



Dear Member

## **AELP Annual Membership Rates 2018**

I am writing to inform you that after careful consideration, the Board of the Association of Employment and Learning Providers (AELP) has agreed that AELP's membership fees should increase with effect from 1 September 2018, payable at the next renewal after this date.

AELP continues to aim to be efficient, agile and effective providing an excellent service to our members. Our recent membership survey responded with a high level of satisfaction and the results are available on the AELP website. However we are not complacent, there is more to be done and the Board has to ensure AELP is sustainable.

The Board and executive's main concern is to have adequate resource to enable AELP to maintain high standards in both its lobbying and membership services and to respond effectively to the growing demands in the provider agenda as well as the changes across the whole skills agenda. It is vital that AELP is able to offer support, advice and guidance to members, along with services such as the well-received Model Contracts for apprenticeship delivery. Membership benefits including the free legal contracts, end point assessor training resource and the free place at the National Conference (which is a highly unusual practice) are just some examples where their value alone far exceeds the fees that even the largest member will be paying. We are working closely with the local provider networks to develop a range of additional support activities with significant member discounts delivered across the country.

As you know, the sector is experiencing an unprecedented period of reform and AELP has been lobbying hard on your behalf to achieve policy outcomes that not only benefit employers and learners but also to ensure that a sustainable and diverse provider base is in place to deliver value for money in publicly funded programmes. Currently we are making representations on the negative impact of the 10% co-investment requirement for non-levy payers but thanks to AELP's lobbying, we are not discussing a much worse 33% requirement which was the government's original proposal. More recently, we secured much fairer and larger Adult Education Budget allocations for our members after the controversial procurement, while still not ideal, and got the non-levy procurement changed along with a much more sensible set of subcontracting rules in the face of efforts to abolish subcontracting altogether. With the evolving devolution plans, there is an even more complex environment for AELP to navigate alongside the local networks.

After reviewing the existing membership fees, including the one for smallest providers which equated to less than a pound a day, the Board has decided that the increases should take effect from 1 September 2018. A complete list of the new fees for members is appended to this letter. Should you have any questions regarding fees or our services, please contact our chief operating officer, Jane Hickie, at the AELP office on 0117 986 5389 or 07909 966621 or via email [janehickie@aelp.org.uk](mailto:janehickie@aelp.org.uk).

AELP has an extensive list of policy successes. We continue to effectively support individual members on a daily basis, and we hope you agree that AELP is highly approachable and accessible to all members. On a stronger financial footing, AELP will be very well placed to deliver an even better service and achieve more lobbying successes.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Mark Dawe', is centered on a light blue rectangular background.

Mark Dawe

Enclosure: AELP membership benefits chart including the annual membership rates from 1 September 2018.

One voice, representing members' views, making a difference