

## HUB NEWS – DECEMBER 2023

### CONWY JOB EXPO

The annual all sector county-wide Jobs and Careers Fair will be back next year!

- Thursday 22 February 2024, 1pm-5pm
- The Barn, Eirias Events Centre, Colwyn Bay

This unique event helps employers with their recruitment needs by connecting them with active job seekers looking for:

- Full / part-time employment
- Apprenticeships
- Work Experience placements
- Volunteer roles

It saves businesses time in finding unique, fresh and valuable talent and enables businesses to raise brand awareness and visibility of their business in the competitive job market.

The event will also feature colleges and training organisations for those that are wanting to learn new or develop existing skills.

Organised by Conwy Employment Hub and DWP, with support from Creating Enterprise, Conwy Business Support and Working Wales which is delivered by Careers Wales; Conwy Job Expo is FREE to exhibit so can you afford to miss it?

### Register Now

Alice 07548 845679 or 01492 575989 / Clare 07892 709837 or 01492 577202

Email [employers@conwy.gov.uk](mailto:employers@conwy.gov.uk)

### GUARANTEED INTERVIEW SCHEME

Conwy Employment Hub's new Guaranteed Interview Scheme is designed to make your recruitment process easier!

The Hub recently launched a pilot Guaranteed Interview Scheme for participants signed up to its programme, and due to the success it's really excited to be able to offer all employers across Conwy the opportunity to be part of the scheme.

The Hub's programme has long offered a bespoke job matching service for local employers, helping to enhance recruitment processes and supporting businesses and organisations to identify suitable candidates for jobs. The Guaranteed Interview Scheme goes one step further by attracting more job seekers to its programme and widening the pool of candidates that it can put in front of employers. All applicants will be pre-screened and only the most suitable candidates who meet all of the job specifications will be put forward for interview, saving employers time and money, and now is your chance to take advantage of this extra service.

If you would like to sign up to the scheme or would like more information, please get in touch with Clare Kingscott on 01492 577202 / 07892 709837 or [employers@conwy.gov.uk](mailto:employers@conwy.gov.uk).

## **WORKWELL – SUPPORT CONWY RESIDENTS INTO WORK**

RCS is pleased to be offering support to Conwy residents to get into work.

WorkWell is open to people who live in Conwy, are currently out of work, and have a mental health condition such as depression or low mood, anxiety or panic attacks etc.

The programme can offer:

- 121 support with job-search
- Mentoring and coaching support
- Pre-employment counselling
- Employer liaison to discuss adjustments
- Support once in work
- Employability training workshops

For more information click here - <https://rcs-wales.co.uk/en/supporting-you-into-work/>

If you know of anyone who would benefit from WorkWell encourage them to get in touch today: [workwell@rcs-wales.co.uk](mailto:workwell@rcs-wales.co.uk) | 01745 336442

## **GRWP LLANDRILLO MENAI COURSES FOR EMPLOYERS**

Grwp Llandrillo Menai has recently updated information on the courses it has available for employers and employees.

### **Changes to Apprenticeships - Eligibility Criteria**

Did you know that the eligibility criteria has been relaxed to make it easier to enrol existing employees on an Apprenticeship?

This means that businesses can use apprenticeships to upskill and retain the existing workforce.

### **Level 3 Apprenticeship in Energy Management - Now Available**

The Agored Cymru Level 3 Diploma in Energy and Carbon Management looks at the skills and knowledge required for the management of energy consumption and carbon emissions within an organisation. It also considers sustainability of all resources including water and waste management.

Grwp Llandrillo Menai also has a range of Mental Health First Aid courses available for employees and managers.

For more information on the Apprenticeships, courses or to have a discussion about the updated funding options that are now available, please contact Zoe Kelly, Business Development Adviser on 07811 028 054.

