



www.lwdp.org.uk

January 2010 Issue

Welcome to LWDP's e news

Welcome to the first 2010 edition of our monthly news. In here you will find news from LWDP and information you may find useful from across the sector. On behalf of all the staff at LWDP, we wish you a happy and healthy New Year.

NEWS HEADLINES

End of Year Funding Information

Funding Applications

As from 7th January 2010 the only applications which will be processed are those for NVQ units which can reasonably be completed between this date and 31st March 2010.

- NVQ2 Health & Social Care – 3 UNITS
- NVQ3 Health & Social Care – 4 UNITS
- NVQ4 Health & Social Care – 4 UNITS
- NVQ4 RMA/LMC Health & Social Care – 4 UNITS

<http://lwdp.accessplanit.com/accessplan/default.aspx>

Funding Withdrawals

We are now in the final period of the 2009/10 financial year, the period ends on March 31st 2010. Could you please look at your current Funding Applications and take action to withdraw any funding that will be **not be** completed in time.

To withdraw, log into Lancashire Plan and then click on 'My Company' in the left hand side menu followed by 'Funding Manager' this will then list your applications with the most recent first. Tick the box that says 'withdraw' next to the candidates that no longer require the funding and then click 'Submit Withdrawal Request' at the bottom of the application.

Please remember that all short courses must be booked and completed within 60 days of the funding being accepted and all NVQs must be booked on through Lancashire Plan within 60 days. We do not fund retrospectively.

If you have any queries you can call and speak to our team of networkers on 01772 761855.

<http://www.lwdp.org.uk/LWDPNews.aspx>

Application Form

An amendment has been made to the Funding Application form. So that we can make payments to you, the Bank Account field is now mandatory a field and has to be completed before you can submit an application. Everything else remains unchanged. If you have any questions, please call Safeera on 01772 761872.

<http://www.lwdp.org.uk/LWDPNews.aspx>

Recruitment and Retention Strategy

Do you have a story to share?

At LWDP we are constantly looking to see how we can help raise the profile of careers in Social Care. As part of this we are looking to engage with employees currently working in Social Care, along with service users and their families to share stories. Individual stories could possibly be used as case studies at future LWDP events and as featured articles in upcoming local publications highlighting Social Care.

If you have a story you would like to share which illustrates how working in Social Care has made someone's life better, or know of someone who might like to share their positive experience of Social Care, please email your contact details to natashafurnell@lwdp.org.uk

Care First Careers – Subsidy for recruiting young care workers

The Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) and Department of Health (DH) have developed a scheme, Care First Careers, to increase youth employment and support social care employers with recruitment and retention.

In early 2010, employers will be offered a **£1500 recruitment subsidy**, administered through Jobcentre Plus, for taking on a young person in adult social care. The young person needs to be 18-24 years old, and have been on Jobseekers Allowance for 39 weeks or more. They also need to be in post for at least six months, working 16+ hour weeks throughout that period.

For more information on the scheme, see www.jobcentreplus.gov.uk/carefirstcareers

If you have any questions, please contact natashafurnell@lwdp.org.uk or call 01772 761855.

HR Services

Last Chance to attend Interviewing Skills Training

As a reminder there are still places available to attend Interviewing Skills Training on 27th January 2010. The venue is Marian House, Beech Grove, Preston and the cost is £50 per delegate per day. Joining instructions will be sent in advance. Please contact clairewardle@lwdp.org.uk or telephone 01772 761855 for more information.

Follow the links to see the course outlines and booking forms.

<http://www.lwdp.org.uk/LWDPNews.aspx>

Improver Project

During 2009 the LWDP working closely with Lancashire County Council made contact with all independent sector Care Providers in Lancashire who had only achieved a poor or adequate rating from the Care Quality Commission (CQC). Our team of Networkers offered help and advice to assist where possible with improvements identified in the CQC reports. See the link below to see the report compiled at the time. The LWDP Networkers are currently following up on those Care Providers to establish if ratings have improved or if any further assistance can be given.

<http://www.lwdp.org.uk/LWDPNews.aspx>

EVENTS

Apprenticeship Event

Skills for Care are holding two free events in the North West:

- 2nd February 2010 – Manchester
- 4th February 2010 – Lancaster

This is an opportunity for employers to find out about the advantages of employing an apprentice in your organisation.

Places are limited so book early to avoid disappointment.

http://northwest.skillsforcare.org.uk/events/events_listing/Apprenticeship_events.aspx

Provider Development Day

Providers from Greater Lancashire are invited to a development day on 10th February 2010, looking at how personalised services can work for their business and will include a number of presentations, workshops and an interactive group exercise looking at what a person using services would like from their service.

http://northwest.skillsforcare.org.uk/events/events_listing/Lancashire_provider_development_day.aspx

Information Day – Marian House

The next Information Day to be held at Marian House will be 4th March 2010. More details for this will follow but please put the date in your diaries.

Stakeholder Event

Further to the Stakeholder Event held in September 2009, the follow up event has been scheduled for the morning of 18th March 2010. You will be receiving an invitation for the Event w/c 18th January 2010.

Information Morning – Rascals Party & Play Centre

We will be holding an Information morning at Rascals Party & Play Centre, Walton-le-Dale on 23rd March, where we will be promoting Social Care and the benefits of working within the Social Care industry. We are looking for Care Providers to attend this event who would like to promote jobs in Social Care. This will be both a free and great opportunity for Care Providers to showcase themselves, especially those that offer flexible and school time working as this event is primarily aimed at parents.

Please contact natashafurnell@lwdp.org.uk or telephone 01772 761855 for more information.

SECTOR NEWS

Are you interested in Free Funding for a Workforce Wellness Programme?

Are you a SME which has been established for 2 years, with between 1 and 249 employees and based and trading in Great Britain?
If so you are eligible to apply for free funding for a Workplace Wellness Programme for your organisation.

The Government has set up a Health Work and Well-being Challenge Fund which is looking to support the mental and physical health of staff.

Reduce Absenteeism - Alleviate Staff Stress Levels - Increase Productivity

- Engage and Motivate Your People

The Fund is available for 2 years in 2 rounds. The first round releases funds for April 2010. Applications will need to be made by December 31st 2009 to be eligible for the first round of funding.

The Learning Architect will work with you to help you make an application

<http://www.thelearningarchitect.com/events.aspx>

Sector Skills Council Alliance – impact report

The Alliance is a membership organisation comprising all 25 licensed UK Sector Skills Councils (SSCs), the employer – driven organisation that together articulate the voice of the employers of around 90% of the UK's workforce on skills issues.

This report demonstrates the value and impact made by the Alliance of Sector Skills Councils in the North West region from January – December 2009. The report concentrates on the strategic collective activity that cannot be carried out by SSCs individually, and evidences these with tangible examples.

[http://northwest.skillsforcare.org.uk/news/news_archive/SSC Alliance impact report .aspx](http://northwest.skillsforcare.org.uk/news/news_archive/SSC_Alliance_impact_report.aspx)

TELL US WHAT YOU THINK

We hope that you have found this issue of E news useful and informative. Any suggestions and comments on what you would like to see in future issues would be welcomed so please contact us with your thoughts. Please email info@lwdp.org.uk with any comments.

Lancashire Workforce Development Partnership is a Company Limited by Guarantee. Registered in England and Wales No:6166930 and controlled by Lancashire County Council within the meaning of Part V of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989. The Company's trading address is Marian House, Beech Grove, Preston, PR2 1DU and the Registered office is Christ Church Precinct, County Hall, Preston, Lancashire PR1 8XJ.