

3 November 2017

STF NEWS

STF Awards on YouTube

Promotional videos made for the finalists in some of the categories in the STF Awards 2017 are now available to view on the [STF YouTube page](#). Videos from the main speakers at the Annual Conference will be posted in the next few days.

STF NEWS

Workshop on GDPR

STF will be holding a workshop on the key changes with the General Data Protection Register. More details coming shortly.

STF NEWS

Good luck to Star finalists

'Good luck' is the message from the STF Board to all finalists in the SQA [Star Awards](#) being held in Edinburgh tonight. STF is sponsor of the Training Organisation Candidate of the Year Award.

STF NEWS

SQA/STF Forum

The next meeting of the [SQA/STF Forum](#) will be held on Tuesday 7 November 2017. All STF members are welcome to join this group. More details from [Stuart McKenna](#)

SCOTTISH APPRENTICESHIP ADVISORY BOARD

SAAB Update

The SAAB Frameworks & Standard Group met last week -key points:

- The online consultation 'Definition of an Apprenticeship' will be launched next week.
- Work to improve the accuracy of future demand estimates for MAs is underway.
- Work to develop a single approval process for MAs, FAs and GLAs in underway.

Contact [Stuart McKenna](#) for more details.

STF NEWS

STF Annual General Meeting – change of venue

The STF Annual General Meeting 2017 will be held on **Wednesday 22 November 2017** at [LAGTA Ltd, Woodside, Eurocentral, ML1 4UY](#)

The meeting will commence at 1,00pm and will be followed by a Members' Meeting which will finish no later than 3.00pm. An agenda for the AGM and Members' meeting will be published shortly.

All member organisations should register a named representative for voting purposes and the named representative should be intimated to [Stuart McKenna](#) by **13 November 2017**.

Members who have registered a named representative – but are unable to attend the meeting – may request a proxy vote. More details are available from [Stuart McKenna](#)

STF NEWS

Foundation Apprenticeship Procurement

Changes to the procurement process for Foundation Apprenticeships – aimed at encouraging greater collaboration between colleges and independent training providers – were introduced this year.

These changes have been broadly welcomed. However, a number of STF members have reported problems with the new process which have resulted in the stifling of collaboration.

STF would like to explore these issues with members and raise the key points with SDS with the aim of seeking changes to future procurement rounds. Members who would like to participate in a workshop to discuss these issues are asked to contact [Stuart McKenna](#) A date for the workshop will be set in due course.

MODERN APPRENTICESHIPS

Core Skills in Business & Administration MA

A change in the minimum level of core skills required in the Business & Administration Modern Apprenticeship Framework at SCQF 6 (Level 3) – introduced earlier this year – is causing concern for STF members.

Core Skills in Communication, Numeracy and ICT – previously set at SCQF 4 – are now required at a minimum of SCQF 5. For some apprentices – particularly those in the 16-19 age group – the higher levels required do not reflect their job roles and this is making the delivery of the programme more difficult for training providers.

Skills CfA undertook a consultation on these changes last November and reported that there was significant support for their implementation. However, now that the changes have taken place, STF is keen to hear from members about their experiences. Please email [Stuart McKenna](#) with your feedback.

Forthcoming workshops, meetings and events

7 November 2017

[SQA/STF Forum](#)

SQA, Glasgow

9 November 2017

[STF Workshop: Assistive Technology Awareness \(East Kilbride\)](#)

Concept Northern, East Kilbride

22 November 2017

[STF Annual General Meeting](#)

LAGTA Ltd, Eurocentral

4 December 2017

[STF Care Forum](#)

SCQF, Glasgow

SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT

STEM Strategy published

The Scottish Government has published a STEM Education and Training Strategy.

One of the aims is to: *'prioritise STEM in the expansion of Modern Apprenticeships and the development of Graduate Level Apprenticeships and Foundation Apprenticeships. This will start in 2018 and continue for the five year lifetime of this strategy.'*

[Click here for more details.](#)

MEMBER NEWS

SCQF Conference 2018

The SCQF Partnership has announced that registration for its 2018 Conference is now open. The conference, entitled, The SCQF: Linking the Learning Journey, takes place on Thursday 22 February 2018 in Glasgow.

[More details.](#)

SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT

Free apprenticeship travel consultation

The Scottish Government wants to hear views on providing free bus travel to modern apprentices under 21 to support their travel costs.

The consultation is open until 17 November 2017. [Click here for more details.](#)

MEMBER NEWS

Free Caring for Vulnerable Children course

Members may be interested in registering for a 'Caring for Vulnerable Children' course. This is an excellent opportunity to learn more about those children who are care experienced and the barriers to learning that they face.

It is also good preparation if you are thinking about becoming a mentor for pupils who are still or have been in care.

The Centre for Excellence for Looked After Children in Scotland (CELCIS) are delivering this short through FutureLearn.

The course is free, lasts 6 weeks and will take around 4 hours per week of your time. [Click here for more details.](#)

SKILLS DEVELOPMENT SCOTLAND

Jobs and Skills in Scotland: The Evidence

Skills Development Scotland has published 'Jobs and Skills in Scotland: The Evidence' which draws together a range of published data sources and commentary to provide an overview of the current health of Scotland's labour market, its performance since the financial crisis of 2008 and an analysis of future projections.

The publication is designed to summarise the available evidence and provides analysis of known and emerging issues affecting the Scottish skills system.

[Click here for more details.](#)

EVENTS

The Circular Economy and Valuing Resources

Semta and Zero Waste Scotland are offering a CPD opportunity for all MA Centre staff, Apprentices and employer partners in engineering and related disciplines on Tuesday 14 November 2017 in East Kilbride.

As sustainability and waste reduction becomes increasingly important for business to remain competitive the event will provide an understanding of circular economy and valuing resources and how Employers, Employees and Training providers can contribute to this important topic.

[Click here for more details.](#)

MEMBER NEWS

SCQFP Job Vacancy – Development Officer

The SCQF Partnership is currently recruiting for an exciting part time post (21 hours per week) to support a range of activities related to business development both in the UK and overseas. In particular this role will involve attracting and managing European and International projects, promoting and hosting study days for international delegates and sourcing business development opportunities for the SCQF Partnership.

For more details and the application form visit the [SCQF web site.](#)