

GTA England

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My thanks go to all colleagues inputting in today's webinar – another full agenda covering:

- Learning about the EPA in MOET pilot in the use of remote technologies
- Update on returning to work with the furlough scheme

- Experience thus far in the reopening centres

- Looking to future needs – what do September delivery models look like?

Unfortunately, colleagues from the Department/ESFA Covid-19 response team were unable to join us today, not bad news as further iterations of the proposals are clearly being developed following the receipt of feedback – I have been asked for a further meeting this week as have other colleagues including AeLP.

We will return to this topic with our colleagues at a future webinar when there is something to share and consult upon.

The link to today's recording can be found [here](#)

The link to next week's Webinar can be found [here](#)

Filepath—Membersarea>MembersResources>Library>Covid19>10thJune2020

If you don't have a password don't hesitate to get in touch with Lesley lesley.powles@gtaengland.co.uk



Discussion on establishing future topics

We next moved to considering the nature of future topics on which to focus.

This took place following an update from Terry at the Engineering College on their

approach to getting a high quality blended learning arrangement across the organisation – a transformational project.

A small group of CEOs and I discussed typical topics which are or would be taxing in the immediate to medium term. We then popped those topics into the following polls which was undertaken on the webinar.

[Please see poll responses on page 2](#)

Discussion on establishing future topics

What do September delivery models look like?

Although this topic started off as “catching up on skills training in centre” which showed very high buy-in, our discussions morphed it into, “what do September delivery plans look like?” Accordingly many said that their votes would be re-classified to the Very Important classification.

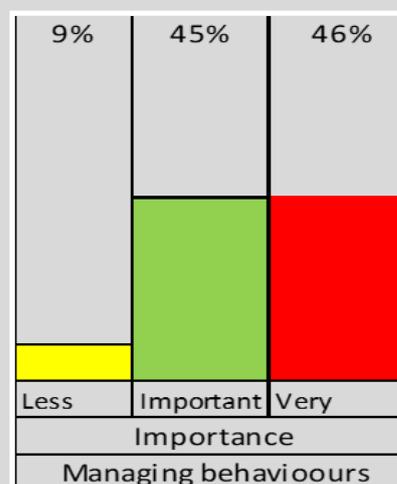
Look out for much more on this topic, indeed a webinar long session was called for.

Additionally, associated with this topic we agreed to include how arrangements with class sizes to achieve social distancing and so on would impact on income and cost models.



Managing Behaviours – including social distancing pinch points

This topic also proved popular on which to focus. TEC have already shared a great example of solving the issue with lockers (see earlier)



Achieving high quality blended learning arrangements

If only it were as simple as buying a VLE?! The important considerations are : what is the end goal desired; will it include the ability to undertake other functions such as reviews; what content do we already have to put on-line (and is it good enough?); what content do we need to create?

By far the most support voted for this topic. We are fortunate to have some funding from the UFI which will enable us to determine what exists within the network and an opportunity to consider how we fill the gaps of content required to be created.

As part of our UFI funded programme of support here, we have already delivered three sessions on: creating on-line content through Ideas4learning

- Accessibility
- Delivering through a virtual classroom
- From presentation to online lesson

These can be accessed via the GTA England members area of the website filepath :

MembersResources>Library>Developingonlineresources

We are currently considering:

- How to continue providing support to help you on-line content
- Preparing the questionnaire to conduct an inventory of resources currently in use on-line across the network – more to come on this



Responding to immediate priorities in the event of a second wave of CV-19

Although still important, this area was the least favoured in the poll. However, thought should be given to the easing of lockdown which may take on a regional dimension in the future. We are already seeing regions being identified where the “R” rate is at 1 or even above. Plans should be made to incorporate responses to this.

I have emailed CEOs not in attendance at the webinar to seek feedback separately on their views on these topics.

	20%	40%	40%
	Less	Important	Very
	Importance		
	Immediate priorities 2nd wave		

EPA pilot on MOET with City & Guilds (Scott Wilkins) & PETA (Gavin Smith)

Gavin Smiths from PETA, presentation (and all slides from today's webinar) can be found in the members area **filepath Membersarea>Members resources>Library>Covid-19>10thJune2020**

We learned how successful the pilot was which took place on employers premises.

We also discussed that simulation is highly likely to be one of the increasingly important features in the “new normal”. Therefore, it is essential that we address the assessment plan which is interpreted as stating that only a Pass grade can be awarded for this element of EPA being conducted in a simulated environment.

We noted that realistic working environments in place in GTAs truly reflect employers environments and that assessments can be structured with the inclusion of “interruptions by customer phone calls; in building of faults” as is the case in many other aspects of GTAs operations.

The team at City & Guilds are actioning this point and we will continue to support the debate.

Scott and Gavin concurred on the lessons learned as seen opposite

Lessons Learned

- Planning is essential and IEPA must be included
- Technology is the potential for failure
- Need to prepare apprentices for EPA but in addition for being filmed including employer and apprentice consent
- Employer involvement is essential

• **This method will not be the solution for all EPA but certainly has a part to play**

PETA >

In conclusion, they both remarked that the pilot has been an exciting development and that the partnership between GTA England and City and Guilds has been positive with a can do attitude to making this work.

We also discussed that it would be appropriate to have a session on EPA and other models utilised by members across the network at a future event.

