

Aspiring managers put on the right road with diploma

WORKERS in Newcastle are celebrating after successfully sharpening their managerial skills in a work-based training project.

A group of 12 aspiring managers from the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) have completed the Chartered Management Institute Diploma (Level 5).

They are the first to complete the qualification as part of a union-led training initiative which is designed to offer progression routes for learners and develop higher level leadership and managerial skills through work-based learning.

The initiative was launched last year and is a partnership between unionlearn in the region (the TUC's learning and skills organisation), the Public and Commercial Services Union, the DWP and North East training specialist Amacus.

It was designed and delivered by Amacus, which specialises in leadership and management development, after union learning representatives identified a skills gap and demand for management training by individuals at the DWP.

Those involved undertook a range of training tailored to their own specific needs around leadership, decision making, recruitment and selection, project management, self-development and communication.

Christine Murray, managing director of Amacus, said: "We're delighted the training has been such a success. It's a triumph for partnership working, commitment and the contribution of those taking part.

"They've really embraced the training and enhanced their skills, which will be great for them and their employer in future. We anticipate the next stage of the course being equally successful."

The learners were presented with their awards by Derek Wood, London Pension Centre manager, and Christine Murray and Sarah Bullock from Amacus.

They will now move on to the second stage of the course which is the foundation degree managed by Amacus and delivered by its project partner Gateshead College.

Kevin Rowan, unionlearn regional manager, said: "This has been a hugely successful project and underlines the impact work-based learning can have. It helps to boost skills, improve confidence and also improve productivity so is a real win-win for everyone involved.

"There's a definite demand for specialist training like this throughout the workforce from employees and employers. The training delivered by Amacus has been a perfect match with the needs of the workers and we hope the success will be replicated elsewhere."



TRAINING – Christine Murray and Sarah Bullock with Derek Woods and workers from DWP