



It was great to have the opportunity to catch-up with Kimmi and to find out about her experience of the Modern Apprenticeship in Food & Drink Operations SCQF Level 6, her plans for the Modern Apprenticeship in Management at SCQF Level 7, as well as getting an understanding of her career to date.

Kimmi has been working offshore for over 12 years. Kimmi started her career onshore in administration before quickly realising that the 9 to 5 was not the lifestyle that she wanted. A move into catering made sense and Kimmi loved working in a variety of hotels and pubs before making the decision to try offshore, and she never looked back.

For over two years, Kimmi has been a Lead Steward on a drilling unit, responsible for the accommodation. This consists of an array of tasks including managing records, supporting chefs and the galleys with records, monitoring safe working practices as well as appraisals and training for her team members. Kimmi clearly loves her work and is appreciative of the support that she receives from her employer and her colleagues.

ESS-Offshore & Remote

Kimmi clearly has a passion for catering and generally providing for everybody, ensuring that standards are maintained, getting to know each person on board, what meals they like and providing them with a high level of customer service. Kimmi really appreciates that the service she and her colleagues provide make a big difference to the people working offshore and how enjoyable their trip is.

I asked Kimmi about some of the challenges of her job and it was clear that being organised is essential. Kimmi pointed out that the offshore world is very organised and structured which makes it easier, but time still needs to be invested in training, and, training of the ad hoc pool.

When I asked Kimmi about her learning, Kimmi mentioned that she was struck by what a good company ESS is. "So many of the structures that the qualification requires to be in place, and that I had to provide evidence for, we are already doing". Kimmi also added: "I did not realise how much is involved in my job until I started to write everything down. It has been great to see my role and my work in a paper form".

We talked about why Kimmi decided to do the qualification. The Modern Apprenticeship in Food & Drink Operations SCQF Level 6 is aimed at people in a supervisory role so is a great fit for Kimmi. The Modern Apprenticeship in Management SCQF Level 7 builds on this well. Kimmi had heard of others doing this management qualification and explained that she wants to fill in the gaps, to make sure that she has covered all aspects of learning that are important in a management role, and to make sure that she is in a good position to keep progressing her career.

When I asked Kimmi about the learning materials in the Modern Apprenticeship in Food & Drink Operations, Kimmi highlighted that "they really refreshed my knowledge of HACCP and the processes involved. It has been really useful to look at this area again". Kimmi also added that "receiving the 360-degree feedback has been really helpful. I was proud that my team are happy that I am doing my role well. I rarely get feedback from my own staff, so it was good to have this opportunity."

Kimmi would recommend the Modern Apprenticeship qualifications for her team to develop and build the skills in order to progress. For people working offshore, Kimmi also feels that completing the learning for the qualifications online with remote support is brilliant: "When you work offshore, you can't attend classes at college or university. Doing these qualifications lets you show that you have undertaken training and are committed to your development".

Kimmi has enjoyed working with the team at Polaris Learning and using the online learning portal PLUS: "Using PLUS is efficient, it is easy to use for submitting paperwork and evidence, and the process could not have been easier. The Polaris Learning team are very supportive, feeding back quickly so that I can quickly move onto the next section."

The Modern Apprenticeship programme is delivered in Scotland by Polaris Learning on behalf of Compass Group. Compass Group are the world's largest multi-national food contract service company, providing high quality, competent people such as Kimmi, to their clients.

It was great to get time with Kimmi, to hear about her career so far, her love of working for ESS and her plans for the future. We are sure that she will continue to do well in her learning and her career.