

Welcome to this edition of the national European Social Fund Newsletter.



## Social Inclusion and Big Lottery Fund in ESF 2014-2020

The European Funding Network plans an event in London on 28 March to update the voluntary and community sector on developments with the Big Lottery Fund's role for social inclusion provision in the 2014-20 ESF programme, and to identify ways that members can support Big Lottery Fund in their planning.

[>> Social Inclusion and Big Lottery Fund in ESF 2014-2020](#)

## Bedfordshire funding opportunity

Bedfordshire County Council Co-Financing Organisation is inviting bids for further 2007-2013 ESF programme provision under their Programme to Support the Unemployed and Economically Inactive. The deadline for bids is 12 noon on 31 March.

[>> Programme to Support the Unemployed and Economically Inactive](#)



## Gloucestershire Skillsfest 2014

Gloucester Skillsfest 2014 takes place at Gloucestershire College on Friday 7 and Saturday 8 March. Students and schoolchildren nearing school-leaving age are particularly invited to explore career options and talk to businesses and training providers to gain an insight into the range of opportunities available. There will be a variety of 'Have A Go' activities so that visitors can try out

employment skills activities as well. The event is part of The Skills Show Experience taking place across the country.

[>> Gloucestershire SkillsFEST](#)

## 'World Host' training in the Wirral



Wirral Metropolitan College, in partnership with Wirral Council, is running "World Host" training sessions targeted at the hospitality and local tourist industries to up-skill workers in time for the British Golf Open and the city's International Festival of Business this summer. The training aims not only to update the knowledge and skills of workers within those sectors, but also to help achieve vital return visits in years to come. The courses are part of a package of Skills Support in the Workforce provision

in the area, co-financed by ESF and the Skills Funding Agency.

[>> Wirral Met College works in partnership with Wirral Council to support local businesses](#)

## Scillies flower business is blossoming



A flower company based on St. Mary's, the Isles of Scilly has transformed itself into a luxury branded supplier with support from ESF funded Unlocking Potential graduate Selina Crookes. She has introduced new branding, new products, new ways of customer engagement via social media and a new website.

[>> Scillies flower business is blossoming](#)

## Skills Funding Agency ESF on Gov.uk

The Skills Funding Agency website has transitioned to [gov.uk](https://www.gov.uk) and key information on how The Agency operates as a co-financing organisation for ESF can now be found here.

[>> SFA: European Social Fund](#)

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## Helpful Links

[England ESF programme national website](#)

[@DWPESEngland on Twitter](#)

[Skills Funding Agency Co-financing Organisation \(CFO\)](#)

[Ministry of Justice \(National Offender Management Service CFO\)](#)

[Department for Work and Pensions CFO](#)

[Greater London Authority - European Programmes Management Unit - ESF pages](#)

[Inspiring Work: Cornwall and the South West](#)

[TAEN \(The Age and Employment Network\)](#)

[Europa \(European Commission website\) ESF pages](#)

[The National Council for Voluntary Organisations - NCVO](#)

[Gibraltar ESF secretariat website pages](#)

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## Get in touch

We want to hear about your ESF news and success stories, and welcome your ideas for features on our website – [just contact us](#)