



The Scottish Training Federation

UPDATE

UPDATE is the weekly e-newsletter for members of the Scottish Training Federation

20 February 2017

MODERN APPRENTICESHIPS STF and SDS joint equalities event

STF and SDS have joined forces to offer training providers an opportunity to attend a half-day conference focussed on equality and diversity issues.

The event will be held at the Radisson Blu, Argyle Street, Glasgow on **Tuesday 7th March 2017**.

Ian McCulloch, Vice Chair of STF, will host the event, which will include keynote presentations and participation in two workshop sessions. Karen Murray will also provide an update on SDS equalities activities. An agenda and workshop details are available on the [STF web site](#).

STF NEWS Workforce Development Fund

STF is meeting with Scottish Government officials this week to seek more information about the new Workforce Development Fund which will be introduced in the Autumn. STF has already written to the Minister for Employability and Skills requesting details on the rationale for restricting the fund to colleges.

STF NEWS Free legal advice for members

Included with STF membership this year is a free legal referral service with HBJ Gately solicitors which entitles members to a free initial discussion on any HR or employment law issue. More details are available at: [Click here for more details](#).

STF NEWS Welcome to new members

STF would like to welcome two new members this month - Inspire PTL and GOSTA Training. STF currently has 125 members.

MODERN APPRENTICESHIPS

Apprenticeship starts are on target

Skills Development Scotland has published statistics for the third quarter of the year showing Modern Apprenticeship starts. The target for the year is 26,000 starts, moving towards Scottish Government's commitment to 30,000 Modern Apprenticeship starts by 2020.

Figures at this stage of the year show that employers and industry have achieved 18,425 Modern Apprenticeships starts. The majority of starts – more than two thirds – are at Level 3 and above. [Click here for more details](#).

MODERN APPRENTICESHIPS

SAAB reviews definition of Apprenticeships

The Scottish Apprenticeship Advisory Board (SAAB) Frameworks and Standards Group met last week and further discussed the content and definition of apprenticeships in Scotland – with the aim of ensuring they remain fit for purpose and reflect employer demand.

Two key areas of discussion are: (1) setting a minimum duration for every apprenticeship (12-24 months); and (2) setting a minimum amount of 'off the job training' for each apprenticeship. A sub-group will look at these – and other proposals – and prepare a consultation paper which will be circulated to a wide range of stakeholders, including STF members, in the next few months.

It was also revealed at the meeting that the SAAB Group Board (one of the four groups which comprise SAAB) would hold a special workshop to discuss the principles which will underpin the new Workforce Development Fund announced in December 2016.

SKILLS DEVELOPMENT SCOTLAND

Can you help with core skills research?

SDS has commissioned FMT Consulting to undertake research to clarify what the challenges are in relation to apprentices with learning disabilities/difficulties and the Core Skills element of apprenticeships. STF members are requested to participate in the research by completing a short survey at: https://sds.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV_1TcfQSn8QzaVlup

The closing date for responses is Monday 27th February (close of play). More details are available from Frances Thom at francesthom@yahoo.com.

STF NEWS

Levy workshop postponed

This STF Workshop looking at business opportunities in Scotland arising from the Apprenticeship Levy in England has been postponed. A new date – towards the end of March – will be announced shortly.

STF NEWS

Forthcoming meetings and events

28 February 2017

DYW Glasgow breakfast
Clydesdale Bank, Glasgow

7 March 2017

STF/SDS Equalities Conference
Radisson Blu, Glasgow

29 March 2017

STF Board
City & Guilds, Glasgow

4 April 2017

STF Workshop – Workplace
Discrimination
SCQF, 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

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](mailto:Stuart.McKenna@stf.org.uk)

MODERN APPRENTICESHIPS

Scottish Apprenticeship Week 2017

Scottish Apprenticeship Week – from 6 to 10 March – is the annual campaign to show that apprenticeships work for businesses, individuals and the economy. The campaign theme for 2017 is 'Apprenticeships are Changing'. More details about this year's campaign – including a Digital Toolkit and Events Listing – are available at: [SAW 2017 Campaign Homepage](http://www.stf.org.uk/saw2017)

MEMBER NEWS

SCQFP seeks Development Officer

The SCQF Partnership is currently looking to recruit a Development Officer. The post-holder will support the SCQFP in a range of activities related to engaging and working with Partners and delivering training and support. In particular this role will also involve supporting schools in understanding and engaging with the SCQF through recruiting them to the SCQF School Ambassador programme.

Details including full job description and application form can be found at: <http://scqf.org.uk/about-us/current-vacancies>

The closing date for applications is Monday 27 February.

STF NEWS

Stephen Jardine to host STF Annual Conference

Top television and radio broadcaster, Stephen Jardine, will host this year's STF Annual Conference and Award Ceremony. The conference will be held at Crieff Hydro on 26 and 27 September. More details about the conference theme and speakers will be announced in the next few weeks.

www.stf.org.uk