

31 January 2018

MODERN APPRENTICESHIPS Review of Management MAs

Management MAs are currently being reviewed – and STF members are invited to respond to the [Online Consultation](#).

Key changes relate to the core skills. For the Level 3 (SCQF 7) Framework, core skills in ICT and Numeracy will be increased from SCQF 4 to SCQF 5 and both will continue to require separate certification.

With the Technical and Professional Apprenticeships, core skills will be replaced with Career Skills, in line with MAG policy.

The closing date for the survey is *Friday 2 February 2018*.

MODERN APPRENTICESHIPS Increase in Hospitality Core Skills levels

As reported last week, [Core Skills levels in two Hospitality Apprenticeships](#) are set to increase following the approval of new Frameworks.

A number of members have contacted the Chief Executive to express their deep concern at these changes – and to question the rigour of the consultation process.

STF is still gathering feedback on these changes; members are encouraged to share their views – in confidence - with [Stuart McKenna](#).

SKILLS DEVELOPMENT SCOTLAND Equalities Workshops for Training Providers

Skills Development Scotland is teaming up with equality groups on a series of apprenticeship workshops for training providers. The sessions aim to help providers to recruit and support apprentices from underrepresented groups. [Click here for more details.](#)

MODERN APPRENTICESHIP FUNDING STF Contribution Rate Survey 2018

As reported in last week's Update, STF members have given a mixed response to the 2018-19 [MA Contribution Rates](#) published by Skills Development Scotland (SDS).

STF is asking all members to respond to a short survey on how the changes will affect their business. This is a repeat of the survey held in 2016 and will provide up to date data which will be used to inform discussions with SDS and Scottish Government.

The survey is for STF members only. Information supplied will be treated in strict confidence. Results will be shared with members via the Update and at a workshop being held in Glasgow in early March.

[Click here to complete the survey.](#)

SCOTTISH APPRENTICESHIPS ADVISORY BOARD Defining an Apprenticeship Consultation

More than 250 responses were received for the recent Defining an Apprenticeship consultation undertaken by the Scottish Apprenticeship Advisory Board (SAAB). Around 11% of responses were received from Independent Training Providers and 6% from Colleges.

The consultation sought views on a range of issues including the introduction of mandatory off the job learning – and the introduction of a minimum duration for apprenticeships.

A detailed analysis of the results is currently being undertaken and will be discussed by SAAB at its next meeting in March. Any changes to apprenticeship programmes recommended by SAAB will require endorsement by Scottish Government before implementation.

STF will keep its members updated with developments in this area as they are announced. [Click here for more information about SAAB](#)

SCOTTISH FUNDING COUNCIL SFC publishes college figures

The Scottish Funding Council has published figures demonstrating that diversity of Scotland's colleges is increasing.

In 2016-17 a higher proportion of learning hours were delivered to older students, people with a declared disability, from the most deprived areas and from a black and minority ethnic background.

And the number of credits delivered to college students reporting a care-experienced background increased to a record high. [Press release.](#)

Forthcoming workshops, meetings and events

6 February 2018

[SQA/STF Focus Group](#)
SQA, Glasgow

7 February 2018

STF Board of Directors
Glasgow

tbc February 2018

GDPR for Training Providers
Glasgow

tbc February 2018

Foundation Apprenticeship
Procurement
Tbc, Glasgow

tbc March 2018

MA Contribution Rates
Venue tbc

14 March 2018

STF Board
Venue tbc

Several workshop dates are being finalised. All members will receive an email notification when each workshop date is confirmed.

MEMBER NEWS

Memberships 2018

Many thanks to those members who have now paid their 2018 membership. The early bird rate of £350 will end on 10 February 2018.

SKILLS DEVELOPMENT SCOTLAND

MA and EF Performance data published

Skills Development Scotland has published performance data for contractors delivering the MA and EF programmes on its main web site. Members who registered with PCS for the recent MA and EF tenders will already be familiar with the documents. [More details.](#)

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 some 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 difficult.

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

MEMBER NEWS

Job Vacancy – Remit Group – Development Coach

Job Vacancy – Remit Group is looking for a Development Coach (Assessor) for Retail/Management in Scotland
Click the link below for a full job description.

<https://www.remit.co.uk/development-coach-assessor-retail-management-scotland/>

Email your news stories to: stuart.mckenna@stf.org.uk

www.stf.org.uk