

GTA England news

March 2020 Newsletter

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

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Welcome to our March Newsletter

In this edition we are having a focus on EPA and our partnerships with the IET and City & Guilds.

There's a lot going on behind the scenes as ever and I'm excited to be talking with a national organisation who is interested in offering a discounted and high-quality audit service...but that's for another day.

Please enjoy the content and let us know if you need anything further.



on.....End Point Assessment

We are all concerned about the availability and national capacity of assessors to undertake end point assessment, especially from next summer.

That's why we've focused quite some attention on working with partners with the mutual objectives of establishing arrangements to provide:

- High quality assessors with occupational experience
- Cost effective rates prices brought about with economies of scale
- Created by highly regarded, professional institutions committed to achieving win: win scenarios



The Institution for Engineering and Technology:

Engineering Technician Standard

An "advanced" pilot involving the creation of a steering group from the network with the Institution of Engineering and Technology. This has been formed largely via self-selection of members with EPA requirements in 2019-20 for the various pathways in the Engineering Technician standard.

Our first two meetings in 2020 has established a strategy which involves the purchasing of a service for 2019-20 from the 700 or so individuals registered with the IET who could perform EPA. The second year sees the IET exploring the possibility of engaging through members additional capacity with utilising staff who would meet requirements.

IET continued from page 1 - This dual approach will enable members to have the option of solely purchasing an EPA service from the IET and/or utilise or add to capacity within own organisations to allow staff to work under licence to the IET.

Members from the steering group with EPA requirements in 2020 are in the process of agreeing the timing of EPA assessments right now.

In the meantime, the IET have agreed to offer training workshops to GTA England members staff to prepare them to brief Apprentices on the requirements and timings of EPA via a potential “train the trainer” model.

I’m grateful for the following members in stepping forward to form this group which will ensure we help increase the capacity of high quality assessors for when demand starts to peak: AMRC; GET; H&WGTA; JCB; MGTS; The MTC; Training 2000 alongside the IET.



City & Guilds: Engineering Fitter; MOET; Engineering Operative; Metal Fabrication Standards

A carbon copy of the arrangement with the IET is being replicated with our colleagues within the City & Guilds group.

It can now be confirmed that City & Guilds have successfully applied to feature on the Register of EPAO’s for the Engineering Fitter; MOET; Engineering Operative; Metal Fabrication Standards.

The advanced pilot steering group involving City & Guilds is formed and formally met in March where colleagues showcased current documentation; discussed processes; and sought feedback.

This will result in a document for members including the discounted prices; levels of income (for releasing staff to perform EPA on behalf of C&G); descriptions of processes; example contract with GTA England exclusive clauses on: reduced level of indemnity from £10m to £5m; inclusion of travel and accommodation in addition to unit costs; either party right to terminate the contract.

We are delighted with the outcomes of discussions to date which demonstrate the partnership nature of the relationship. Colleagues at City & Guilds have listened to the concerns of having a countrywide capacity to perform EPA and have agreed to meet the reasonable costs of travel and accommodation in addition to unit costs.

I’m grateful to the 10 members volunteering to make up this advanced implementation group including: Activate; GET; Gen2; H&WGTA; HETA; MGTS; PETA; Stockport ETA; Sunderland ETA; Training 2000.

The strategy with City & Guilds, although common in the principle of utilising members staff, differs in timing to that established with the IET.

The timetable and go live timetable for EPA with City and Guilds is as follows:

EPA Development and go live timetable	Registration go live date	First booking date	First assessment date
Engineering			
Engineering Operative	17/04/2020	01/06/2020	31/07/2020
Engineering Fitter	02/10/2020	01/11/2020	01/12/2020
Metal Fabricator	02/10/2020	01/11/2020	01/12/2020
Maintenance and Engineering Operations Technician			
Electromechanical	21/02/2020	24/02/2020	24/02/2020
Electrical	Live	Live	Live
Mechanical	Live	Live	Live
Control & Instrumentation	Live	Live	Live

