



Scottish Seafood Training Network Partners Meeting: 26th October, 2018, Peterhead Fish Market

Present: Helen Muir (Chair), Jimmy Buchan, Gordon Gibb, Ian land, Lee Cooper

Notes on discussions:

Introductions – Lee Cooper explained the proposals to move significant content from the Seafood Academy website to the new Seafish website and to use the space created to expand content for the Networks and to feature more training programmes delivered by third party providers.

Part Time Training Coordinator – discussed the benefits to accrue to the Network from the support of Michael Sim the new part time training coordinator working for SSA and supporting the SSTN.

Seafood Training Centre – Partners toured the practical training facilities now available in the new market and agreed that these should provide a valuable boost to the delivery of knife skills and quality assessment training courses, as well as other programmes for new entrants, schools etc.

Timetable for Delivery of Training – A fish smoking training programme is to be announced soon with 4 dates for basic fish smoking courses to be delivered at NESCOL each year. The first of these dates will be announced in November.

Other training programme dates to be announced soon are for fish quality assessment (Introductory and Advanced), Knife Skills, BRC updates, Food Hygiene etc.

Apprenticeships – great success with the delivery of apprenticeships to seafood businesses in Scotland was announced, with plans to support more fish frying businesses. The redevelopment of food and drink occupational standards should see improved frameworks for fish and shellfish businesses including fishmongering and fish frying. As there is no age limit for these apprenticeships in Scotland, employers should seek to maximise the benefits an apprentice can bring to a business.

Engaging with Employers – Seafish Onshore Training are to launch a monthly newsletter starting in November. This, along with existing regular communications from other Network partners should ensure that employers in Scotland are kept well informed. The plans to expand the space available to the Network online should help to engage with employers on topics such as compliance training, apprenticeships, training offers, employability training etc.

Careers Support – The importance of careers and job promotion to the future of the industry cannot be overstated was the consensus. Activities designed to engage with careers advisers are important as is the support from Network partners for employability training programmes.

Seafish are encouraged to consider developing a wide range of employability success case studies and to undertake a study of good practices in employability schemes in the seafood and food industries.

Labour Issues and Brexit – The partners agreed to continuing to promote jobs and careers, and to support effective employability activities are worthwhile aims for the industry as a whole.

Approved 30/10/18

