



**Aberdeen &  
Grampian  
Chamber of  
Commerce**

The Hub  
Exploration Drive  
Aberdeen Energy Park  
Bridge of Don  
Aberdeen  
AB23 8GX  
[www.agcc.co.uk](http://www.agcc.co.uk)

## **Media Release**

**Wednesday, March 29, 2017**

### **Aberdeen & Grampian Chamber of Commerce launch Executive Springboard**

Managers and executives affected by the downturn in the oil and gas industry are being targeted by a new support service from Aberdeen & Grampian Chamber of Commerce. The pilot project is aimed at helping middle and senior managers who might not know about or make use of existing employment services to get back into work. Executive Springboard – supported by the Transition Training Fund – will support up to 50 individuals to create a personal brand, open eyes to new industry sectors, build self-confidence and help candidates recognise their transferable skills. Those accepted on to the programme will benefit from a choice of learning modules designed to expand their skill set.

Liam Smyth, deputy chief executive of Aberdeen & Grampian Chamber of Commerce, said: “Whilst the true number of job losses due to the oil price crash can only be guessed at, it is known that displaced people at managerial and executive level rarely appear on the radar of the Job Centres and other public sector agencies, and they may be reluctant to access support or be unaware that support is available to them.

“The Executive Springboard programme has been created to help those from the oil and gas industry who have been made redundant in managerial and executive roles reconnect and diversify into new sectors that they may not have thought of before.

“This isn’t about the job that they did in the past, it’s about the skills that they’ve developed and how they can now be applied to new sectors.

We look forward to welcoming these executives back to the Chamber and supporting them to develop a new pathway to employment.”

Gordon McGuinness, Director of Industry and Enterprise Networks at Skills Development Scotland, said “At Skills Development Scotland and through the Energy Jobs Taskforce we are committed to helping individuals realise their potential and explore hitherto unrealised opportunities.

“The downturn in the oil and gas industry has affected workers at all levels. That is why we have developed a programme that offers intensive and structured support to help middle and senior executives.

“Those accepted on the programme will receive a range of support and I would encourage all managers in the sector who have been affected by redundancy to consider applying to join this exciting initiative.”

More details on Executive Springboard can be found at: [www.agcc.co.uk/developing-skills/executive-springboard](http://www.agcc.co.uk/developing-skills/executive-springboard)

## **Ends**

### **Notes to editor**

- Aberdeen & Grampian Chamber of Commerce (AGCC) is North-east Scotland's leading private sector, member-focused, business organisation. The Chamber represents more than 1,300 businesses with almost 130,000 employees in the private sector covering all industry sectors, ranging in size from sole traders to multi-national corporations.
- Skills Development Scotland is the national skills body supporting the people and businesses of Scotland to develop and apply their skills. [www.sds.co.uk](http://www.sds.co.uk). The £12m Transition Training Fund was set up by the Scottish Government and is managed by Skills Development Scotland. It offers support with training grants to help people retrain, upskill or get accreditation or certification that would help them get a new job in oil and gas, the wider energy sector, or engineering and manufacturing. <https://transitiontrainingfund.co.uk/>. The Energy Jobs Taskforce is a strong partnership of industry, public sector and trade union representatives which formed in early 2015 to help tackle the immediate challenges facing the energy sector. <https://www.scottish-enterprise.com/knowledge-hub/articles/insight/scotlands-energy-jobs-taskforce>

### **Media enquiries to Aberdeen & Grampian Chamber of Commerce**

Anisha Patel, Marketing & Communications Executive

Tel: +44 (0)1224 343913

Email: [anisha.patel@agcc.co.uk](mailto:anisha.patel@agcc.co.uk)

Twitter: @chambertalk