



March 2015 – Issue 4

South Gloucestershire apprenticeship programme

Welcome to our Spring newsletter which aims to provide you with more information about the South Gloucestershire apprenticeship programme.



“With National Apprenticeship week taking place on 9– 15 March, this is a great time to think about whether an apprenticeship could kick start your career whilst gaining a nationally recognised qualification or if you are a manager who would be interested in taking on a young person in your service area. If you know a young person who you think would be interested in one of our apprenticeship programmes then I’d be delighted to hear from you – simply email me at elaine.eldridge@southglos.gov.uk or call **01454 865884**.”

Elaine Eldridge, Apprenticeship Manager, South Gloucestershire Council.

South Gloucestershire apprentice takes up lead role on National Society of Apprentices

An apprentice from South Gloucestershire Council has been chosen to play a lead role in the National Society of Apprentices (NSA). **Jasmine Manning, aged 20 from Downend**, who is currently undertaking a customer service apprenticeship with the South Gloucestershire library service will be championing apprentices in the workplace and promoting the benefits of apprenticeships to young people and businesses up and down the country.



With over two million apprenticeship places created since 2010, the NSA was set up in February 2014 by the National Union of Students to act as the national voice for young people on apprenticeships in the UK. One of Jasmine’s first tasks in her NSA role was to visit Westminster to meet Thornbury and Yate MP Steve Webb (pictured above) to discuss opening up more apprenticeship opportunities for young people and her positive experiences so far on the South Gloucestershire Apprenticeship Programme. Jasmine said: **“My apprenticeship has given me valuable skills which will help me in securing permanent employment in the future. We need to make sure that apprentices get a fair deal and the National Society for Apprentices will help to raise the profile of these issues.”**

Apprentices recognised for outstanding achievement



The achievements of young apprentices from South Gloucestershire were celebrated at recent awards event. The award ceremony, held at **Yate Armadillo Youth Venue**, celebrated the achievements of those who have enrolled on the South Gloucestershire Apprenticeship Scheme.

Seven apprentices received awards at the ceremony which were presented by Deputy Chief Executive of South Gloucestershire Council Dave Perry.

They included:

Andrew Cambridge - Democratic Services Assistant

Andrew was the first apprentice to enrol on the scheme and has gone from strength to strength. Andrew has always had an interest in politics and has successfully secured a position in Democratic Services and is soon to finish his Business Admin Advanced Level 3 qualification.

Lauren Wixon – Administration Assistant at Yate Town Council

Lauren recently secured a role at Yate Town Council following her apprenticeship studying for an NVQ Level 2 in Business Administration. She has now begun studying for Level 3.

Lorna Souter - Administration Assistant

Lorna completed her Intermediate NVQ Level 2 Business Administration Apprenticeship in the council's Traded Services division, and has now secured a permanent post in the soon to be new company South Gloucestershire Traded Services.

Natalie Watson - Business Support Apprentice in HR Casework and Change

Natalie has completed her Intermediate NVQ Level 2 Business Administration Apprenticeship and now progressed up to her Advanced Level 3. Natalie is also studying for an additional qualification, the CIPD Level 3 Diploma in human resources practice.

Rosie Pickering - Customer Care Officer

Rosie successfully completed her Advanced NVQ Level 3 Customer Service Apprenticeship in the Customer Contact Centre where she has now secured a permanent role in the team based in the Kingswood Civic Centre.

Sarah Donelan- Business Support Apprentice

Sarah completed her Intermediate NVQ Level 2 Business Administration Apprenticeship and has now progressed up to Level 3.

Sophie Webber- Administration Apprentice at the Armadillo Youth Centre

Sophie completed her Intermediate NVQ Level 2 Business Administration Apprenticeship and has now began a Level 3 at the Armadillo.

Find out more about our apprenticeship programme

Apprentices have a contract of employment and are supported to gain the relevant qualifications through on-the-job learning, workplace support and college attendance. As employees, apprentices earn a wage and work alongside experienced staff to gain job-specific skill, and support from the college. Our apprenticeship programme gives young people:

- l the best possible start to a career
- l new skills and qualifications
- l a salary and paid holidays
- l one day a week college study

If you are interested in finding out more about our apprenticeship programme then contact Apprenticeship Programme Manager

Elaine Eldridge by calling 01454 865884 or email elaine.eldridge@southglos.gov.uk

To find out more about apprenticeships in general - for both young people and employers - visit www.apprenticeships.org.uk.