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Annwyl/Dear Richard Spear

Ymweliad monitro prentisiaethau dysgu yn y gwaith

Rhwng 29 Mehefin a 1 Gorffennaf 2022, ymwelodd Mark Evans AEM a Sandra Barnard AEM â'r darparwr a'i is-gontractwyr i adolygu cyflwyno ei raglenni prentisiaeth yn ystod blwyddyn gyntaf eu contract gyda Llywodraeth Cymru. Mae'r llythyr hwn yn crynhoi'r adborth o'r ymweliad hwn.

Mae Associated Community Training (ACT) yn darparu rhaglenni prentisiaeth ar draws 10 o feysydd dysgu ar lefel 2, lefel 3, a phrentisiaethau uwch. Mae'r darparwr yn cyflwyno hyfforddiant i 5,800 o ddysgwyr. Ar hyn o bryd, mae rhyw 1730 o brentisiaid sylfaen lefel 2 mewn hyfforddiant, 2054 o brentisiaid lefel 3 a 2059 o brentisiaid uwch lefel. Y meysydd dysgu mwyaf yw iechyd a gofal cymdeithasol, gyda 1252 o ddysgwyr, a rheoli gyda 1286 o ddysgwyr. Mewn partneriaeth â'i is-gontractwyr, mae'r darparwr hefyd yn cefnogi cyflwyno prentisiaethau argraffu ledled Cymru. Mae'r darparwr yn gweithio gydag 14 o is-gontractwyr y maen nhw'n eu galw'n bartneriaid.

Gofynnwyd i'r darparwr gan Lywodraeth Cymru i gefnogi oddeutu 2400 o ddysgwyr wedi'u dadleoli o bump o ddarparwyr hyfforddiant eraill na ddyfarnwyd contract prentisiaeth iddynt.

Mae'r darparwr yn codi ffi reoli ar ei bartneriaid is-gontractwyr sy'n seiliedig ar raddfa symudol, ac mae'n ddibynnol ar lefel y profiad a chymorth sydd ei hangen ar bartneriaid. Mae ganddynt berthnasoedd gweithio sefydledig â nifer o bartneriaid, ac o ganlyniad, mae systemau ac arferion ar gyfer cyflwyno a sicrhau ansawdd darpariaeth wedi'u sefydlu'n dda. Mae'r darparwr yn cysylltu'n rheolaidd â'i bartneriaid is-gontractwyr, gan roi cymorth a rhannu ystod eang o wybodaeth. Mae partneriaid yn teimlo bod cefnogaeth dda iddynt gyda gwybodaeth yn cael ei rhannu'n gyflym ac yn rhwydd. Mae partneriaid yn teimlo y gwendewir ar eu barnau a'u syniadau, ac y gallant gynnal hunaniaeth eu sefydliad eu hunain. Mae'r darparwr yn dyrannu prentisiaethau

newydd ar sail perfformiad blaenorol is-gontractiwr a'r galw gan gyflogwyr. Wrth gynllunio rhaglen gyflwyno, mae ganddynt strategaeth i fodloni galw cyflogwyr ledled Cymru.

Mae'r darparwr yn defnyddio system gwybodaeth reoli gynhwysfawr sy'n cofnodi cynnydd dysgwyr ar draws y darparwr a'i is-gontractwyr. Mae'r darparwr yn ymgymryd â monitro ansawdd ei bartneriaid is-gontractwyr drwy weithdrefnau sefydledig sy'n cynnwys arsylwi hyfforddwyr ac aseswyr partneriaid. Mae'r darparwr yn cyflwyno ystod o ddigwyddiadau dysgu proffesiynol, gyda'r holl bartneriaid yn cael cynnig y cyfle i fynychu.

Mae dysgwyr yn dweud eu bod wedi derbyn cefnogaeth dda gan eu haseswyr a'u tiwtoriaid, gyda llawer ohonynt yn hyblyg yn y ffordd y maen nhw'n ymgysylltu â dysgwyr. Roedd y rheiny a oedd yn ymgymryd â rhaglenni yn ystod y pandemig yn gwerthfawrogi'r lefel cymorth a gawsant gan eu haseswyr.