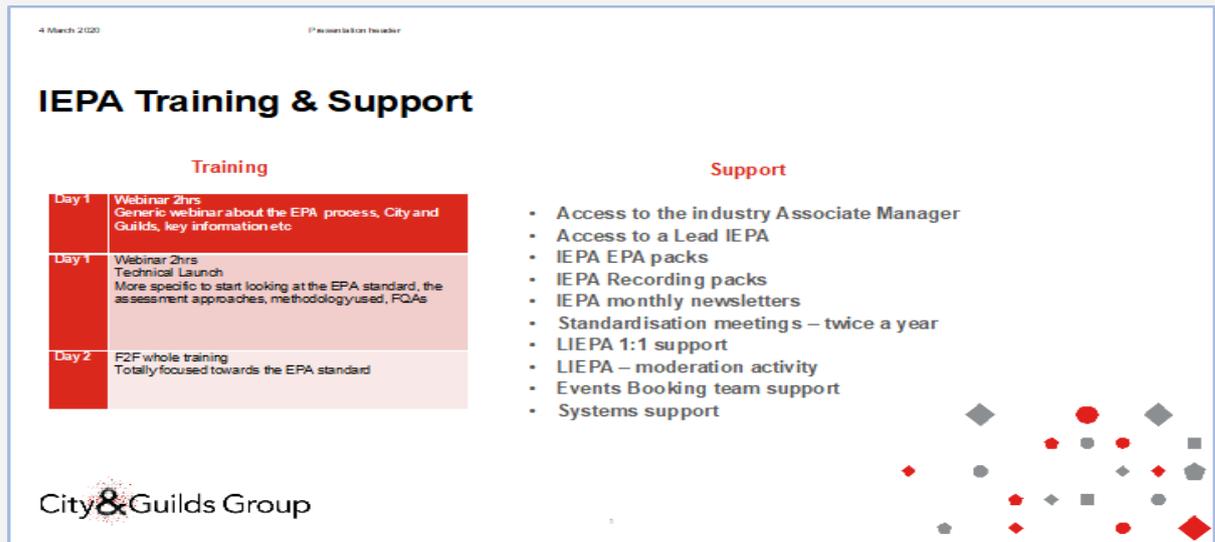
EPA continued - GTA England News

We are keen to meet an immediate need of EPA within the MOET standard in 2020. Already two members have had staff trained to perform EPA in the MOET standard.

Also, I can advise that there is a training course exclusively for GTA England staff to prepare to be assessors for the MOET standard which takes place on 30th and 31st March 2020. To reserve your place please click on the following link: [C&G MOET IEPA training exclusive for GTAE members](#)

Additionally, I am delighted to inform that there is to be Independent End Point Assessor (IEPA) training for the Engineering Operative standard, again, exclusively for GTA England members staff being scheduled for May 2020. Please encourage staff to register. [C&G Engineering Operative IEPA training exclusive for GTAE members](#)

The following diagram shows the broad content:



A little more detail...

Webinar training agenda for day 1 covers:	The second day involving face to face delivery includes:
The C&G EPA service	Introduce the Lead IEPA for the MOET standard
Overview of the EPA process	Give a thorough overview of the standard
The role of IEPA	Look at materials and assessment tools
Carrying out EPA	Consider documentation
The EPA Portal	Grading (where applicable)
Remote Assessments and Feedback	Conducting the assessment
Recording grading outcome and enquires about results	Interpreting the expectations
Support & Guidance for IEPA	
IEPA training selection and standardisation	
Sampling and performance management	

“David Phillips, Managing Director, says at City & Guilds and ILM, we work hard to help people and organisations develop their skill for growth, so the work we are now doing with GTA England and its members to deliver high-quality EPA agreement is really important to us. The arrangement builds on and plays to the strengths of both organisations and will hopefully lead to a deeper partnership working across a wider range of mutually beneficial activities.”

SHOULD ANY MEMBERS OUTSIDE OF THE CURRENT STEERING GROUPS WISH TO BE INVOLVED, PLEASE JUST GET IN TOUCH



Members documents and policies repository using SharePoint

We mentioned the prospect of a members repository in the renewals email in December.

I'm indebted to fellow GTA England Board member and CEO of Sunderland Engineering Training Association, Robin Lockwood, for leading and creating this.

We often receive requests for examples of policies, processes, procedures, whether these be employer contracts; governance mems and arts, business continuity policy, SARs. Only one rule: you have to upload your document before you can download other members. We hope that this will provide a rich range of resources.

The Coronavirus information request gives a recent example of what can be housed here.

Robin is hoping to have the Sharepoint live by late 2020.

