

CPDFind - your questions answered

q. Why change from the web site at www.cpdregister.org.uk?

a. The contract for renewal of this site is coming to an end and it was decided to bring the services the CPD database offers into www.ltscotland.org.uk, the most visited educational site in Scottish education.

q. How does *CPDFind* differ from www.cpdregister.org.uk?

a. It differs from the register in a number of ways (especially when *CPDFind* is available from the Glow staff page):

- It is designed to accommodate a wider range of types of CPD; e.g. professional reading, distance learning, consultancy as well as face to face courses.
- Users will be able to endorse CPD opportunities that they found to be useful for improving practice
- Local authority CPD managers and educational establishment CPD coordinators will be able add 'catalogues' of CPD opportunities for their own staff
- The interface will be improved to make it easier to enter, copy and find CPD opportunities
- Users will be able to set alerts for keywords and/or providers

q. Will there be an option to bulk enter CPD opportunities from my own organisation's database?

a. Yes. If your own database can export to an Excel spreadsheet or a CSV file (comma separated values) then this file can be imported into *CPDFind*. Please email cpdregister@ltscotland.org.uk for a template to help you do this. Please note because of the structure of the database, it is likely that some information may not be represented on the template.

q. What is Glow?

Glow is the new name for the Scottish Schools Digital Network (SSDN). It is a national schools intranet, digitally linking Scotland's 800,000 educators and pupils. It will offer a number of collaborative and sharing tools, as well as being the portal to a wide range of resources. See <http://www.glowscotland.org.uk/> for more details.

q. Why put *CPDFind* onto the Glow staff page as well as the Learning & Teaching Scotland website?

There are two reasons for doing this. Firstly, the Glow staff page is designed to become the educator's electronic 'pigeon-hole', a first port of call for resources and information. We think CPD information should be prominently available on Glow. Secondly, this allows us to personalise the CPD information being presented.

q. Will I be able to use the facilities of Glow to support my provision of CPD?

a. Many of the tools in Glow (Glowgroups, Glowmeet and the VLE) are ideal for enhancing, or sometimes replacing, face to face CPD. We recognise that many CPD providers will be keen to take advantage of this technology. Some providers on the register (for example the TEIs) are already planned to be part of the membership of Glow. The CPD team are in discussion with RM and the Glow team to see what additional CPD providers can be added.

q. What steps have been, or will be, taken to promote *CPDFind*?

a. The development of this tool has been widely 'trailed' with CPD managers in each of the local authorities. With their help, it is intended to invite establishment CPD coordinators

from across Scotland to join a mailing list that will keep them informed of *CPDFind* progress. It will also feature in the launch of Glow and the training for Glow mentors (over 600 'champions' who will provide staff development).

q. Are there any plans to continue the development of *CPDFind*?

The tool launched in early May is only the first part of the process. It will be further developed to allow Glow integration and to respond to feedback from CPD users and providers.