

Museums Libraries and Archives with LLUK

EXPERT OUTCOME

Background

The Museums Libraries and Archives (MLA) Council commissioned England Marketing to generate work experience guidance for hosts of year 10 and 11 placements in museums libraries and archives in accordance with current legislation. The project, Untold Riches, aims to produce a set of guidelines to support museums, libraries and archives in the provision of quality work experience placements.

Methodology

England Marketing revised the guidelines and templates which were produced from the 'Work placement toolkit for museums, libraries and archives' (Draft March 2007) and circulated these amongst our target audience. Telephone research was conducted to gather feedback.



The research sample included a number of institutions who had previously agreed to host pilots, respondents to an article placed in the MLA E-bulletin and to information on the project circulated amongst libraries offering interested parties the toolkit to review and other organisations within the sector. The guidelines were sent to 44 organisations and 30 interviews were completed.

Outcomes

The toolkit was well received by the majority of respondents. It was thought to be a good starting point, excellent for an organisation that does not have its own formal guidelines or procedures. For organisations with an established work experience program, it was thought that it brought some new ideas and suggestions. The respondents rated the toolkit very highly with the majority giving a score of 8 out of 10 or greater. If respondents had their own established procedures they rated the usefulness of the toolkit lower but could see the benefit of having such a toolkit available to all. The respondents were very supportive of the aims of the project and very willing to participate. Respondents cited many benefits to the organisation of having a placement student, including effective community engagement and potential recruitment opportunities.



Very useful and gives a number of ideas for placement practice that we will be putting into place for our next students.

Clear, concise, well laid out... evidently a lot of care has gone into it.

Very easy to read, works well and very straightforward which is good when you don't have much time.

Respondents 2008



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