

Supporting and promoting professionalism and quality standards in the work of career development professionals.

Briefing note 1: October 2012



We are delighted to inform you that the Career Development Institute was formally incorporated on 24th September 2012 as a legal entity.

Steady progress has been made by the four professional bodies working together as the Careers Profession Alliance to lay the foundations for the formation of a new professional body for the career development sector right across the UK. We have now nearly reached the final stage when we can merge and form a single body. We are working together with common aspirations and hope to move onto the next phase early in 2013. It has been a long process but it was important to get it right and move forward together.

Formation of the CDI means that there is one strong and persuasive voice representing the whole of the career development profession, making best use of existing joint resources and presenting unity on behalf of individual professionals in the sector. The four associations will continue to operate, supporting and serving the needs of their own members until the CDI is at the stage of being ready to deliver services and products which will fully replace those already provided. In doing this, it will ensure that it recognises and provides support for all of the distinct specialisms and functions within the sector. Eight founding directors, two from each of the four associations, will lead and direct this process, bringing in additional support and specialist expertise where necessary. ¹

Business Plan

The Transition Plan and Business Plan for the first year are being reviewed by the CPA Finance and Business Planning Group. A due diligence process has now begun and will provide an objective, independent view of the planning process and the financial viability of the new body. This is a crucial stage of the preparation for the future.

¹ Founding Directors of the CDI are Sue Barr (ACEG), Peter Fennah (ACPI), Sarah Finnegan-Dehn (ICG), Steve Higginbotham (ICG), Heather Jackson (NAEGA), John Lees (ACPI), Stephen McNair (NAEGA), Alan Vincent (ACEG).

CDI Vision

You may remember the original vision that was agreed at the start of this process:

The CDI is dedicated to supporting and promoting professionalism and quality standards in the work of career development professionals. The CDI will help members through:

- providing the latest information and insights and support individual professional development;
- speak with a single voice for the career development profession and represent members' views to government, employers and other stakeholders;
- promote professionalism and raise the visibility and credibility of members within the UK career development sector;
- develop clear criteria that will enable clients/users to make judgements about the quality of careers activities and services.

Key activities of the CDI

What will the CDI do to achieve this vision? The main focus will be to support members in the delivery of their work by providing a range of membership services and products to keep them up to date with the latest thinking, policy and practice in career development. In addition, the CDI will set up and maintain communication channels with members, other partners and stakeholders. It will provide a unified voice to represent the breadth of the career development profession and set and maintain standards of practice. It will promote excellence in career development activities and services by providing and endorsing initial qualifications and on-going professional development for those entering and practising in the field.

CDI Prospectus

A prospectus for CDI is currently in production setting out the CDI vision, who it will serve and what it will do out to accomplish this. It will also set out benefits to members, including identifying the services and products that they will receive as members of the Institute. In the first instance the CDI will offer at least as wide a range of services and products as the four existing professional associations currently provide and these will be added to over time. Members will receive the same services and products that they get currently from their existing association and there will be greater diversity of development opportunities as the four associations come together to share their insights into the dynamic career development sector. The Prospectus will clearly set out all of the services and products that will be available and there will also be an opportunity for members and prospective members to provide feedback on what is being proposed.

Copies of the Prospectus will be available by 8th November when it will be distributed to all current members of the four professional associations. It will also be available for delegates at the ICG conference in Stratford on 8th and 9th November. There will also be an opportunity at the ICG conference to speak to Directors of the CDI from each of the existing professional bodies.

SIGN UP TO THE CDI NOW!!!

If you are a member of one of the four professional bodies below you should sign up a “shadow members” of the Career Development Institute (CDI) now. This means that at the appropriate time you will be able to take part in the election of officers for the new body. Please do this today by logging onto the CPA website. This is free to existing members of ICG, ACEG, NAEGA and ACPI and does not require you to join the Register of Career Development Professionals.

Joining the Register for Career Development Professionals is a separate process.

The link is www.cparegister.org

