



July 2019

ESB Advisory Group Newsletter

SAVE THE DATE!.....

The next ND ESB Advisory Group Meeting will be held on

Thursday 12th September 2019

3.30pm

**Atlantic Academy,
Bideford, EX39 3DW**

Many thanks to Alex Boardman for allowing us to use their facilities for our meeting venue

Contact Details

Please contact Nicola Williams with any information you would like to include in the newsletter, or dates for the diary of events

nicola.williams@petroc.ac.uk

01271 852428

EMPOWERING ENTERPRISE

Empowering Enterprise is funded by the European Social Fund and The National Lottery Community Fund. Petroc's partnership uses the funding to deliver a unique project for 18 to 24 year olds who face the biggest barriers to getting into work, education or training. Empowering Enterprise will work with over 600 of the most socially-excluded young people in Devon to equip them with skills for life and work giving them the confidence to find a path to a brighter future.

So far there have been lots of positives and plenty of challenges and this report helps set out what the Empowering Enterprise partnership is working hard to achieve for the young people of Devon. Please go to our website and take a look:

<https://www.empoweringenterprise.org.uk/evaluation-2018-read-all-about-it>

BARNSTAPLE JOBS FAIR

JCP Barnstaple Jobs Fair, Friday 27th September 2019 in Green Lanes Shopping Centre.

Any employers with vacancies, wishing to promote jobs and opportunities, are welcome to have a stand free of charge.

Contact Sahara Stockwell for further information or to book a stand.

sahara.stockwell@dwp.gov.uk 01237 496925/07919 293539

REVERSE JOB FAIR

The Northern Devon Employment and Skills Board and Barnstaple and Bideford Job Centre Plus are hosting a **Reverse Job Fair** on the 6th November 2019. (Time and venue to be confirmed).

The event addresses raising the employment aspirations of people with disabilities and the aim of the event is to introduce employers to a group of disabled people who are currently looking for work, with a view to recruiting them or to offer work experience.

Employers will receive in advance an anonymised summary of each candidate prior to the event. Ambassadors will greet the employers and then take them to the candidate that they are interested in.

Before the event there is an **Employer Awareness Breakfast** for employers who are interested in the Reverse Jobs Fair. This will include myth busting, cases studies and training sessions. The Employer Awareness Breakfast will be held on Tuesday 24th September 2019 8:00 – 10:00 at the Next Steps Development on St Georges Road, Barnstaple.

National Inclusion Week also takes place 23rd – 29th September. This is created and run by Inclusive Employers. National Inclusion Week is an annual opportunity to raise awareness of inclusion in the workplace, there will be webinars available throughout this week that will enhance the employer's awareness.

[National Inclusion Week 23rd - 29th September](#)

MENTORING CIRCLES – JOB CENTRE PLUS

Dear ESB member

Following the successful delivery of Mentoring Circles, aimed at Black Asian Minority Ethnic (BAME) jobseekers, the Minister for Employment, Alok Sharma MP on 17th January announced the extension of Mentoring Circles to all young people aged 16-24 in England, Scotland and Wales.

As we upscale the Mentoring Circles nationally I am writing to you as a responsible business to ask for your support and involvement to deliver this exciting initiative – this would equate to a mentor committing to a total of 6 hours over a three-week period. The Mentoring Circles will provide support to jobseekers on how to succeed in life and be better prepared for their careers. The mentors will work alongside other businesses to deliver Mentoring Circles. Our aim is to start delivery of the Mentoring Circles from April this year in boroughs across England, Scotland and Wales. Our intention is to deliver a Mentoring Circle in North Devon/Torridge during December 2019.

Background

From June to October 2018 DWP worked in collaboration with Business in the Community (BITC) to deliver Mentoring Circles in the 20 Race Disparity Challenge areas this is where employment outcomes for BAME people is worse than white people. Following delivery, the feedback both from employers and mentors was very positive and encouraging. In total we delivered 21 mentoring

circles, 63 mentoring sessions, 85 employer mentors representing 27 companies and 590 young people start the Mentoring Circles.

Mentoring circles

A Mentoring Circle is a type of action learning set, where mentees bring issues or challenges to the group and work and learn together, take action and reflect on outcomes with a focus on personal development. We know many young people do not have access to social capital, role models or inspiring employer mentors. This initiative bridges this gap bringing employers and mentees together.

The Mentoring Circle model comprises of three meetings where employers lead the sessions and share insight and information with the mentees. The sessions are two hours long, spread over three weeks so a total commitment from the mentor will be that of 6 hours. The mentors will work with the same group of 8-10 mentees over the three weeks. The first two sessions are delivered in the Jobcentre or a venue sourced by DWP. The third session where possible we ask the employer to deliver on their premises. All mentors will receive a briefing, a slide deck, an outline of the programme including subjects they may wish to cover with Jobcentre staff available to support throughout the delivery.

What is the Return on Investment for your Business to get involved?

Your Company is able to gain valuable insight into the barriers and challenges faced by young people, test out your attraction and recruitment processes and gain insight from jobseekers. An opportunity to make a difference to young people's lives and tap into a diverse talented pool of jobseekers.

