

GTA England news

May 2019

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World Skills received a total of 4480 registrations



April saw the closure of the date for 2019 candidate registrations. Real progress is being made by both World Skills and GTA England members. World Skills received a total of **4480 registrations**. Although these stem from a range of sources the number of training providers contributing to the total numbers increased to 61. At the closing date, 7 GTA England members had registered over 20 candidates. The range of college and provider engagement coupled with the growth in the number of applicants suggest that many see the competition as an important part of their branding position and enhanced employer engagement.

GTA England is working with World Skills to help more members engage in this exciting and growing programme. Work is underway to enable all to better understand World Skills standards and the gap between level 3 apprenticeships and employer strategic skill ambitions. World Skills are particularly interested in aligning World Skills standards with employer aims and ambitions.

GTA England Business Development

GTA England has initiated the next phase of development focusing on operations. As a follow on from the successful first business development event, this session will look at understanding operational outcomes and aligning business infrastructure and resources to achieve business goals.

As in the first session, contributors will be encouraged to share their approach and experience. Critical areas to be explored include apprenticeship programme delivery, operational structures and delivery ratios, financial measures and KPI's. Examining operational failure seeking shared solutions will be coupled with the potential for innovation to be embedded within operations.

The next session taking place at JTL on 21st May 2019

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/gta-england-business-development-programme-tickets-60463085717>

Should you wish to know more, please contact Lee
lee.weatherly@gtaengland.co.uk 07801275477

End-Point Assessments

End Point Assessment update

Action is hotting up on the EPA front.

Notwithstanding the contributions from our EPA partners in this months edition . We have established two “consultation groups” which have undertaken the following:

C&G Engineering Fitter; Operative; MOET; and Metal Fabrication:

Reviewed draft contract and person specifications and provided feedback for incorporation.

Working up pilot EPA process for MOET involving HETA and Gen2

EAL Engineering Technician:

We are focussing initial activity to become operational on members requiring EPA in 2019: Training 2000; NWTC; NITAL.

We are starting to work on an MoU covering marketing and Communications – its important we protect the volumes offered to both our partners and focus on the allocation of standards above.

If you'd like to be involved in either of the working groups activity, please just give me a shout

mark.maudsley@gtaengland.co.uk 07837832996



**Free webinar:
End-point assessment
sharing experiences**

Tuesday 18th June, 10am

As one of the first organisations to be recognised as an end-point assessment organisation (EPAO), delivering our first EPA in 2016, we are currently on the register of end-point assessment organisations for 51 apprenticeships standards, across 18 sectors. As our service is developing, we have a growing understanding of our customers needs and how we can support providers and employers to prepare apprentices for a high quality and robust end-point assessment.

With this wide experience, we are delighted to be working with GTA England on end-point assessment in the engineering sector and invite all member to join us on the 18th June so we can share our EPA experiences.

The webinar will cover:

- The EPA journey – how to get the best out of your apprentices and ensure a smooth booking process
 - Understanding the assessment plan
 - Submitting the right assessment evidence
 - Preparing apprentices for assessment on the day

Register here: <https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/1959111316599670531>



EAL's End-Point Assessment Services

As the specialist skills partner and awarding organisation for industry, EAL have been at the forefront of supporting employers to develop new apprenticeship standards at every stage and is committed to delivering solutions which give real value to learners.

EAL is on the government's approved register of End-Point Assessment organisations and is endorsed to deliver a wide range of End-Point Assessments for apprenticeship standards across the advanced manufacturing and engineering sector.

EAL in partnership with IMechE are delighted to be collaborating with GTA England and its Members for the Engineering Technician standard.

By choosing EAL as your End-Point Assessment organisation you will benefit from:

Unrivalled support and expertise from End-Point Assessment experts who are time served in occupational areas.

A wealth of expertise in quality assuring delivery and assessment, that builds on our unique understanding of employer skills needs in our core sectors.

A flexible and responsive solutions-based service, with the first rate level of customer service that EAL is renowned for.



Refreshing the GTA England Employer Advisory Group

You'll be aware that we are seeking nominations from members to enhance the Employer Advisory Group.

The remit of the group continues to be:

To advise and inform the GTA England Board on the workforce development needs and challenges facing organisations of all sizes across the UK, so that GTA England and its member organisations are best able to respond to and address these needs.

A core body of employers has agreed to be representatives on the group following the relaunch of a refreshed EAG at the GTA England Apprentice of the year awards on 7th February 2018. Current members therefore include: JCB (chair), Siemens, BAE Systems, Hares; GKN; JLR; TMUK; and SMEs including Movetech UK, A1-cbiss; and McBraida

Nominations are now invited from the wider membership of GTA England, particularly from SME employers in order to achieve balance of representation of companies of all sizes. Dependant on volumes we may not be able to accommodate all in the interests of achieving the right composition in terms of company size and geography.

