



**North West
Employers**

SUPPORT. KNOWLEDGE. NETWORK.

Mr C Parker
Chief Executive
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**8 April 2011
Oldham Council- North West Skills Award**

Dear Charlie

I am writing to congratulate you on your successful achievement of The North West Skills Award. The assessment for the award took place on 25th March 2011 and the verifier confirmed the award as achievement standard on 8th April 2011. In addition your authority will also receive The LGID National Get On Excellence Award.

A formal presentation of the awards will be made at our annual Skills Celebration event to be held in the autumn. I will send you further details of the event when these are available.

Since making the commitment to The Skills Pledge I know that Oldham Council has been at the forefront of introducing and embedding innovative approaches to skills development across the authority. The activity which has taken place to ensure an embedded sustainable approach are commendable and I am delighted that officers from within the Council have been able to share the experiences and practice which has been developed.

A full report outlining the key strengths of your approach and some areas for ongoing development will be sent to John Fraine shortly. Hopefully this will be helpful in terms of informing future activity. In particular, the assessor noted the high level of organisational commitment to the skills agenda at a strategic through to operational level. The aligned approach to workforce planning and organisational development benefits from the nurturing of strong partnerships, including from regional networks, with providers and Union Learning Representatives.

I know that a lot of effort was put into preparing for assessment and I wanted to thank everyone involved in telling your story. All those involved in the assessment and verification were impressed with the real commitment shown to improve the skills of your workforce and we would want to use the work you have done to encourage and inspire other authorities that follow. I would particularly highlight the efforts made by Margaret Glossop and Steve Hewitt who have demonstrated massive enthusiasm, commitment and inspiration to support this work.

In terms of the next steps, we will be circulating the news of your Skills Award success to authorities and partners and I'm sure we will want to continue to share your experiences and practice at forthcoming events.

Yours sincerely

Liz McQue
Chief Executive



INVESTORS IN PEOPLE

North Western Local Authorities' Employers' Organisation

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