Reopening centres – experience so far

Although along with Furlough, this topic will assume less coverage as we have learned and planned and, indeed, implemented responses, however we agreed it would be useful to periodically return to these topics to see how we are progressing. This will also be useful in terms of understanding the need to change in the light of operational experiences.

So far a few members have reopened and their experiences include:

GET

- First years were due back in class sizes of around 6 which has gone largely well
- It has come to light that a number of learners have to come into centre to undertake
 - ◇ CAD activities for the level 3 technical certificate (8-10am)
 - ◇ Prepare for presentations for HE (2-4pm)
 - ◇ Math's and science support needed around calculus (11-1pm)
 - ◇ Sessions have been organised as indicated in "shifts" in order to utilise the class room space
- Public Transport issues have been identified meaning some learners cant arrive within 45 minutes of the start time and if a switch to an afternoon pattern cant be organised, this has to be lived with.
- Importance of staff reinforcing the processes adopted from risk assessments including applying the one way system, is imperative!

H&WGTA

- Two groups of 4 learners in each attended Monday to Thursday to test the processes in the risk assessment. Experience was reviewed on the Friday which proved an extremely useful exercise when tweaks were agreed.
- Social distancing and hygiene measures are the challenges to manage as staff and learners get back "into the groove".
- It has come to light that a number of learners have to come into centre to undertake
 - ◇ The need to plan the delivery of technical certificate and HE provision
 - ◇ In AAT, Apprentices also need examination preparation in-centre
- A number of employers have requested copies of the risk assessments who have totally approved the measures in place.
- It was interesting to learn that Monitoring Officers experience back in employers workplaces that there are examples of "lighter touches" in approach to social distancing and so on in some employers!

The Engineering College

- We learned that the essential activity of bringing staff back to centre in advance of learners is priceless to undertake thorough inductions on social distancing and hygiene measures. Experience shows a risk of familiarity or relaxation may kick in which prompts constant monitoring of behaviours.
- The need to manage dissenting learners behaviour who do not see the need for social distancing and other risk assessment prescribed measures – a need for tough and tender simultaneous approaches.
- The lockers pinch point has been managed with the provision of TEC emblazoned logo grab bags/holdalls which are big enough to house boots, gloves, visors, overalls and a packed lunch.
- It was noted that cleaning costs have doubled the budget.
- An increase in the number of Learner Resource Centres in centre which are pre-bookable.

2. Employer contributions

Month	Govt % for hours not worked	Cap	Note
June July August	80%	£2500	
September	70%	£2,187.50	12.5% reduction from £2,500
October	60%	£1,875	25% reduction from £2,500

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One of the questions we resolved to update was around the status of staff as at the 10th June 2020 and their eligibility for furlough payments to the end of October.

We have been advised that any employee furloughed at some point before 10th June can be furloughed again even if not furloughed on 10th June. The 10th of June remains the latest date a new entrant to the furlough can be registered as seen opposite.

Resolving last weeks questions on furlough

Last week we learnt of the new rates which apply to furlough until its currently intended withdrawal date of the end of October 2020.

3. Important dates

- Scheme will close to new entrants from **30th June 2020**
- **NB** Employees must have been furloughed for a full three-week period prior to 30th June 2020.
- Effective date for last new entrants is **10th June 2020**
- **Any employee furloughed at some point before 10th June can be furloughed again even if not furloughed on 10th June.**

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Snippets for this week included:

- A reminder that the webinars on:

Observation of teaching learning and assessment – Chris Jones 11th June - a recording of this webinar can be found in the **Members area of the website - Membersarea>MembersResources>Library>Quality**

Profitable Delivery models – Engineering Fitter is taking place on 25th June 2020

- **Annual Conference update 11th November 2020**

Following feedback we are seriously exploring replacing attendance with a virtual conference. See consultation works!

Thank you to the majority of CEOs for providing feedback.

- **UFI funded Projects**

In addition to the on-line activity already covered, mention was made of us receiving the tested Engineers Mate App within the next week or two. TEC will be uploading examples of exciting content; we are then looking for others to join in creating and uploading material.. The topics which will be covered include

- * Foundation Engineering Skills
- * **Electrical Maintenance**
- * **Mechanical Maintenance**
- * Machining
- * **Engineering Drawing**

This will be a funded activity for members to act as “leads” and these are invited for the areas in bold above.

Snippets continued - Edge Foundation Post Covid-19 Revival Fund

This is a one-off fund with up to £250,000 of grant funding available. Applications are welcomed for grants of between £10,000 and £50,000.

The purpose of the fund is to address the educational challenges arising from the aftermath of the Covid-19 crisis. The fund will be a responsive programme of grant funding, open to institutions and not-for-profit organisations working in the educational sector to support the development of projects and initiatives to revive education and support the sector to build back better. This may be of keen interest to those members unsuccessful with UFI applications recently

<https://www.edge.co.uk/news/edge-news/launch-of-edge-post-covid-19-revival-fund-how-to-build-back-better>

GTA England Events & Webinars



**Upcoming
Events**

Date /Time	Mode	Venue	Title	
17/06/20 10.00-11.30am	Webinar	Online	Coronavirus Latest information	LINK
23/06/20 10.00 -11.30am	Webinar	Online	Sequencing the curriculum	LINK
24/06/20 10.00-11.30am	Webinar	Online	Coronavirus Latest information	LINK
01/07/20 10.00-11.30am	Webinar	Online	Coronavirus Latest information	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 10am-6pm	Conference	House of Commons	GTA England Annual Conference (including afternoon Tea)	LINK

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