

TRAINING GROUPS UPDATE

WELCOME TO THE MARCH 2024 NEWSLETTER



Celine and I would like to wish you all a Happy Easter!

Reminders

*Q4 returns deadline COP **Monday 9th April 24**. Please make sure you have included your purchase order number if relevant and if you are VAT registered the 20% VAT only applies to the £7,000 training group grant and the economic support grant of £1,650 is 0 VAT rated.

*Next GTO Online Meeting **25th April 24 10.00-11.30am**

*TG 2024-26 MOUs will be sent in April for agreement and signature.

Training Groups and Employer Networks

Highlights from the Meeting with TG Chairs and GTOs on the 6th of March and attached in the email are the latest Q&As

- CITB will continue to fund Training Groups.

The TG Grant and Economic Support Grant will remain as they are – a total of £35,000 per annum.

New deliverables will be developed collaboratively with Training Groups, aligning with CITB's Business Plan measures and Employer Network delivery.

New Employer Networks will launch throughout 2024. These will be managed and led by CITB. CITB South East Networks will be in the Autumn of 2024.

CITB will support Training Groups through engagement via Customer Engagement Managers and the Training Group Manager. Promotion of Training Groups will be done via the CITB website, through messaging to newly registered employers, and other means, including Employer Network Advisers highlighting the additional value Training Groups can bring to their members.

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Industry Impact Fund Industry Impact Fund – CITB

The Industry Impact Fund is aimed at construction employers looking to make a positive difference to the construction industry by developing solutions to key challenges faced by the workforce across the UK. Up to £500k.

Four new themes, in addition to Productivity and ED&I, to be added in April (Guidance notes to follow)

Net Zero

Trainers and Assessors

Digital

Retention

COMMISSIONS

The England Construction Opportunity Commission.

This live commission focuses on the support provided in the workplace during a new entrant's first year in construction. This is through job coaching, mentoring, employer engagement, peer and buddy systems or other appropriate support measures to improve the quality and retention of new entrants. We have two providers in the Southeast.

**Gement and
Hampshire County Council**

Flyers attached in the email.

C- ILM Qualification Leadership and Management Commission

To offer further support and provide leadership and management training opportunities CITB is investing £10.5million to offer free Leadership and Management training courses and qualifications. The commission, awarded in December 2022 and to run until 31st March 2025, will provide 10,500 free ILM leadership and management courses to front-line managers, site supervisors and site managers in England, Scotland and Wales.

Pre-defined package of 5 modules that cover the core learnings needed to be a great leader

Free ILM qualification places are being provided by the following training partners:

[The OM Group \(External link - Opens in a new tab or window\)](#) (Scotland, Wales, North of England and South of England)

[Danny Sullivan and Sons Ltd \(External link - Opens in a new tab or window\)](#) (South of England)

[MKC Training Services Ltd \(External link - Opens in a new tab or window\)](#) (South of England)

For more details of the programme offered by each training partner please visit their websites.

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The Additional Government funding for Apprenticeships

The PM has announced that from April 1st the government will be investing an additional £60 million across the tax year to enable people aged 21 and younger to undertake an apprenticeship with a small employer without incurring any cost to said employer. At present employers who do not pay the apprenticeship levy can receive funding (either through transfer or pledge of levy funds from apprenticeship levy-paying employers, or through funding directly from the government) for up to 95% of the cost of the apprenticeship (this is the 'co-funding model'). With this new announcement it looks like government is essentially removing the requirement for non-apprenticeship levy-paying employers to find the funds to co-fund the final 5% of the cost if they take on a younger apprentice.

Additionally, the PM announced that from April 6th apprenticeship levy-paying employers will be able to transfer (or pledge) up to 50% of their otherwise unspent apprenticeship levy funds to other employers to enable them to support apprenticeships. This is an increase from the current limit of 25% of unspent funds and should, in theory, mean that more of the money that apprenticeship levy-paying employers currently return to government unspent, is invested by those employers (through transfer and pledge) into supporting apprenticeships. The government has suggested that these measures will help create an additional 20,000 apprenticeships.

Grant Update

Apprenticeship Grant is paid for approved apprenticeships that focus on core construction skills needed across the industry. So far, this financial year 9,736 employers have been supported and in February we paid out £3,291,092 in apprenticeship Grant.

Qualification Grant is paid for approved short and long qualifications. So far, this financial year 2,407 employers have been supported and in February we paid out £1,286,500 in qualification Grant.

Short course Grants are paid for the achievement of short courses which last less than 29 days and align to approved standards. So far, this financial year 7,622 employers have been supported and in February we paid out £2,590,965 in short course Grant.

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Online Grants & Levy – sign up		https://www.citb.co.uk/levy-grants-and-funding/citb-levy/how-to-register/sign-up-to-citb-online/
Construction Industry Research Reports & CSN		https://www.citb.co.uk/about-citb/construction-industry-research-reports/
Branding/Marketing		marketing@citb.co.uk
Customer Engagement Advisors		https://www.citb.co.uk/about-citb/contact-citb/