

Chippenham Area Board – Monday 9 January 2012

Chairman's Announcements

'Have a Go' – Skills Taster Sessions

Wiltshire Council, working in partnership with the Wessex Association of Chambers of Commerce, the National Apprenticeship Service and Jobcentre Plus will host two "Have a Go" skills taster events to provide a 'hands on' opportunity for young people to try out new skills in February 2012.

The events to be held in Chippenham on Wednesday 8th February and Salisbury on Thursday 9th (during National Apprenticeship Week), will provide 'bite size' tasters of different skills in a range of occupational settings. The overall aim of these events is to inspire young people to think about their future jobs, career path and study options as well as develop their understanding of and preparation for the world of work.

As part of the two events, we will also be holding a Business Breakfast for Wiltshire businesses with the objective of stimulating discussion and activity around:

- **Enabling employers to recognise the potential Apprenticeships hold for meeting their skills needs and thereby increase their participation in Apprenticeships**
- **Broadening the sector distribution of employer participation in Apprenticeships; boost Apprenticeship take-up by SMEs in occupations and sectors with the greatest growth potential.**
- **Boosting Apprenticeship take up by large employers through introducing Apprenticeship programmes into their organisations or by growing existing programmes across all areas of the business.**

There will also be an opportunity to tour the event and to network with other businesses.

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