



*The partnership to promote
excellence in learning*

New Chief Executive Appointed at Learning South West

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The Board of Learning South West has appointed Paula Jones as the new Chief Executive of the Taunton based charity which plays a key strategic role in the learning and skills, and youth work sectors in the region.

Paula, who was the Deputy Chief Executive, was selected from a strong and diverse field of candidates. She brings a wealth of experience of working with practitioners in the South West, as well as from playing influential national roles as a council member of the Institute for Learning and as the Chair of the Association of Centres for Excellence in Teacher Training.

After the announcement of her appointment Paula Jones said:
"I am so proud and immensely pleased to be chosen to lead our vibrant partnership and unique cross sector organisation that is dedicated to improving the quality of lifelong learning and youth work in the south west region.

"We will continue to work hard to develop and connect communities of professional practice in the knowledge that we are all working to the same shared vision and goals. We know the answer lies within us all and is not 'blowing in the political wind' We know how important it is to feel connected to others and to involve as many people as possible in creating change we want and for the better.

Paula replaces Tim Boyes-Watson who is taking up a new post as Director of MANGO, an international aid and development charity.

In the four years Tim led Learning South West the organisation went through a period of substantial growth in income, numbers of staff and impact. He said: "The strategy has been driven by what young people and adult learners have told us about their need for inspirational learning and youth work."

END

Contact Details Below:

For further information or to arrange interviews please contact:

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Note to Editors

- Learning South West is an independent charity based at Bishops Hull near Taunton. Find out more at www.learning-southwest.org.uk.
- Learning South West is delighted to be coordinating Adult Learners Week in the southwest for the second year running on behalf of the National Institute of Adult Continuing Education (NIACE.).
- Adult Learners' Week is the UK's largest and longest running learning campaign. Held in the middle of May, it encourages thousands of adults, whatever their age and background, to give learning a go. Adult Learners' Week will take place from 15-21 May 2010 **but the nomination deadline is Friday 29 January 2010.**