Wrth siarad â dysgwyr, roeddent yn eglur a hyderus wrth rannu'u profiadau o'u rhaglenni hyfforddi. Fel arfer, mae dysgwyr prentisiaeth lefel uwch yn ymgymryd â'u rhaglenni o bell, ac yn teimlo bod dysgu ar-lein yn fwy addas i'w cydbwysedd rhwng bywyd a gwaith. Mae'r dysgwyr hyn yn ymgymryd â rhaglenni arweinyddiaeth a rheolaeth neu dechnoleg ddigidol fel arfer, er ei bod yn well gan ychydig o ddysgwyr gofal iechyd y model cyflwyno ar-lein hefyd. Dywedodd dysgwyr ar draws y darparwr y byddent yn croesawu'r cyfle i gyfarfod yn bersonol o bryd i'w gilydd hefyd i weithio gyda'u cyfoedion a ffurio rhwydweithiau cymorth. Roeddent yn teimlo hefyd y byddai hyn yn rhoi mynediad i diwtoriaid iddynt er mwyn cael cymorth buddiol un i un a chymorth grŵp bach, pan oedd angen.

Mae dysgwyr cyfredol yn gwneud cynnydd priodol wrth ddatblygu'u gwybodaeth theori a medrau ymarferol. Mae'r rheiny a oedd mewn hyfforddiant yn ystod y pandemig, ac sydd ag asesiadau anorffenedig i'w cwblhau, yn gweithio tuag at gwblhau eu prentisiaeth.

Work-based learning apprenticeship monitoring visit

Between 29 June and 01 July 2022, Mark Evans HMI and Sandra Barnard HMI visited the provider and its subcontractors to review the delivery of its apprenticeship programmes in the first year of their Welsh Government contract. This letter provides a summary of feedback from this visit.

Associated Community Training (ACT) delivers apprenticeship programmes across 10 learning areas at level 2, level 3, and higher apprenticeships. The provider delivers training to 5,800 learners. Currently, approximately 1730 level 2 foundation apprentices are in-training, 2054 level 3 apprentices and 2059 level 4 higher apprentices. The largest learning areas are health and social care with 1252 learners and management with 1286 learners. In partnership with its subcontractors, the provider also supports the delivery of print apprenticeships across Wales. The provider works with 14 subcontractors who they call partners.

The provider was asked by the Welsh Government to support approximately 2400 displaced learners from five other training providers who were not awarded an apprenticeship contract.

The provider charges its subcontractor partners a management fee that is based on a sliding scale and is dependent upon the level of experience and support that partners require. They have well-established working relationships with several partners and, as a result, systems and practices for the delivery and quality assurance of provision are well established. The provider maintains regular communication with its subcontractor partners, giving support and sharing a wide range of information. Partners feel well supported with information being shared quickly and freely. Partners feel their views and ideas are listened to and they can maintain their own organisation's identity. The provider allocates new apprenticeship starts based on a subcontractor's previous performance and demand from employers. When planning programme delivery, they have a strategy to meet employer demand across Wales.

The provider uses a comprehensive management information system that records the progress of learners across the provider and its subcontractors. The provider undertakes quality monitoring of its subcontractor partners through established procedures that include observation of partners' trainers and assessors. The provider delivers a range of professional learning events with all partners being offered the opportunity to attend.

Learners say they have received good support from their assessors and tutors with many being flexible in the way they engage with learners. Those who were engaged in programmes during the pandemic were appreciative of the level of support they received from their assessors.

When speaking to learners they were clear and confident when sharing their experiences of their training programmes. Higher level apprenticeship learners usually undertake their programmes remotely and felt that online learning suits their work-life balance better. These learners are usually undertaking leadership and management or digital technology programmes, although a few health care learners also preferred the online delivery model. Learners across the provider also said they would welcome the opportunity to meet occasionally in person to work with their peers and form support networks. They also felt this would give them access to tutors to gain beneficial one-to-one and small group support when required.

Current learners are making appropriate progress in developing their theory knowledge and practical skills. Those who were in-training during the pandemic and have outstanding assessments to complete are working towards completing their apprenticeship.

Yn gywir/Yours sincerely



Jackie Gapper

Cyfarwyddwr Cynorthwyol/Assistant Director