Meanwhile, Levy Transfers

We are continuing to put members companies requiring non-levy resources to our employer partners. Of late a number of companies have benefitted from this process as all parties understand what is required in the process.



Seta CEO Robin Lockwood says that the 2 employers that benefited from the transfer J and P Group Services and Teescraft Machining, were absolutely delighted to be able take on apprentices this year and were most grateful to Siemens for the funding that allowed them to do so.



We are also delighted to be piloting an arrangement with colleagues in another huge internationally renowned company too.

Although, the Apprenticeship Service now houses non-levy employers, we are unsure as to the budget to cover such activity. Therefore, I'm taking this opportunity to remind Members of this service for non-levy employers.



Salary Benchmarking exercise with Alderwood

Thank you to members who have submitted information to us on salary levels.

We are very close to producing a benchmarking report in conjunction with colleagues at Alderwood. Such a report will show salary bands for roles which are differentiated by geographical and provider type characteristics to allow members to compare.

As ever the report will be available to those members who have submitted returns.



Apprentice of the Year Awards at the House of Commons Members Dining room

We were delighted to hold our annual Apprentice of the year awards at such prestigious premises. All 100 attendees enjoyed a sumptuous 4 course meal interspersed with videos of each of the finalists. Feedback has been extremely positive and we are grateful to the event sponsors including Safran and Alderwood Recruitment.

There can only one winner, however, and we were delighted that Jenifer Coupland, CEO of the Institute of Apprenticeships and Technical Education could join us to say a few words and present the awards for the **Business Service Winner**, Tina Goodram, Alliance Learning and **Runner Up**, Haider Ali, Rolls-Royce and the **Best Newcomer Winner** Neve Cox, GET and **Runner Up**, Lorna Hay Alliance Learning.



The Engineering awards were sponsored this year by Alderwood Recruitment and Brad Coombes was delighted to present the Winner award to **Bethany Addis, Hereford and Worcestershire Engineering Training Association.**

As evidence of the extremely high quality entries each year, the judges could not differentiate the scores for the Runner Up. Therefore, we selected two runners up in Katherine Adams, JTL and Alfie Murphy, Siemens!

In true GTA England style, we recognised all of the finalists achievements bearing in mind the 23 were selected from 22,000 Apprentices eligible to enter. Each received a trophy.

Once again thanks to all who attended and made it a fantastic celebratory evening recognising the apprentices hard work and achievements nationally!



Apprentice of the year continued

GTA ENGLAND APPRENTICE OF THE YEAR AWARDS TABLE OF FINALISTS

Category - Business Services

Apprentice	GTA	Employer
Tina Goodram (Winner)	Alliance Learning	St Andrews Out of School Club
Olivia Graham	Oldham Training Centre	Sterling Sensors
Sian Court	Siemens	Staffordshire University
Haider Ali (Runner Up)	Rolls-Royce PLC	Rolls-Royce PLC
Fabiha Hussain	PETA	Glidefern Property Management

Category – Best Newcomer

Apprentice	GTA	Employer
Hannah Hesketh	Oldham Training Centre	Sterling Sensors
Nicole Dyer	Siemens	Siemens – Digital Industries
Olivia Weston	The Engineering College	The Engineering College
Henry Fitton-Thomas	Training 2000	Rolls Royce PLC
Rebecca Wright	AMRC	The University of Sheffield - AMRC Training
Lorna Hay (Runner Up)	Alliance Learning	Hill Biscuits
Davina Jody Kaur	The MTC	RNA Automation Ltd
Neve Cox (Winner)	Gloucestershire Engineering Training	Safran Landing Systems Services UK

Category – Engineering Construction

Apprentice	GTA	Employer
Jack Holt	Alliance Learning	Viridor
Katherine Adams (Joint Runner Up)	JTL Training	The Leeds Teaching Hospitals Trust
Bethany Cousins	AMRC	AMRC Training Centre
Alfie Murphy (Joint Runner Up)	Siemens	Siemens Subsea
Nicholas Meadows	The Engineering College	The Engineering College
Rebecca Bovingdon	PETA	Safran Helicopter Engines UK
Faye Taylor	NWTC	The Science & Technology Facilities Council
Reece Stalker	GEN2	Jacobs Engineering UK Ltd
Bethany Addis (Winner)	HWGTA	Yamazaki Mazak
John Maude	Oldham Training Centre	Framos Fabrications



Welcome to Chris Jones, former HMI

We are very fortunate to have a new addition to our quality improvement capability.

