INVEST IN YOURSELF THIS CHRISTMAS
Financial expert Alvin Hall records his Christmas message to the nation

Date of issue 20 Dec 2007
Publication number 487
Embargo until 20 Dec 2007 00:01

‘Tis the season for spending…! With Christmas just around the corner, our wallets are emptying faster than ever in a whirl of gift buying for loved ones, festive get togethers and travel to visit friends and relatives. However, according to the Learning and Skills Council, ‘tis also the season for investing in yourself. Learning a new skill can actually result in a £2,000 to £3,000 increase in annual salary

A unique festive vodcast (video podcast) has been created with leading independent financial expert Alvin Hall, to be screened on the Learning and Skills Council website www.lsc.gov.uk/inourhands over the Christmas period. Alvin’s ‘Alternative Christmas Broadcast’ aims to encourage Britons to look after their own futures this Christmas by investing something in their personal development.

Commenting on the vodcast, Alvin says: “People are spending more and more on presents for their family and friends, but they are not recognising the potential value of spending something on themselves in a way that could earn them more money in the long term. It’s easy to get caught up in all the festivities at this time of year, with the result that our own personal development often gets overlooked.

“I hope that my Christmas message inspires people to add learning a new skill to their New Year resolutions.”
To view Alvin’s Alternative Christmas Broadcast, and to find out about the many learning options which can help towards a more prosperous future, visit www.lsc.gov.uk/inourhands

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Notes to editors:

Learning and Skills Council:

The LSC exists to make England better skilled and more competitive. We are responsible for ensuring the availability of high-quality education and training for everyone. We have a single goal: to improve the skills of England’s young people and adults to world class standards. Our vision is that young people and adults in England have knowledge and skills matching the best in the world and are part of a truly competitive workforce. We work nationally, regionally and locally to deliver this ambition on behalf of learners and employers.

1 The statistics from the Labour Force Survey show that, on average across England, if we have either no qualifications or just Level 1 qualifications we earn £19,100 per year. If we have Level 2 qualifications we earn £21,500. And if we have Level 3 qualifications we earn £24,500. That’s about £2000 to £3000 more between each Level. So by investing some money and setting aside some time each week to study to get better qualifications, you could earn an additional £10,000 to £15,000 over 5 years.

The exact payback varies from course to course but on average it’s clear that if you choose the right course, learning really can grow your income. Of course if this is your first Level 1 or Level 2 qualification, you might be entitled to free training at your local college or training provider.