

# Construction Gateway Limited

Monitoring visit report

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**Unique reference number:** 1278588

**Name of lead inspector:** Derrick Baughan, Her Majesty's Inspector

**Inspection date:** 8 January 2019

**Type of provider:** Independent learning provider

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## Monitoring visit: main findings

### Context and focus of visit

From October 2018, Ofsted undertook to carry out monitoring visits to all newly directly funded providers of apprenticeship training provision which began to be funded from April 2017 or after by ESFA and/or the apprenticeship levy. This monitoring visit was undertaken as part of those arrangements and as outlined in the 'Further education and skills inspection handbook', especially the sections entitled 'Providers newly directly funded to deliver apprenticeship training provision' and 'Monitoring visits'. The focus of this second monitoring visit to the provider was on theme three only, as inspectors, during their first visit, judged that leaders and managers had made insufficient progress on this theme.

Construction Gateway Limited is a small independent learning provider, working exclusively with the housing sector across England. It gained approval as a prime contractor in May 2017. Construction Gateway Limited has been providing private training courses to the construction and housing sectors for 20 years. The first publicly funded apprentices started their programmes in July 2017. At the time of the monitoring visit, 79 apprentices aged 19 and over were studying the standards-based apprenticeship in property maintenance at level 2. Construction Gateway Limited does not work with any subcontractors.

### Theme

#### **How much progress have leaders and managers made in ensuring that effective safeguarding arrangements are in place? Reasonable progress**

Leaders acted quickly and effectively to deal with the safeguarding issues found by inspectors during the previous monitoring visit. Staff have now received additional training in safeguarding; for example, specific training on the risks of radicalisation and extremism. Managers keep detailed records of this training.

Leaders have ensured that the organisation focuses more closely on safeguarding by giving the designated safeguarding lead more autonomy and responsibility, and by appointing a deputy. As a result of prompt action by the safeguarding lead, apprentices now know who to contact in the event of any safeguarding issues and know what support is available to them. Staff keep detailed logs of issues and take prompt and effective action to deal with them.

Leaders made prudent decisions to expand their staff capacity to deal with all the issues found during the previous monitoring visit. The new head of apprenticeships, recruited in December 2018, has significant experience of apprenticeship provision and has developed a set of useful training materials to develop apprentices' understanding of safeguarding, including the risks of radicalisation and extremism.

Leaders have reduced the number of agency staff as part of their policy to use employed staff only to deliver training. Managers have ensured that those agency staff still being used in this transition period have received adequate safeguarding training.

Apprentices have a good understanding of safe working practices, including actions to safeguard themselves when visiting clients' homes. Most apprentices have a reasonable understanding of the risks of extremism and radicalisation. However, although a few apprentices still do not have a sufficient understanding of these topics, most know they will be learning about them during their next training session.

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