We hope to organise membership in order to allow attendance at our T Level Consultation event at Alliance Learning on 13th June 2019. **Therefore, nominations are invited to Mark by 24th May 2019.**

One of the first tasks of the group will be to complete the **Apprenticeship Reforms questionnaire** which is currently being developed. Aimed at establishing employer views on the introduction of the levy (where applicable) and the wider reforms involving standards and co-funding, the outcome will provide invaluable information to continue to shape our policy and actions.

In addition, not only will be asking members to distribute this questionnaire to your employers to ensure a credible sample size; we have also agreed to share the questionnaire with our colleagues at the The 5% Club who are keen to distribute to their employers for completion.

Higher and Degree Apprenticeships

Many GTA England members see this aspect as a real business opportunity. Employers are encouraging members to extend the HNC/HND programmes to degree level apprenticeships. Working with members the process of mapping higher qualification provision against BEng degree is being clarified to enable members to consider their September 2019 and 2020 options. GTA England member, Gloucester Engineering Training (GET) have made real progress aligning their higher qualifications with Gloucester University BEng programme. Other options are emerging utilising foundation degrees to enable the next steps to be taken. In this respect AMRC has made significant progress.

Quite naturally all members are taking great interest in the development of the higher apprenticeship in Engineering & Manufacturing Technician at level 4. GTA England is involved with the employer led group finalising this standard. I can report that progress has been made to clarify the EPA approach with potential alignment with World Skills standards.

Developments include looking at the assessment methodologies of professional discussion and practical test. We (including Terry Weston at the Engineering College) have been heavily involved in this development and it potentially presents a great opportunity for members with training centres.



INFORMED
STRATEGIC
DECISIONS

RCU Data Project

Thanks to everyone who has returned their data sharing agreement. We now have 9 organisations undertaking the pilot and a further 8 signed up to join in June. We are expecting outstanding agreements to be returned in the next few days so that the project can fully report on the whole network. Discussions with EPAOs indicate that data will be an essential feature of EPA planning and negotiations and this new platform will save everyone time as well as providing a benchmarking tool.

Next Steps

Pilot organisations will receive instructions shortly on how to access the portal and how to upload ILR data. RCU will be producing reports in early June for pilots to review. Mark and Steph have a meeting with RCU on 18th June to finalise report content based on pilot feedback.

Non Pilot organisations will receive their signed agreements back in the next couple of weeks along with a request for details of nominated users. Full details of how to access the portal and ILR upload instructions will then follow.

Stephanie.whalley@gtaengland.co.uk

The RoATP - Rebecca Rhodes

We have supported some 16 members to date and Rebecca is currently working towards the May deadline providing feedback.

Key learning points emerging so far include:

- **Think through questions with examples so that the example clearly illustrates what is being asked for.**
- **FORENSICALLY check that all bullet points are covered in the processes and procedures AND in each narrative question.**
 - **Produce the process/ policy / procedures first in support of the application.**

Remember you ought to be given three months notice to complete and submit the application. We have been able to successfully suggest to the ESFA that one members deadline was extended to comply with this.

The size and content of applications are significantly larger than the previous process and we have created a “**booking system**” to ensure that the time available is distributed effectively in order to meet with demand. Priority will always be given to those members invited to submit by the month end deadline.

Please do try to follow this process as we have received a few requests outside of the booking arrangement. Although every effort will be made to respond, we may not always be able to do so to such requests.

Contact:

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GTA England News, Training Events & Webinars



Mark Your Calendars

Date Time	Mode	Venue	Title	To Register click on Link
21 st May 2019 10.00 – 16.00	Workshop	JTL	GTA England Business Development programme	https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/gta-england-business-development-programme-tickets-60463085717
7 th June 2019 10.00 – 11.30	Webinar	Online	Off the Job training	https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/5704717522835374860
13 th June 2019 10.30–14.00	Event	Alliance Learning Bolton	T Level consultation	https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/t-level-consultation-tickets-60470680433
18 th June 2019 10.00–10.45	Webinar	Online C&G / ilm	End Point assessments Sharing Experiences	https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/1959111316599670531
28 th August 2019 10.30 – 14.00	Workshop	JTL	SAR & QIP writing best practice – Trevor Alley	https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/sar-qip-writing-best-practice-trevor-alley-tickets-58135685400
17 th & 18 th September 2019 Timings 17 th 10.00 – 4.00 18 th 9.30 –	Workshop	JTL	Peer Review Training – Trevor Alley	https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/peer-review-training-trevor-alley-tickets-58137800727

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