

INDUSTRY: VARIOUS  
PROGRAMME: APPRENTICESHIPS  
ACTIVITY: INFORMATION BREAKFAST

## APPRENTICESHIP INFORMATION BREAKFAST

As part of Scottish Apprenticeship Week, DYW West Lothian Regional Group ran an Apprenticeship Information Breakfast for employers in partnership with Skills Development Scotland.



The aims of the event were to:

- Provide attendees with the opportunity to find out about the benefits of employing an apprentice
- Inform delegates about the resources and support available to business when employing an apprentice
- Provide employers with information about the Apprenticeship Family (FA/MA/GA) and how to get involved
- Illustrate to employers the importance and benefits of a diverse workplace and the ways in which employers can work towards increased diversity in their business

35 local businesses (micro, SME and large) attended the event from a variety of sectors. Delegates heard presentations from a range of speakers including Skills Development Scotland and Lloyds Banking Group, who spoke about their experiences of apprenticeships from both an employer and apprentice perspective. Attendees then had the opportunity to visit the 'marketplace' area, where a range of training providers and other support organisations had set up information stalls. These organisations included West Lothian College, citb, Heriot-Watt University, The Open University and West Lothian Council, as well as sector-specific training organisations working in sectors such as business and customer service.

In addition, employers were provided with information on:

- How employing an apprentice can meet business skills needs, increase diversity in their business and increase productivity
- The ways in which employers can secure fresh ideas for their business by working with schools to provide the work-based element of a Foundation Apprenticeship for a S5 or S6 pupil





It was beneficial for employers to learn more about the expansion of the Apprenticeship Family, including how to get involved in Foundation Apprenticeships. Employers heard directly about the benefits of employing an apprentice and had the opportunity to network with relevant support agencies to find out about the support available to them.

“ It was a pleasure to attend this morning and we had some very useful conversations with employers. Personally, I found the presentations extremely useful and it is always very powerful to hear from Apprentices directly. ”

JAN RHATIGAN, BUSINESS RELATIONSHIP MANAGER, HERIOT- WATT UNIVERSITY

“ I found the event very worthwhile, and well-executed. So, all in all a worthwhile morning. ”

HAYDEN MCFADDEN, OPERATIONS DIRECTOR, EMF MANUFACTURING

“ It was a helpful and informative event. ”

SAM ROBINSON, HR BUSINESS PARTNER, JBTC



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