

NTFW Response to the Medr Apprenticeship Programme in Wales Consultation

NTFW's position reflects the collective insight of independent training providers across the network, with a strong focus on inclusion, flexibility, and regional relevance.

Key Themes:

- Seamless Transition to the 2027 Programme: Success means a smooth shift from ACP to the new model, with no disruption to learners or providers.
- Inclusive and Flexible Design: Equity must be embedded throughout supporting learners with ALN, care-experienced young people, and those from minority backgrounds.
- Employer Engagement: Continue to work with RSP's to increase engagement, support funding for the Shared Apprenticeship Programme and Employer Incentive Scheme is essential to widen access and sustain participation.
- Welsh Language Integration: Welsh must be treated no less favourably than English, with bilingual delivery embedded into frameworks, resources, and workplace practice.
- Regional Economic Alignment: Apprenticeships should reflect local labour market intelligence and support place-based skills planning.
- Clear Progression Pathways: Simplified language, modular frameworks, and visual maps of learner journeys will help demystify vocational routes.
- Data-Driven Accountability: Monitoring uptake, progression, and outcomes especially for underrepresented groups is key to continuous improvement.
- Increased and Longer-Term Funding Models: Strategic investment is needed to support delivery, innovation, and inclusive growth across the apprenticeship system.

Why Apprenticeships Matter:

Apprenticeships are more than qualifications they are gateways to opportunity. They support social mobility, economic resilience, and personal growth. A future-ready programme must ensure that every learner, regardless of background, has the chance to succeed.