

# GTA England news

April issue



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## Funding Reform – have your say

Funding Reform Technical Consultation closes on 1st May 2014

Our recent email was a call to arms, repeated at our well-attended Members' Day yesterday. We hope you will use the toolkit we sent out, to encourage and even sit down with your employers to complete a survey form.

### The tool-kit contains:

- A concise summary of the proposals
- A letter to use with your employers explaining what it means to them
- A power point presentation to use in briefings

Numbers count in this instance – as we have already seen with the earlier consultation.

England's own submission by sending us any information you glean from your consultations with your own employers, together with your own survey response. The greater the spread of the evidence we can quote, the more we can influence the outcome of the consultation.

We will be sending in our submission during Easter week, so if you could send us any feedback 'nuggets', however small, they will all be included. And your own survey responses, please - by Wednesday 23 April, please.

You can access the toolkit by visiting [www.gta-england.co.uk/members/members-resources/](http://www.gta-england.co.uk/members/members-resources/) and clicking Library and then Consultations.

## STOP PRESS: Date for your diary:

Attendees agreed with the GTA England Board, that we need to work collectively to prepare for the new world of apprenticeships which is on the horizon. We plan to hold a further Members' Day on 25 June, in Birmingham, with the theme of Preparing for Apprenticeship Reform.

*More information to come in next month's newsletter – but do please get the date in your diary – and contact your regional Board representative if you have ideas for the agenda (coming soon on the website for details).*





## GTA England Members' Day at Aston UTC in Birmingham was a resounding success ...

45 people attended the event, held at the Aston University Engineering Academy so that we could all see – and try out – the Formula One in Schools track for real.

Andrew Denford's presentation gave us a real insight into what F1 in schools could do for GTAs and for young engineers in their areas. Other more 'down to earth' but equally important highlights, including updates on capital funding for GTAs, Trailblazer progress from the Chairs of the groups, and input on quality and inspection, made this an event not to be missed. Powerpoint slides for those who missed it, and for those who want to follow up some of the information, can be found in the Conference Materials folder in the **Members Resources** section. These include up to the minute state of play from the Automotive and Aerospace groups; current SFA thoughts on the structure of funding under the new Apprenticeship arrangements.

## AELP invites applications to the Apprenticeship Staff Support Programme

Below is an extract from the AELP information release about the ETF's funding criteria:

*'Commissioned and funded by The Education and Training Foundation, the £1.5m Apprenticeship Staff Support Programme is being managed by AELP, along with programme partners AoC, HOLEX, 157 Group, NIACE and the Coventry and Warwickshire Chamber of Commerce.'*

'AELP are calling for bids to Phase 1 (£717,000) of the new Programme, seeking innovative, high quality proposals to develop and deliver professional support programmes, resources and materials. Proposals must demonstrate that they can be accessed, and used, by the wider education and training workforce engaged with Apprenticeships, and that they will improve outcomes for both learners and employers.

### Successful projects will focus on one or both of two priority areas:

- Securing and further developing employer involvement in Apprenticeship delivery;
- Further improving curriculum development, and teaching, learning and assessment on Apprenticeship programmes.

Lead bidders must be currently delivering Apprenticeships and AELP is encouraging bids from both consortia and single organisations. It is intended that 8 – 24 bids will be awarded funding of up to £717,000 in the first phase, and where a project proves to be particularly successful, further consideration will be given to up-scale and roll-out the project as part of a Phase 2 programme later this year.

Bids must be submitted no later than **4pm, Friday 2nd May 2014.** '

We intend to submit a GTA England bid to support our Training Officer Development programme. Many of you have already shown an interest in the programme. To demonstrate the scale of interest in the programme, we will need evidence of demand. Please help us with this by emailing us to express your interest in taking part in the training.

**Please also have a read of the Prospectus yourselves – there may be other ideas within the Network which would qualify for support.**

## Using video to develop teaching and learning

We are pleased to report that the Training 2000 Quality Team has agreed to be the first to share their practice in developing teaching and learning through the use of video.



