

Julie James AC / AM
Y Dirprwy Weinidog Sgiliau a Thechnoleg
Deputy Minister for Skills and Technology



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Mr William Graham AM,
Chair to the Enterprise and Business Committee

William.Graham@assembly.wales

02 March 2016

Dear William

Enterprise and Business Committee – Assisting young people into work inquiry

Following my attendance at the Enterprise and Business Committee scrutiny session on the inquiry into 'Assisting Young People into Work' on Wednesday 24 February, I agreed to provide the Committee with some further information.

Please find below a link to the STEM Choices Resource Pack for Careers Education and Information, Advice and Guidance Practitioners. This resource arises from the STEM Choice and Careers project undertaken by the Centre for Science Education at Sheffield Hallam University and VT Enterprise, on behalf of the Department for Children, Schools and Families (DCSF).

<http://dera.ioe.ac.uk/2968/1/stem-final.pdf>

I also include a link to an extract from the House of Lords Science and Technology Tenth Report regarding students' attitudes and choices.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld200506/ldselect/ldsctech/257/25705.htm>

I would also like to provide the Committee with some further information about the job matching pilot for Skills Gateway. The Welsh Government's Skills Implementation Plan describes a commitment to delivering an integrated approach to employment and skills support. Part of the approach includes the introduction of a Skills Gateway as a first route for individuals and employers wishing to access skills and employability support in Wales.

For individuals in particular, the Skills Implementation Plan confirmed that a function for matching job seekers with local employment opportunities would be introduced with a further aim to actively steer employability provision which more effectively meets the needs and opportunities of recruiting employers. Central to the development of this job matching provision will be the need to pilot an approach that will help shape the future service for the Skills Gateway.

Bae Caerdydd • Cardiff Bay
Caerdydd • Cardiff
CF99 1NA

English Enquiry Line 0300 0603300
Llinell Ymholiadau Cymraeg 0300 0604400
Correspondence: Julie.James@wales.gsi.gov.uk

Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.

The aim of the pilot will be to set up, via the Skills Gateway platform, a workable process for matching individuals seeking employment with potential job vacancies identified at growth organisations currently benefiting from Welsh Government support. This approach helps to identify growth businesses as well as maximise Welsh Government investment. This approach will also further build upon the cross departmental working arrangements between Economy Science and Transport (ES&T) and Skills, Higher Education and Lifelong Learning (SHELL) in partnership with Careers Wales, supporting the bridging of business and skills within one activity.

Officials from ES&T will identify a range of organisations across Wales, mainly from Tourism, Life Sciences and Advanced materials and manufacturing. Identified businesses agreeing to participate in the pilot will provide details of their job vacancies to ES&T, including skills and qualification requirements, salary, location and starting dates. These vacancies will be shared with officials, collated and provided to Careers Wales. Skills and experience profiles of individuals seen by regional Careers Wales advisors over recent months will then be accessed for matching.

Careers Wales advisors will liaise with the individuals following their usual procedures to establish interest and availability and support the arrangements of interviews with employers.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Julie James".

Julie James AC / AM

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