The mentees who participated told us:

“Understand more and feel more confident” - “Very inspiring and friendly” - “Very useful discussed interview techniques and application process” - “Taught me how to better formulate interview answers and a strong CV” - “Inspired me a lot and encouraged me to broaden my job search” - “Very helpful in explaining what recruiters are looking for in employees” - “Very good! Learnt new things. And thankful for this opportunity”

Employers involved in the 2018 mentoring circles told us:

Network Rail – “It was an absolute pleasure” - Health Education England: Absolute pleasure. I got such a lot from it! - SEO London Head of Recruitment – “Glad and genuinely humbled to have played a part”. The young people we had the fortune of mentoring have been pretty inspirational too! it's an absolute honor/pleasure to be involved in such a great initiative. - National Grid – “We spent a few moments with mentoring - which will no doubt have a positive lifetime impact on the youngsters”. “It was a great privilege to be involved in such an initiative” - HSBC Head of D&I – “I could not be more proud to have individuals from our Embrace Network take the lead in bringing this to fruition and being fully part of its implementation. We have been proud to support the first of its kind mentoring circles in

partnership with DWP” - Fujitsu Head of UK and I – “Mentoring Circles is an excellent initiative. Feedback from the mentees and mentors was very positive, if we help even one person get into work it will have been worth it”.

We would very much like your support with delivering the Mentoring Circles. Please email me if this is something your company is able to support.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Sahara Stockwell

sahara.stockwell@dwp.gov.uk 01237496925/07919293539

FULLY FUNDED EVENTS FOR SMES

 **SHAPING FUTURES**
PETROC™
DEVELOPING SUCCESS THROUGH HIGHER SKILLS

Business Finance Taster

Mid Devon Campus
Thursday 4 July 2019
9.00am - 4.00pm

A one day programme providing participants with an insight into the management techniques organisations utilise to manage finance. Students will focus upon financial statements, budgeting and capital investment appraisal.

Fully funded for SMEs that meet the eligibility criteria.
For more information contact **01271 852428** or email **projects@petroc.ac.uk**

For further information call 01271 852428 or email projects@petroc.ac.uk

Or book your place via Eventbrite <https://businessfinancetaster.eventbrite.co.uk>

SHAPING FUTURES PETROC™
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DIGITAL SOLUTIONS FOR SMALL BUSINESSES

**Petroc, North Devon Campus, Barnstaple
 Monday 21 October 2019**

A full day of digital workshops:

- Developing a Marketing Strategy
- New Ways of Working
- Making the most of Social Media Platforms
- Measuring Online Success

Fully funded for SMEs that meet the eligibility criteria.
 For more information contact **01271 852428** or email **projects@petroc.ac.uk**
 or to book your place visit **dsfsb.eventbrite.co.uk**

For further information call 01271 852428 or email projects@petroc.ac.uk or book via <https://dsfsb.eventbrite.co.uk>

GIVE AN HOUR CAMPAIGN

The Heart of the South West Careers Hub is participating in a national advertising campaign to encourage more employers to get involved with their local school. It's called 'Give an Hour' and we are asking people to circulate information around their networks, including via social media.

Introduce a young person to an exciting career that they don't even know exists.

[Find out more >](#)

GIVE AN HOUR

THE CAREERS & ENTERPRISE COMPANY

The Give an Hour campaign invites you to make a difference to the young people in your area by giving as little as one hour of your time. We'd particularly like to hear from you if you own or work in a small or medium sized business. It might feel like an hour is too short to have a real impact, but we know from experience that an hour can create new perspectives and inspire new ideas. Just to hear someone's career story or be able to speak to someone who can listen and give advice. Could you be that someone?

Some of the key benefits of getting your business involved include:

- Giving back to your local community
- Helping to develop your future workforce
- Increasing the potential talent pipeline in the local area

Register today at <https://giveanhour.co.uk/register-your-interest> to give an hour and change a life.

COMMUNITY GRANTS

ESF Community Grants, funded by the European Social Fund, is a programme that aims to support small and voluntary organisations with grants of £1,000 - £20,000 for local initiatives that will move unemployed and inactive people over the age of 16 towards employment, training or education. Community Grants are being managed by Petroc in Devon and Somerset, starting in April 2019 and scheduled to close applications in September 2020, with all activity being finished and reported by July 2021.

The grants will support a range of activities aimed at moving individuals towards the labour market by improving their access to local employment and skills provision. They will provide support to underrepresented communities and individuals, especially those from deprived communities, to access employment, including self-employment, or further learning and training.

For more information regarding Community Grants please visit our website

<https://www.petroc.ac.uk/college-information/projects/community-grants>

THE JOB SHOP PETROC™

Advertise your vacancies for FREE using Petroc's Job Shop
Reach over 5,000 Petroc students studying A-levels, vocational courses and degrees at Barnstaple and Tiverton campuses.

Vacancy types can include:
Full-time
Part-time
Seasonal
Casual
Apprenticeships
Work experience
Industrial placements
Voluntary

To advertise a job, or to find out more, email Mark: jobshop@petroc.ac.uk

July 2019

- **1st – 5th July**
Bideford College Work Experience
- **Wednesday 4th July**
Business Finance Taster for SME's at Petroc, Mid Devon
Campus 9am - 4pm
- **8th – 12th July**
Pilton Community College Work Experience
- **15th – 19th July**
Park School Work Experience
- **18th July**
Chulmleigh Community College – Aspire Day



September 2019

- **Thursday 12th September**
ND ESB Advisory Group Meeting 3.30pm Atlantic Academy
- **Monday 23rd – Sunday 29th September**
National Inclusion Week
- **Tuesday 24th September**
Reverse Jobs Fair Employer Awareness Breakfast 8am – 10am
- **Thursday 26th September**
North Devon Business, Leisure and Tourism Awards, High Bullen Hotel
- **Friday 27th September**
Barnstaple Jobs Fair, Green Lanes Shopping Centre

October 2019

- **Monday 21st October**
Digital Solutions for Small Businesses Workshops, Petroc Barnstaple Campus
- **Thursday 24th October**
BBxpo – Bideford College

November 2019

- **Wednesday 6th November**
Reverse Jobs Fair time and venue TBC