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Maritime Skills Alliance Newsletter

December 2018

Greetings!

Many, many, people want to see more effective work done to attract talented young people to careers in the maritime sector, and the 'Maritime Sector Deal' which Maritime UK is developing with central Government may be just the opportunity we've been looking for.

We report news of another first as the MCA wins approval for its first Coastguard apprenticeship, and we link you to a stirring presentation by Pendennis on why they put so much effort into apprenticeships.

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You are, of course, free to unsubscribe at any time via the button at the foot of this newsletter - but we hope, instead, that you'll encourage colleagues to sign up!



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Association

Port Skills and Safety

Royal National Lifeboat
Institution

Royal Navy

Royal Yachting
Association

Seafarers UK

Sea Fish Industry
Authority

Thames Skills Academy

A Careers Strategy for the sector?

The MSA is working with colleagues in Maritime UK and the Department for Transport to shape a proposal for a sector-wide careers strategy as part of the 'Maritime Sector Deal'.

As part of the Government's Industrial Strategy, BEIS, the Business Department, is leading a programme to agree 'Sector Deals' for different parts of the economy, agreements between industry and Government to drive growth. You can see the full list [here](#).

It's striking that the Creative Industries sector has given real prominence to careers, with a broad-based programme attracting real Government support. We can do that too. Please get in touch if you want to be involved: iain@maritimeskills.org



If you're looking for an inspiring example of how a successful company has used apprenticeships to support business growth, look no further than Pendennis, yacht builders in Falmouth. See slide 16 onwards in [this presentation](#).

Congratulations to the MCA which now has final approval for a new Coastguard apprenticeship (formally, [Maritime Operations Officer](#)) at Level 3.

The Inland Waterways group led by City Cruises, supported by the [Thames Skills Academy](#), is making fast progress in developing a replacement apprenticeship which will lead to the [Boatmaster](#) Tier 1 Level 2 licence. (The existing apprenticeship remains open for business). Contact Katherine Riggs at the TSA if you want to comment on what they're doing.

MYTH-BUSTING. We heard this week of a company which didn't think it had to pay the Levy because it doesn't employ apprentices. Wrong! It's

a tax; every company in the UK is within the scope of the Levy, and all those with a pay bill of £3m pa or more must pay it. (Details [here](#)).

Uniquely, though, this is a tax you can get back! – by employing apprentices. There's a wide range of apprenticeships available; see the official site (England only) [here](#), and the MSA's web pages [here](#).

Did you know that if you employ an apprentice aged under 25 you do not pay National Insurance for them? Pay them £12,000pa, for example, and that saves you £493.49. Full details [here](#). With a handy NI calculator [here](#).

www.maritimeskills.org/Apprenticeships

Also in the news ...

The Government has announced funding for each local area in England to research and develop a [Skills Action Plan](#). The lead will be taken by LEPs (Local Enterprise Partnerships) or Mayoral Combined Authorities (eg Liverpool City Region).

We are working with colleagues in the Department for Transport, and Maritime UK to make sure that the guidance properly recognises the significance of a sector like ours spread throughout the country.

To keep up-to-date with what we're doing, please sign up for our newsletter - and please mail this on to others who might be interested.

Iain Mackinnon

Secretary
