



## Press Release

Embargoed to 10.00am, Friday 7 August 2016

### UK Institute announces new President Elect

The Career Development Institute is delighted to announce that Virginia Isaac, Chief Executive of the Inspiring Futures Foundation has been voted in as the new President Elect of the professional body for the career development sector.



Mrs Isaac has worked in the private and public education sector for more than 25 years and as well as leading a careers company employing some 100 staff, including more than 80 guidance professionals, she is also a Governor of The University of Wales Trinity Saint David and a Trustee of the Student Union. She has recently been invited to sit on the UK Skills Commission.

An experienced leader for the sector, she is also a Director of Careers England, where she leads on quality, and is a member of the Quality in Careers Consortium Board.

Previously, Mrs Isaac held senior roles with The Quality Assurance Agency for HE and UCAS, including being Acting Chief Executive of UCAS in 2011.

Speaking about her new appointment, Mrs Isaac said:

"This is a tremendous honour and I very much look forward to working alongside the CDI team who have already contributed so much to the success of the Institute. I am totally convinced about the importance and value of careers work and never lose an opportunity to spread the

word. I believe that careers support should be available to all regardless of age, ability, background or social standing. I am delighted to have the opportunity to be an advocate for the CDI and am strongly supportive of it not only being a great membership organisation offering first class events and training opportunities, but also demonstrating active leadership for the sector and seeking out innovative ways to support the profession."

Mrs Isaac will work with the CDI Board until the founding President and company chair, Karen O'Donoghue, stands down at the CDI's annual Conference in Cardiff in November and she will then serve as President for two years.

Speaking of her successor, Ms O'Donoghue said:

"Virginia offers a fantastic mix of UK-wide experience and vitality, just right for a growing professional body. She has been an active member, and encourages her colleagues at Inspiring Futures to be the same. I am certain that she will be seen as a highly credible and knowledgeable ambassador for our sector at every level across the UK."

**ENDS**

**Notes to editors:**

1. The purpose of The Career Development Institute is to improve and assure the quality and availability of career development opportunities for all through the promotion of public understanding of Career Development; the development and maintenance of standards of professional practice in Career Development, and the provision of advice on Career Development to policymakers, practitioners and other interested parties.
2. The Career Development Institute currently has 4,500 members drawn from schools, careers service companies and private practitioners.
3. The Career Development Institute maintains the UK Professional Register for Career Development Practitioners. Registration requires a recognised qualification at post graduate

equivalent; a commitment to ongoing professional development; sign up to a Code of Ethics for Professional Practice.

4. The Institute works in partnership with government departments, schools, colleges, universities and employers to support the provision of excellent careers information advice and guidance for all those that need it.
5. More information about the CDI can be found at [www.thecdi.net](http://www.thecdi.net)

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