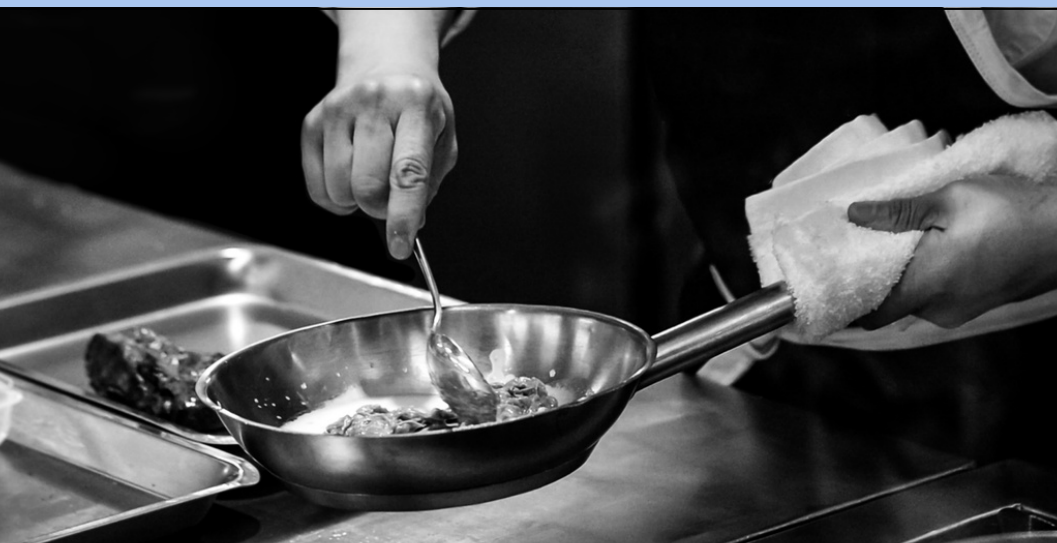


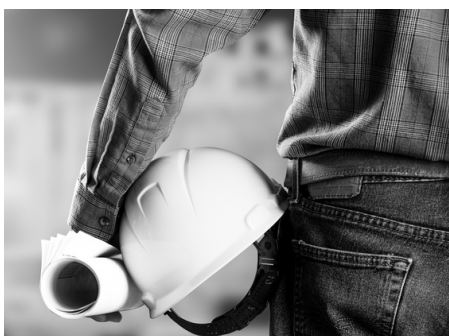
INFO@WYLP.ORG.UK



### First and foremost...

Forum members caught up with one another since the last meeting in October, held at Textiles House, Huddersfield. From the October forum, Textiles Centre of Excellence established contact with the PEL at Askham Grange HMP, to discuss sewing and textiles provisions. A barrier for providers is establishing contact with their local prisons, as each prison operates independently, with their own procedures and governance.

The New Futures Network is available for employers to find out more about hiring offenders and those on ROTL. Currently, there are 1,200 prisoners on ROTL, the Department for Education are aiming for around 10% of those ROTL to be apprentices. ROTL prisoners have already gone through the necessary safeguarding and eligibility checks, therefore, ROTL prisoners are ideal for the first rollout of apprentices. However, ROTL prisoners are not being informed of apprenticeship opportunities - the messaging and awareness needs improvement.



### Discussion

Unfortunately, as prisons operate on a fragmented basis (no central control), contact needs to be made region by region and prison by prison. There is no way around this process of engagement, so therefore, it is up to employers and providers to approach their local prisons individually.

There are large employers that are currently prominent in the prison reform and ROTL service. These employers are the pre-established contact for encouraging the uptake.

Timpsons is currently the largest employer of ROTL prisoners and has one of the first prisoner apprentices in the country. Companies both national and local are struggling with recruitment, and ROTL apprentices are an ideal solution.

***Per every singular prisoner, there is a £620,000 national economic benefit when they do not reoffend and have a career pathway ahead of them.***

The only stumbling block for recruitment is prisoners that move out of area upon release or prisoners that are moved during their sentence. Therefore, flexi-job apprenticeship agencies will be the preferred delivery method. Prisoner apprenticeships can be on any standard as long as the appropriate safeguarding measures are in place.

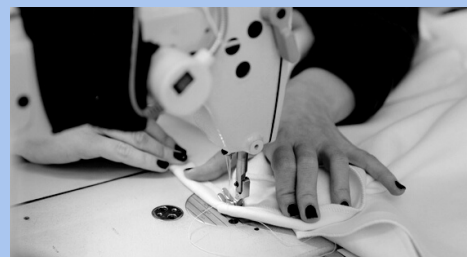
### Aims going forward

The Department for Education is now aiming to look at developing apprenticeships within closed prisons. They will be looking at employers that can train and operate their work and skills from within the prison facilities. These skills include catering, textiles and manufacturing.

Flexi-job agencies only work within certain sectors, the Department acknowledges that where there is a gap in skills, FJA's should be allowed to expand their offer.

The biggest aim to come from the third phase meeting is for the branding and messaging of prison apprenticeships to gather more exposure. The New Futures Network is a great resource for prison recruitment, however, there is no signage towards prison apprenticeships on the site.

Employers, prisons and providers all need further exposure to the potentials of prison apprenticeships.



### Actions to takeaway

- Reach out to the Yorkshire prisons to put apprenticeships on their radar.
- Find the PEL contacts for the Yorkshire prisons & make contact – share with providers
- Table at future YHAAN meetings to encourage more employer take up
- Re-issue the App directories to Prisons and offender outreach organisations
- Make contact with new ventures
- Look into posting an article in the prison magazine
- Let providers know about the prison learning DPS system
- Engage with the resettlement teams at prisons
- Look at case studies of local successes with ROTL to help boost apprenticeships – link with Tempus Novo



END-POINT ASSESSMENT TO BE COMPLETED UPON RELEASE