Ian Kimberley filmed the training session for our Ofsted event on the observation of teaching, learning and assessment in September; his success in using video as a medium for sharing and critiquing teaching practice set us all thinking about the many possibilities it offers.

Since then we have had more volunteers to try out using video, both as a tool for observation and reflection for practitioners, and to share practice – we will soon have exemplars of teaching and learning both good and ‘requiring development’. These will be shared at the forthcoming meetings of the Journey to Grade One group, and then, where they can be of use for other GTAs, we will make them available via the website. Cate Tunn at Rochdale Training is going to be the first to share her work with us at our meeting on 30 April at MGTS – details on the website shortly.

You will find Ian’s video on the website in the Journey to Grade 1 folder in the **Members Resources**, together with an observation sheet you can use to do your critique. You can use the clip in whatever way you wish, but we found the group observation exercise particularly good in terms of training observers in making evaluative judgments. Also on the website is an account of our findings at our September event, but please read these after you have formed your own view! In the same location, you can find the consensus around what is best practice, which was another very useful moderation exercise at the same event.

*We are very grateful to Training 2000 for agreeing to share their work with us, and we are looking forward to further collaboration among the teaching practitioners within the GTA England network.*

# DTA

DERWENT TRAINING  
• ASSOCIATION •

## A warm welcome to Derwent Training Association ... and a little about them ...

Derwent Training Association was founded in 1988 by a consortium of innovative industry leaders, we grew from a need to improve and maintain high quality, industry led training in partnership with employers and other providers.

The Association has maintained a ‘not for profit’ position, ensuring a continuous program of reinvestment in cutting edge equipment, training and technology.

Today, based in modern, purpose built facilities in Malton, we have established a first class reputation for the recruitment, training and retention of skilled young engineers and are recognised as a bench mark for excellence and high quality training and business support.

In recent years we have seen demand for our training provision almost double and the area we now cover is from Knaresborough to Bridlington and Whitby to Selby.

DTA General Manager, John Brockett said “We are absolutely delighted to be joining GTA England as we share the same values and concerns. On our own we would have little chance of influencing policy but as a member of GTA England our voice will be heard. We are also looking forward to meeting other members”

## GTA England visits Downing Street in Apprenticeship Week

Two learners accompanied GTA England to Downing Street as part of the National Apprenticeship Week celebrations.



Engineering apprentices **Sara Underwood**, aged twenty-one, from Rolls-Royce, and **Craig Eccles**, 19-year-old Paradigm employee, were among a handful of apprentices to be invited to the Trailblazer employers' reception hosted at No 10, which highlighted the importance of Apprenticeships to the British economy, and explained some of the government's planned reforms.

Trailblazer employers working together to develop future Apprenticeship standards, including BAE, the National Grid, Cisco, Jaguar Land Rover, the Institute of Mechanical Engineers, Nestle, the Royal Society of Chemistry and Rolls-Royce, were invited to take along their apprentices. As a contributor to both the Aerospace and Automotive Trailblazers, GTA England was asked to invite two apprentices. This was in recognition of the consultation undertaken with some SMEs to seek their thoughts on the new proposals. The consultation was organised with the help of Alliance Learning and Training 2000.

Sara and Craig were the lucky winners of the draw, and were excited to be given the opportunity. Craig said: "I was delighted to be one of the few apprentices to be invited to the event as it gave me an opportunity to showcase the work I've done, meet new apprentices involved in different sectors and hear about the future of these qualifications." Sara and Craig are shown with Charlotte Bidwell from Marshall Aerospace Defence Group along with Mark Maudsley from GTA England.

During the event apprentices were introduced to Chancellor of the Exchequer George Osborne and Minister for Skills and Enterprise, Matthew Hancock, whilst employers across a range of sectors were thanked for their commitment to developing future Apprenticeship standards. Apprentices were given the opportunity to show off their talents in a display of innovative products or systems they had created during their Apprenticeship programme.

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