

17 March 2017

## SKILLS DEVELOPMENT SCOTLAND EF and MA Contracts

Many members have been in touch to ask when EF and MA contracts will be issued. STF has asked SDS for an update and this will be communicated to members via email when received.

## STF ANNUAL CONFERENCE New Sponsorship brochure

STF has published a Sponsorship Opportunities brochure for its Annual Conference 2017. The 12 page document details the variety of sponsorship options available. [Click here for more details.](#)

## STF NEWS Welcome to new member

STF is delighted to welcome Tennents Training Academy in Glasgow as a new member to the Federation.

## APPRENTICESHIP LEVY Chat with the Minister

Jamie Hepburn, Minister for Employability and Training, will discuss his plans for the implementation of the Apprenticeship Levy in Scotland at an event in Glasgow on Wednesday 22 March 2017, 11.00am - 12.30pm at the Scottish Youth Theatre, Old Sheriff Court, Glasgow. To register, please contact [events@glasgowchamberofcommerce.com](mailto:events@glasgowchamberofcommerce.com)

## UK GOVERNMENT Changes to National Minimum Wage levels

On the 1 April 2017, the National Minimum Wage and National Living Wage rates for all age bands and for apprentices will increase. [Click here for more information on the changes.](#)

## SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT

### Fair Start Scotland – tenders invited

Fair Start Scotland will be Scotland's employment support service from April 2018. The Scottish Government has published a [Contract Notice](#) on the Public Contracts Scotland website, inviting organisations that wish to bid to deliver Fair Start Scotland to develop their proposals in line with the requirements set out.

**Tenderers Briefing Meetings** for have been scheduled for late March. Full details on how to register to attend the meetings is set out in the Contract Notice – the dates confirmed so far are: Perth – Wednesday 29 March, and West Contract Area – Thursday 30 March.

Bidders who would like to attend the suppliers day which will be held on the **29th March 2017** at 09:00hrs in AK Bell Library, York Place, Perth PH2 8EP, should email: [Employability2018tenderersday@gov.scot](mailto:Employability2018tenderersday@gov.scot) no later than **22nd March 2017** giving the following details: Attendee; Organisation; Contact Tel No; Email address. A maximum of two delegates per organisation may attend.

**Partnership Opportunities.** Several organisations are seeking partners to support the delivery of Fair Start Scotland. Click on the following links for more details. [learnirect](#) [Reed](#)

## SCOTTISH APPRENTICESHIP WEEK

### STF members support Apprenticeship Week

STF members were heavily involved in Scottish Apprenticeship Week this year. Jamie Hepburn MSP, Minister for Employability and Training, kicked off the week long celebrations with a visit to Glasgow-based STF Member, L&G Learning, to meet two Creative and Digital Media Apprentices. For more details about this – and other events – click on the links below:

- [Jamie Hepburn visits L&G Learning](#)
- [Full house for joint SDS/STF Equalities Conference](#)
- [ITCA Training celebrates success](#)
- [Rewards holds Science Centre Graduation](#)
- [Graduation for Limelight apprentices](#)
- [STF CEO chairs apprenticeship conference](#)

## SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT

### 5,000 Foundation Apprenticeships by 2019

The Scottish Government has announced a significant expansion of the Foundation Apprenticeship programme.

As part of the drive to improve attainment, Deputy First Minister John Swinney has announced that by the end of 2019, up to 5,000 young people will start a Foundation Apprenticeship, up from 351 starts during 2016-17. [Click here for Scottish Government Press Release.](#)

## SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT Enterprise & Skills Review

MSPs have voted to demand the Scottish Funding Council retain its own board. Ministers want a new management body to oversee all of Scotland's enterprise and skills agencies, but opposition members want individual boards to stay. [Click here for more details.](#)

## SKILLS DEVELOPMENT SCOTLAND Film guide to SDS careers services

A handy film guide to Skills Development Scotland's career information, advice and guidance services has been launched. The short animation gives information on the work of qualified SDS Careers Advisers in schools, centres and on its customer helpline. [Click here to view the film.](#)

## STF NEWS Forthcoming meetings and events

*29 March 2017*  
STF Board  
City & Guilds, Glasgow

*20 April 2017*  
STF Workshop – Workplace Discrimination  
tbc, Glasgow

*26 & 27 September 2017*  
STF Annual Conference  
Crieff Hydro

A full Calendar of Events is available on the STF web site at: [www.stf.org.uk](http://www.stf.org.uk)

## STF UPDATE What's the story?

If you have any news articles or job vacancies that you would like included in next week's issue of STF Update, please contact [Stuart McKenna](#)

## MODERN APPRENTICESHIPS

### Scottish Apprenticeship Awards 2017

Skills Development Scotland has officially launched the Scottish Apprenticeship Awards 2017. The awards are now in their 16th year. The closing date for completed applications is Wednesday 28 June 2017. [Click here for more details.](#)

STF and SDS will be running two free member workshops in May to provide advice and guidance on submitting applications.

## DYW GLASGOW

### DYW Glasgow Marketplace launch event

DYW Glasgow is working with Skills Development Scotland to roll out [Marketplace](#) - an online tool designed to help employers connect with schools and colleges across Scotland. A free launch event will be held on **Tuesday 28 March 2017**, 5.00pm - 6.30pm at the Glasgow Science Centre. STF members are invited to attend [My World of Work Live!](#) and hear from businesses and schools about the value in working together. Click on the links below for more details.

[Event Registration](#) [Marketplace for Employers](#) [Marketplace for Education](#)

## SKILLS DEVELOPMENT SCOTLAND

### Equality Action Fund projects

Projects to support employers to recruit more Modern Apprentices from diverse backgrounds have been granted £80,000 by Skills Development Scotland.

The Equalities Action Fund has supported seven projects across Scotland which aimed to encourage innovative and proactive approaches to increasing uptake of Modern Apprenticeships amongst young people who are either from an ethnic minority community, are disabled, care experienced or underrepresented by gender. [Click here for more details.](#)

## MEMBER NEWS

### Can you help with internships?

Light on the Path is a private limited company that facilitates international exchanges all across Europe, providing local employers with funded, short-term interns and giving young people the chance to gain new cultural experiences and improve their English and improving their CV through work.

The company currently has a Child Care trainer from the public sector in Germany who is in Glasgow for another seven weeks and some of the agreed plans have failed to materialise and accommodation help is needed. Can you help? [Click here for more details.](#)

[www.stf.org.uk](http://www.stf.org.uk)