

MEMBER VISIT

Portland Training is a well established provider located in Sheffield which have been operating for more than 10 yrs.

They provide the Adult Skills Fund and work with the unemployed when it comes to non-devolved and devolved funding. Both within construction and security located in South and North Yorkshire.



When working with adult skills, challenges are not just include availability for funding, it also includes the amounts available, what this is available for, funding expectations and meeting GLH.

Funding for programmes needs to be more accessible and agile to local & regional needs and Portland see this as the right thing to do, but it doesn't always make programmes fully viable for an ITP.

Growing commercial offer

Growing a commercial offer will be a focus moving forward, including NVQ's at L2 right through to L7 which are essential for the construction industry.

Accessing digital skills training

Portland have recognised the need for digital upskilling, but they are struggling to find digital skill training and qualifications for learners.

These skills are particularly important for those who are aged 50+ - this is a group which need more dedicated training and support.

How Portland Training benefit from a YLP membership

Portland Training noted that Yorkshire Learning Providers newsletters are really useful and informative for keeping up to date with changes in the industry.

They have also identified the need to start accessing forums - something which will be a good source of information and CPD for the team.

What further support do you need from a YLP membership?

A gap in CPD which has been identified from a sector perspective is Prevent and Safeguarding for staff.

They said that there used to be so much focus through organisations, such as the ETFetc, but there seems to be much less available now for providers to access. This information would allow for practitioners to stay updated and keep conversations live.