



# CAPITAL

April 2018

Welcome to the inaugural edition of CAPITAL, AELP London's membership newsletter, designed to keep our members up to date with the latest developments across London's employability and skills sector.

## The AELP London launch event

We were delighted to meet with new members, potential members, stakeholders, and patrons at our official AELP London launch event at City Hall on April 27th.

We hope that you agree that the venue was fantastic, spoilt only by the chaos on the Jubilee Line which we know prevented a few of our delegates from joining us. We guess that delays on the Underground will not be a new experience for our members!



*Building a relationship with the Mayor's Office*

We'd like to thank Forogh Rahmani, Senior Manager – Strategy, Policy & Relationships,



*Policy update – Mark Dawe provides context for policy changes in the capital*

AELP CEO, Mark Dawe, was delighted to provide a policy update for our members,

Skills & Employment Unit - Greater London Authority, for joining us. Forogh delivered an engaging presentation, providing a detailed update on the skills and employability priorities of the Mayor of London's office. We're sure our members were as encouraged as we were, to hear Forogh talk about the importance of collaboration and a collective approach.

We were also treated to an 'exclusive', with Forogh announcing that the Mayor of London's new skills strategy will be launched on 6th June. We will, of course, be watching developments in this area with a keen interest and will provide further updates in future editions of CAPITAL.

discussing the implications of the Mayor's 'Skills for Londoners Framework' and the timetable for the devolving of the Adult Education Budget.

We know that our AELP London members face a unique environment and precise lobbying challenges and, for this reason, we're committed to providing a bespoke lobbying service for our members. Mark, supported by AELP's well-respected policy team, is committed to playing a leading role in supporting the lobbying objectives of our members. And, of course, AELP London will have its own dedicated Senior Policy Officer, a position we are currently recruiting to.

## AELP London Advisor Board Chair, Nicki Hay, outlines her vision for AELP London

We're delighted that Nicki Hay has agreed to Chair AELP London's Advisory Board, and it was great to hear her talk about the importance of continuity. AELP London will build on the foundations that LWBLA have laid over the last decade and, in Nicki's words, "it's about building on what's existing, not starting from scratch."

Looking to the future, Nicki outlined where our focus will lay, including our commitment to collaboration:

- Our lobbying priorities will be led by our members
- We will co-design added value services – engaging with our members
- We will create opportunities for our members to collaborate
- We will develop a communications plan that encourages 'conversation'



## Welcome to our first AELP London Patron

As many of you will know, AELP's national work is supported by a dedicated group of Patron Members. Our Patrons play a huge role in enabling us to effectively support our membership through our lobbying and added value services.

We're delighted to announce that [BIIAB](#) have become our first AELP London Patron Member, a demonstration of their commitment to supporting the development of the capital's skills and employment sector. We are sure that they'll be a great asset to the network.

*'We're delighted to be on board, and look forward to working with AELP London to further advise, guide and support in our sector.'*

*Gareth Phillips, Commercial Director, BIIAB*

If any members are interested in becoming a Patron, then we'd naturally be happy to discuss that further and provide more detail about the benefits of patronage. Please contact Jane Hickie directly.

## Upcoming events

We're currently in the process of finalising our calendar of events for the rest of this year. This will include our Advisory Board Meetings, Strategic Forums, Networking Events and Conferences.

We'll provide regular updates on upcoming events through this format and we will also provide updates, as soon as they are available through our [website](#). We encourage you to 'watch this space'

## Continuing the conversation

We're committed to engaging with our members, working with you to understand how we can best support you and designing services 'with you, not for you'.

In addition to our meetings and forums, we'll do that through a newly developed web presence, which we're currently working on – again, we encourage you to watch this space. By the way, the LWBLA website is still live, so you can continue to download key documents from there.

You can also talk with us via Twitter @AELPLondon, or the more 'old fashioned' way by email at [aelp london@aelp.org.uk](mailto:aelp london@aelp.org.uk) or over the phone at 0117 440 9525

Best wishes,

**Jane Hickie**  
**AELP COO**  
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We want to make sure that CAPITAL evolves to meet the needs of our members. If you have any feedback, or are interested in writing a comment piece, then we would love to hear from you. Please email us at [aelp london@aelp.co.uk](mailto:aelp london@aelp.co.uk).