

**APPRENTICESHIP AMBASSADOR
NEWSLETTER
JANUARY-MARCH 2020**

**MESSAGE FROM JOINT SE AAN CHAIRS
JOHN DRUCE AND ELIZABETH FLEGG**



As our third year of activities comes to a close we would like to thank all YAAN and employer ambassadors for their continuing involvement with the network to raise awareness of Apprenticeships with employers and young people.

Please do keep sharing your positive Apprenticeship stories – they will all help to spread the word that Apprenticeships are a valuable business investment, especially during such difficult times.

WELCOME!

A very warm welcome to 2 new ambassadors; Dana McDonald from OneCom and James Mortimer from Brighton CCTV.

OneCom is the largest UK independent business telecommunications provider and **Brighton CCTV** specialises in security systems.



We now have 75 employer ambassadors and 32 trained young apprenticeship ambassadors spreading the word about Apprenticeships across the SE. Do you know someone who is passionate about Apprenticeships and who could become an ambassador? Please ask them to contact Jayne.boyd@icloud.com



Events organised or attended by SE ambassadors

included internal award ceremonies, employer networking events, a charity quiz run by Apprentices and open days/evenings to showcase the employment and training opportunities available.

Our main pan regional activity was ‘Tea and Chat’, an opportunity for Apprentices and their employers to come together and share the benefits of Apprenticeships over a cup of tea. The activity was also planned to link in with a national ‘Mental Health at Work’ Awareness Day activity to encourage employees to talk openly about mental health issues. 50 employer ambassadors participated across the region and 600 branded SE AAN mugs were distributed for use along with suggestions for conversation topics.

The idea was the brainchild of Faye Simmons, an Apprentice at Portsmouth City Council who designed posters advertising the event and conversation topics to use. These were shared across our network and photos of team ‘tea and chat’ were shared across our social media feeds. The mugs continue to be used in workplaces across the region.



An Apprenticeship ‘Monopoly/Ludo’ game was also devised by one of our ambassadors at the RSPCA and shared across the region for other ambassadors to use. Feedback was positive as to the value of using the game to widen understanding of Apprenticeships.

INSIGHT

The SE network has provided insight to government on 3 issues which employer ambassadors have identified as concerns:

1. The lack of an alternative Apprenticeship Standard to replace the L2 Business Administration Framework. A letter was sent to Gillian Keegan, newly appointed Minister for Apprenticeships and Skills on behalf of 17 employers asking for this to be re-considered.

2. The future of funding for the L7 Senior Leadership Standard via Serco.
3. The impact of Covid19 on businesses within the SE AAN.

CELEBRATIONS



This quarter we agreed to sponsor 3 Apprenticeship Award/Graduation ceremonies due to take place later in the year but these have now been postponed due to Covid-19. We will continue to offer Apprenticeship graduation badges and branded SE AAN Certificates for such events as and when they are able to take place. In February we took delivery of 2000 branded SE AAN goody bags, just in time for use during NAW 2020. They proved to be an effective way of raising awareness of both Apprenticeships and the network.

If you need any pens, goody bags, badges, banner stands for events or temporary tattoos please email Jayne.boyd@icloud.com

YAAN NEWS

YAAN training took place in January in Portsmouth before Covid-19 took hold. 5 attended. Face to face training has now been put on hold due to Covid-19 and whilst we have 32 trained we have another 30+ provisional members waiting for training to take place.



The period between April-July 2020 is a busy time for school and college careers events. Amazing Apprenticeships is now exploring new ways for YAANs to engage effectively with young people using considering their next step after school or college.

Do you employ Apprentices that may be interested In joining the YAAN and spreading the word about the benefits of Apprenticeships to young people? If so please encourage them to find out further Information and apply via the following link

<https://amazingapprenticeships.com/yaan/what-is-the-yaan/>

LATEST NEWS



Covid 19 update: During April, May and June 2020 our network is being asked to focus on providing feedback to govt on the impact on Covid 19 on their businesses and

Apprenticeship recruitment and training. Thank you to those who have already responded to initial requests for information and thank you in advance for any additional requests that will all help provide information to the government.

All insight received from the AAN will feed the government's plan to support the repair, recovery, re-starting and re-imagining of Apprenticeships post Covid 19.



The Top 100 Apprentice employers 2020 celebrates the country's outstanding apprenticeship employers and will help potential apprentices,

parents and careers advisers to easily identify apprenticeship opportunities with high performing employers.

England's leading employers will be recognised for their overall commitment to employing apprentices, their creation of new apprenticeships, the diversity of their new apprentices, and the progression of their apprentices onto further apprenticeships and employment.

Please follow the link for further information and how to apply, if eligible. The deadline for applications has been extended to Fr 15 May 2020. So far there have been 270+ applications! We are aware that a number of our employer ambassadors have submitted applications already so good luck if you are one of them.

<https://topapprenticeshipemployers.co.uk/>



AAN Annual Conference. There are still plans to hold a national conference this year and the timing/venue (virtual maybe!?) are all being looked at.

Interesting article here for employers thinking about whether or not to recruit apprentices In the near future: https://feweek.co.uk/2020/05/11/why-take-on-an-apprentice-during-these-challenging-times-heres-why/?mc_cid=d5e3b75c4f&mc_eid=5e1018ea49