

TRAIN TO GAIN GATHERS MOMENTUM IN THE NORTH WEST

North West employers are quick to take up benefits of national Skills Brokerage Service.

Date of issue 8 August 2007

Publication number NWR-099

North West employers are leading the way when it comes to training their staff, according to recent figures issued by the Learning and Skills Council (LSC).

LSC North West statistics reveal that more than 6,000 businesses in the region, accounting for 20% of the national total, have now benefited from the Train to Gain service. Furthermore 16% of all learners, almost 29,000 people, are right here in the North West.

Train to Gain is managed and funded by the LSC and puts employers in the driving seat by giving them access to a free Skills Broker service, offering independent and practical advice to match training needs with training providers. A key feature of the service is the flexible approach adopted, with training and skills advice offered at a time and place to suit the needs of business.

Through funding from the LSC, employers can benefit from free training to help employees over the age of 19 with low or no qualifications gain their first, full Level 2, Level 3 or Skills for Life qualification. For learners that are already qualified to Level 2, employers can claim two-thirds of the cost of gaining a Level 3 qualification. In addition, Train to Gain Skills Brokers will identify other subsidies that may be available for specialist training programmes.

John Korzeniewski, Regional Director at the LSC in the North West welcomed the news saying:

“We are delighted that the North West is at the forefront of the success of the national Train to Gain service. The compelling statistics, backed up with an employer satisfaction rate of 88%, clearly demonstrate the impact that Train to Gain is having on the region’s workforce.

“The figures have been published in the wake of the launch of the national skills campaign, ‘Our future. It’s in our hands’, which aims to improve the nation’s skills. Train to Gain is integral to the success of this campaign, and is the most important service currently available to employers. All businesses, large or small, can benefit from Train to Gain by addressing their skills shortages with the help and guidance of a specialist advisor. And, as the region’s businesses are challenged with competing at national, and increasingly international level, there has never been a better time to tap into the wealth of free expertise available through Train to Gain.”

To find out how your business can get ahead with Train to Gain call 0845 60 20 062 or visit www.traintogain.gov.uk

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:
For more information contact**

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