

16 August 2011

Acquisition of North Wessex Training Ltd

Campbell Page, an Australian not-for-profit community, employment and training provider has entered the UK Welfare to Work market. Campbell Page UK has acquired North Wessex Training Ltd, a UK welfare-to-work training company.

North Wessex Training Ltd is a training services provider operating in Wiltshire. Formed in 1988, it has worked closely with Job Centres and other like-minded bodies to become an integral part of Wiltshire's employment support structure. The company maintains strong relationships with the private sector which enables it to understand the local job market and place training programme clients with suitable employers. North Wessex Training Ltd currently has 7 offices across Wiltshire, with headquarters in Devizes.

Campbell Page UK will operate all of North Wessex Training's Local and Central Government contracts and intends to grow the business.

Xavier Crimmins, CEO of Campbell Page said, "This acquisition marks a new chapter for Campbell Page. It is a platform for growth and underpins our long-term commitment to the UK. With many UK communities finding it tough, Campbell Page can play an important role in delivering quality services to people in need".

Together with attainment of Framework status in December 2010 and resulting inclusion in the list of preferred welfare-to-work providers, the acquisition presents a secure platform for Campbell Page to build a significant presence in the UK.

Mary Cripps-Warwick, General Manager UK and Europe, Campbell Page, will take charge of the day-to-day running of North Wessex Training, as Managing Director. She said, "Campbell Page has a proven track record and a wealth of experience from our operations in Australia, delivering whole-community welfare-to-work projects incorporating training, family services, youth services, housing provision, disability employment services and our work with diverse communities. We are keen to bring this expertise to the UK market in what is a challenging time for the welfare-to-work sector."

For more information:

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Notes to Editors:

Campbell Page

Campbell Page is an Australian based not for profit, with 117 offices across the country. It was established in 1985, as the Oasis Commonwealth Youth Support Scheme, before changing the name as the organisation's focus expanded.

Campbell Page delivers government-funded training, community, disability and employment services across Australia, with a focus on community development and empowerment.

Mary Cripps-Warwick is the General Manager Europe, Campbell Page; leading UK operations. Mary has extensive experience in the UK welfare-to-work sector. She was previously Deputy Chief Executive at Careers Development Group, a leading charity that delivers welfare-to-work programmes on behalf of the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP). Prior to joining Careers Development Group, Mary was a Regional Manager at Action for Employment, one of the largest welfare-to-work providers in the UK.

Xavier Crimmins is the CEO, based in Australia. Xavier has led the Campbell Page team for the past 11 years bringing extensive management experience in the Employment Industry and Community sectors. He has a wide network that has been instrumental in developing successful, strong strategic partnerships and alliances. Xavier is experienced in regional development activities in the VET and employment sectors and establishing cutting edge new projects for young and disadvantaged people.