covid19>29thApril](#)
- ◇ Another commentary focussing on the looking over the immediate horizon emanates from the Cross-Sector Employer Trailblazer Group for the Advanced Manufacturing and Engineering sector of which we are an active member.
- We contributed to the establishment of the paper which has a number of asks for the government and IFATE. You’ll also note the mention of the fragility of the education and skills infrastructure and very real possibility of a much diminished infrastructure limiting employers choice to quality provision.
- The paper can be found in the members area [LINK](#)
or [filepath Membersarea>Membersresources>Library>Covid19>29thApril](#)
- ◇ **Update with progress on OFQUAL qualifications: review of assessment and gradings proposals**
- Scott Wilkins from City & Guilds gave us an update on the above in relation:**
- to the options of estimated or calculated grades; adaptations; and, only as a last resort, delaying assessment.
 - the latest on Functional Skills
 - flexibilities with EPA
- The latter included a pilot for the MOET standard in using remote technologies taking place at PETA. We also discussed the possibility of increasing the size of this pilot to include other EPAs scheduled this summer in the network.
- This would require a webinar based training event to recruit a number of Independent End Point Assessors (IEPAs) to enable EPA “by members for members” under licence to C&G. There is immediate interest from Gen2; HETA; and PETA for such an on-line workshop.
- Do let me know if your organisation is interested too.**
- Scotts slides can be found in [members area](#) -
or [filepath Membersarea>Membersresources>Library>Covid19>29thApril](#)

◇ **Procurement note 02/20 support for members and practice with furlough in the light of recent guidance**

H&WGTA – Nigel Morgan

GET - Linsey Temple (post legal advice)

The Engineering College - Terry Weston

Each contributor shared their positions on furlough with Nigel explaining that original plans agreed in early April were being continued to be implemented.

Terry and Linsey explained how plans had been re-assessed to reflect that the amount of furlough equated to no more than commercial income.

Again we concluded that there is no right or wrong answer with each organisations position has to be based on the company position and interpretation of risk and supported by a sound recorded rationale!

The slides for each contributor can be found in the [members area](#) or

[filepath Member_sarea>Membersresources>Library>Covid19>29thApril](#)

Additionally, the conclusion reached was that the supplier support contained in the PPN note 02/20 was less relevant for GTAs due to the high level of occupancy currently in place and subsequent continued levels of funding to be claimed. HOWEVER, note was made of the need to maintain close monitoring of occupancy as learner engagement is suspected to change the longer the lock down continues.

◇ **Government Bounce Back loans**

We also noted that the availability of Government Bounce Back loans appeared a false dawn for members. Albeit interest free, underwritten by government; and with no repayments for 12 months it seems that typical turnover of organisations able to apply could be around £250k. We will keep a weather eye on the eligibility once it is available.

The section of this content then moved into the considerations for re-opening centres.....watch this space

SNIPPETS

The snippets for this week included the following:

- ◇ Supported by our colleagues from the UFI I mentioned how a key element of the project is to undertake an **inventory of the on-line provision** available within the network with a view to considering facilitating access (for the right considerations of course!); identifying gaps; and considering developing provision to fulfil the need.

The staff training in “on-lining” teaching and learning resources is available as follows:

From presentation to online lesson - [Wednesday, May 6th 12:30 \(45-60mins\)](#)

How to deliver through virtual classrooms – pedagogy and practice -

[Thursday, May 7th 12:30 \(45-60mins\)](#)

Accessibility checking and awareness - [Tuesday, May 12th 12:30 \(45-60mins\)](#)

Regarding this training, we’re trying to strike the right balance between this training being extremely urgent in supporting Apprentices and securing optimum participation.

Do let me know if these dates are too immediate and we’ll see what can be done. Of course the sessions will be recorded and made available in the Members area of the website.

GTA England News continued

◇ **Profitable Delivery Models for Standards 14th May 2020**

We will kick off a series of webinars with members sharing how delivery models have been shaped in the light of operational experience.

Webinars will take place each fortnight, and the standards selected to-date include Mechatronics; Engineering Fitter; and Machining.

The first of which sees NWTC sharing their model, finetuned over the past 3 years for Mechatronics. A second member will also share their model on the day.

Please see the events calendar to book your place.

Do let me know if you're willing to share and if you have suggestions for other standards to feature in this series.

◇ Noting a paper was with government on options regarding the announced **switching off of frameworks in July 2020**. We were pleased to have been consulted in this area by both ESFA and IFATE.

◇ **Indemnity Insurance** – I mentioned that the ESFA had confirmed an amendment to contract. Subsequent to this mornings webinar the following has been announced, taken at point 6 from the below publication

6. Information: ESFA apprenticeship agreement for training providers - amendment

In response to industry feedback, from June the ESFA will issue variations to the 2020 apprenticeship agreements for training providers which were issued in March. The variation will vary the required level of professional indemnity insurance from £10m to £5m.

I think the “industry feedback” is us, Thanks to colleagues at HETA for bringing this to our attention. This should stop a doubling of your insurances fees!

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/esfa-update-29-april-2020/esfa-update-further-education-29-april-2020>

Please do get in touch with any topics to be covered in the webinars or Newsletter. Equally we would appreciate feedback on the format and content of this edition as we move away from merely emailing the outcomes of webinars.

Non Members who have been invited to join online webinars should contact

Mark Maudsley or Lesley Powles should they wish to access resources stored within the Members area of the GTA England website

Note : Should you have any problems registering on to any event please

contact Lesley.Powles@gtaengland.co.uk

GTA England Events & Webinars



Upcoming
Events

Date /Time	Mode	Venue	Title	
30/04/20 10.00-11.30am	Webinar	Online	Deep dives	LINK
06/05/20 10.00-11.30am	Webinar	Online	Coronavirus Latest information	LINK
May 2020 TBC	Webinar	Online	C&G Independent End Point Assessor (IEPA) training for the Engineering Operative standard, again, *exclusively for GTA England members staff	LINK
14/05/20 10.00-11.30	Webinar	Online	Profitable delivery models Mechatronics. See how NWTCS 3 years of experience have identified opportunities for high quality cost effective delivery . Learn how skills qualifications have been aligned into excellent EPA preparation. Session will also include another members (tba) delivery .	LINK
21/05/20 10.00-11.30am	Webinar	Online	Using data on inspection	LINK
11/06/20 10.00 -11.30am	Webinar	Online	Observation of TLA: quality of education; leadership and management; staff development	LINK
23/06/20 10.00 -11.30am	Webinar	Online	Sequencing the curriculum	LINK
07/07/20 10.00-11.30am	Webinar	Online H&WGTA	Starting points in Knowledge, Skills & Behaviours (KSB) in Management Standards	LINK
09/07/20 10.00-11.30am	Webinar	Online	Safeguarding	LINK
23/07/20 10.00-11.30am	Webinar	Online	Initial assessment and progress tracking	LINK
11/11/20	Conference	House of Com-	GTA England Annual Conference	LINK

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