## **UK SHARED PROSPERITY FUNDING FOR TRAINING**

Conwy Employment Hub has secured £292,510 from the UK Government through the UK Shared Prosperity Fund to deliver vital jobs and education training academies across the county for the next 12 months.

Industries with a labour shortage locally will be targeted including Energy and Environment, Construction, Advanced Manufacturing, Creative and Digital, Tourism and Hospitality, Health, and Food and Farming.

The intensive schedule of training has already begun, led by key organisations in each sector and it has already secured a role for one of the participants:

Haydn Foulkes attended the Tourism and Hospitality Pathway run in partnership with Go North Wales which included sessions at the Quay Hotel in Deganwy and the Hilton Hotel in Dalgarrag.

"We learned a lot about tourism and hospitality in North Wales through this friendly programme, which also provided us with a training pack and exercises to hone our thoughts, ideas, and goals about this as a future career" said Haydn, while North Wales Tourism CEO Jim Jones said; "Partnering with the Hub has proven to be invaluable as they refer us clients who have been thoroughly vetted and possess a genuine enthusiasm for getting involved in the industry."

## **SAVE THE DATE - EMPLOYER SUPPORT EVENT**

- Thursday 8 February 2024, 8.30am-11am
- Conwy Business Centre, Junction Way, Llandudno Junction LL31 9XX

With Guest Speakers covering the following topics:

- Access Free Funding for Training
- Recruitment Support
- Staff Retention

Opportunities for Networking and Breakfast included.

More details to follow in the New Year, but for now please save the date!

## **UKSPF CONWY PEOPLE & SKILLS KEY FUND**

The People and Skills Key Fund is an exciting opportunity for organisations to carry out projects across Conwy that will contribute to the People and Skills and Multiply (adult numeracy) interventions of the UK Shared Prosperity Fund.

The Key Fund can support applications for grants of between £50,000 and £249,999.

Organisations can apply for funding to:

- Help reduce the barriers some people face to employment and support them to move towards employment and education.
- Support skills development, employment and local growth based on the needs identified in Conwy County.
- Help transform the lives of adults by improving their numeracy skills (Multiply).

This is an open call for projects delivering in Conwy County - you have until Monday 29 January 2024 to submit applications.

For further information or to submit an application which can be made through the online portal, please click here - <https://www.conwy.gov.uk/en/Business/Regeneration/European-and-External-Funding/UK-Shared-Prosperity-Fund-Conwy-Key-Funds/People-Skills-Key-Fund.aspx>

## **APPRENTICESHIP AWARD**

THE inspiration behind a life-changing project helping socially isolated people into work has been nominated for a top award.

Mel Davis, a Community Employment Mentor with Conwy Employment Hub, is a finalist in the Apprentice of the Year Management category of Grwp Llandrillo Menai's 2024 Apprenticeship Awards.

With no previous academic qualifications to her name, the Old Colwyn mum-of-four joined the Hub six years ago and was encouraged to return to learning for CPD (Continuing Professional Development) and to help lay the foundations for her future career.

Mel went on to achieve a string of qualifications, including Diplomas Levels 3, 5 and 7 in Counselling, Coaching and Mentoring. She also secured a Level 4 Diploma in Project Management and did so having only recently been diagnosed with dyslexia, working her day job and creating the hugely successful Confidently You pre-employability scheme, which more than doubled its initial commitment to help 30 people across the county.

She is "delighted" to be nominated for the title but insists the acclaim will be shared with her colleagues and those who took part in the project.

Backed by the UK Government's Community Renewal Fund, Confidently You brought people together for more than 113 indoor and outdoor group activity sessions, ranging from bushcraft to paddle boarding, e-biking, caving, arts and crafts, and much more.

"We are so pleased with the results as having targeted 30 people there were in fact more than 60 who engaged with the project, many of whom are now in work and loving life, so it's been incredibly heart-warming to be a part of that."

Grwp Llandrillo Menai will announce the winners of the Apprenticeship Awards in early 2024.