

Forward Thinking with the Private Sector Conversations

Conversation 1: Learning for Profit

Keith Spalding, Training Partner (Tayside & Grampian) learndirect scotland for business.

It is important to take a structured view to all the training and development needs of your business. This will then allow you to prioritise what is most important and set a realistic budget. Often this is where it ends however, it is important to measure the return on investment and review how effective it has been.

Conversation 2: ILA Scotland

Colin Reed, Partnership Development Officer, learndirect Scotland

There's never been a better time to get back into learning or brush up on your skills. The Scottish Government has just announced changes to the ILA Scotland scheme from summer 2009 that will help more people access ILA Scotland funding and offer an even greater range of courses to choose from. ILA Scotland is a Scottish Government scheme that helps you pay for learning that you can do at a time, place, pace and in a way to suit you.

Conversation 3: Social Services Knowledge Scotland (SSKS)

Ellen Daly, Knowledge & Information Assistant, Institute for Research & Innovation in the Social Services.

Social Services Knowledge Scotland (www.ssk.org.uk) is a portal for practicing social services workers and managers. SSKS will save you time by bringing together in one place information from key social services knowledge providers. Specifically it offers:

- access to a wide range of information and learning resources.
- social networking tools to help you share resources and experience.
- an introduction to the information literacy skills that make finding and sharing information easier.

Conversation 4: Choosing a Training Provider

Mike Kiely, Private Care Sector Workforce Initiative.

The choice of a training provider can have a huge impact on the quality of care received by the service user. Quality of training, knowledge of the sector, training provider's infrastructure and accreditation of the training are all areas which should be considered at the same time as cost. We will discuss these issues and refer to a recent study by the Voluntary Sector's Workforce Unit.