

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



ESIF Programme 2014-2020 Twitter profile

The 2014 to 2020 European Structural Investment Funds (ESIF) programme in England has a new Twitter profile (@esif1420england) to communicate messages on its development and implementation. The ESIF Programme covers the European Regional Development Fund, the European Social Fund and the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development. The Twitter profile is managed by the Department for Communities and Local Government. The ESF in England Twitter profile (@DWPESFEngland) continues to tweet news of the 2007-2013 ESF programme and the 2014-2020 ESF programme.

[>>https://twitter.com/esif1420england](https://twitter.com/esif1420england)

[>>https://twitter.com/DWPESFEngland](https://twitter.com/DWPESFEngland)

Skills Funding Agency funding opportunities

The Skills Funding Agency is currently inviting funding bids for four new programmes. Applicants who are invited to tender for these programmes will have received notification through the Bravo Solutions website. There are three national programmes: **Flexible Fund for unemployed individuals, English and Maths provision for the employed, and Skills Support for Work Programme participants in employment.** Closing dates for applications for these are 24/02/14). There is also a **Skills Fund for Hinkley** specification to meet the emerging needs of local employers linked to the Hinkley Point nuclear power plant development (with a closing date for bids of 27/02/14).

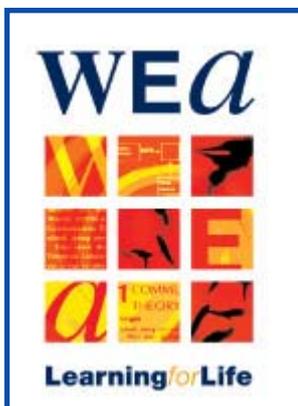
[>>Skills Funding Agency funding opportunities](#)



Tomas's career progresses thanks to ESF support

Former hospital catering assistant Tomas Curtis has found a more secure, better paid job as a full time care assistant with help from the ESF Convergence project Skills Support for Redundancy (SSR). With support from his union – Unison – and TUC Unionlearn he was able to undertake a higher education course in Healthcare.

[>>Catering to care](#)



Call for ESF Community Grant projects in the North West

WEA (Workers' Educational Association) North West Region are currently inviting bids for ESF Community Grants from voluntary and community organisations for projects to provide support to individuals that are most disadvantaged in the labour market. The closing date for applications is 31 March 2014. A full list of Community Grant Co-ordinating Bodies to administer Community Grants for 2014-2015 will be published soon on the ESF website. With the exception of London, the Skills Funding Agency is the ESF Co-Financing Organisation with overall responsibility nationally for Community Grants.

[>>WEA North West Region Community Grants: How To Apply](#)



Skills Support for the Workforce in Humberside

Hull College is to deliver a £3.5m package of ESF workforce skills support training to target local business priorities identified by Humber Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP). The project will be

delivered in partnership with local colleges and specialist providers to engage with learners and key employment sectors. The seven priority sectors identified by the Humber LEP are: Renewables, Ports & Logistics, Chemicals, Health & Social Care, Creative & Digital-Tourism, Engineering, Construction, Manufacturing, Food and Agriculture. The project is part of the Skills Support for the Workforce programme which is co-financed nationally by the Skills Funding Agency.

[>>Skills Support for the Workforce](#)



Students taste skills at Callington Community College

Callington Community College secondary school in Cornwall hosted a Skills Show Experience event on Thursday 13th February.

Organised by Cornwall Learning Education Business Partnership and the school, 13 local employers provided 'tasters' – bite sized opportunities to try out work-based skills. Students found out about career pathways, including further education and apprenticeships.

The Skills Show Experience is a nationwide programme of over 220

events throughout the year - extending the impact of The Skills Show and inspiring over 200,000 young people across the country.

[>>The Skills Show Experience - Events near you](#)

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](#)

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](#)