Chris says, "I am delighted to be joining GTA England as an associate when I retire from my full-time role as an HMI with Ofsted at the end of this month. I have always believed that GTA members do great work in the Further Education and Skills sector. Your own data analysis shows how well you serve the young people and adults who train with you."

Being a good or better provider, in inspection terms, is a little like a balance sheet. It presents a picture of the provider at the time of inspection. Things could be very different a few months later. As an inspector, I have always said that providers shouldn't do anything different during inspection – inspectors should see what you do everyday".

But we all know that things change. Ofsted introduced the Education Inspection Framework in September 2019 and in doing so changed the landscape and focus of inspection.

I have been asked to support the review process that you have applied so successfully in the past. I have also been asked to consider a range of workshops and seminars to support your maintenance of high-quality provision. There's a long list:

The Things to do list?	
Effective Observations of Teaching and Learning and OTL Strategy	Moving from monitoring visits to full Inspection (new providers)
Developing a self-assessment report (SAR) and quality improvement plan (QIP).	Good and effective governance through the eyes on an inspector.
Understand the new Ofsted Deep Dive	Creating an effective approach to initial assessment and tracking progress.
Understanding data and how Ofsted will use it to plan activity and make judgements	Safeguarding for learners / staff / managers / governors-leaders
Creating an effectively sequenced curriculum.	Measuring and evidencing success – progression, destination and other measures Ofsted want to see.
How Ofsted inspects subcontracted provision	Moving from monitoring visits to full Inspection (new providers)
Preparing for new Provider Monitoring Visits	

“That’s what’s in my head ... you may have other needs and wants ... ”

Please use the new GTA England email address to let him know: Chris.jones@gtaengland.co.uk
or Tel : 07766477016

Tremendous work by the Apprentices at Rochdale Training

Really roarsome dino garden springs up in Rochdale town centre



A pre-historic dinosaur garden has been created and built in Rochdale town centre as the borough gears up to welcome Dippy the dinosaur in 2020.

Dippy, the Natural History Museum London's famous Diplodocus cast, has been touring the UK since 2018 and will take pride of place in Number One Riverside next year.

The really wild garden contains specially selected plants and a giant tyrannosaurus rex head, designed by young people from Rochdale Training.

The special garden features a variety of plants including ferns, which have been around for 350m years and predate the dinosaurs, alongside Monkey Puzzle trees, with their distinctive spiky appearance, which date back more than 200m years. Some of the plants included would even have made up part of Dippy's diet such as conifers, a type of pine tree, which have been around 150m years ago.

The new garden is taking pride of place on Gracie Island in Town Hall Square, and stands in the spot where the World War 1 pop up garden was erected last year to mark the centenary of the conflict. The hugely popular garden, which was awarded best feature in a public place by the Royal Horticultural Society, has since been moved to the Memorial Gardens.



[LINK to full article](#)

GTA England News, Training Events & Webinars



Mark Your Calendars

Date Time	Mode	Venue	Title	To register click on Link
16th March 2020	Spreadsheet		If you have received an email with the Coronavirus questions please can this be returned by the 16 th March to mark.maudsley@gtaengland.co.uk	
25th March 2020 10—11.30am	Webinar	Online	establishing starting points in KSBs”; Deciding how to record pathways in Standards on ILR”	LINK
30th & 31st March 2020	Webinar	Online	C&G *exclusively for GTA England staff to prepare to be assessors for the MOET standard	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
23/04/20 10.30 - 2.30	Members Day	Alliance Learning	Profitable delivery models in Standards (includes a light sandwich lunch)	LINK
07/0720 10—11.30am	Webinar	Online H&WGTA	Starting points in Knowledge, Skills & Behaviours (KSB) in Management Standards	LINK
11/11/20 10am—6pm	Conference	House of Commons	GTA England Annual Conference (including afternoon Tea)	LINK

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<p>Stephanie Whalley Quality & Network Development Associate stephanie.whalley@gtaengland.co.uk Tel: 07703 906758</p>	<p>Trevor Alley Quality Co-ordinator trevor.alley@gtaengland.co.uk Tel: 07403 149224</p>
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