

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



ESF Mainstreaming Leader Awards nominations—extension of closing date

The closing date for ESF providers and sub-contractors to make nominations for the ESF Mainstreaming Leader Awards 2014 has been extended from 22 August to Thursday 18 September. This change has been made because of a technical issue with the application forms which has now been resolved.

[>> ESF Equal Opportunities and Sustainable Development Mainstreaming Leader Awards 2014](#)

London 2014-2020 Q&A fact-sheet

The London Enterprise Panel) is responsible for setting the strategic Growth priorities and direction of the London 2014-20 European Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF), comprising a budget of €748.6m of European Social Fund) and European Regional Development Fund money. The Greater London Authority will have the role of an 'Intermediate Body', which means it will be undertaking some of the tasks the Government will be undertaking across the rest of England, such as issuing contracts, paying claims and monitoring.

A useful Questions & Answers fact-sheet for the 2014-20 London programme has been published, to explain London's ESIF strategy and unique management/delivery model, which can be found on the London European Funding Strategy 2014-20 page.

[>>European Funding Strategy 2014-20](#)



Manchester launches new training gateway for employers

A new Skills Gateway Service has been launched in Greater Manchester to provide small to medium sized employers with a single point to access a comprehensive catalogue of training provision and get support to find the most appropriate training for

their businesses. The Skills Gateway Service aims to promote the benefits that employers can gain from upskilling their staff. It is run by the Greater Manchester Chamber of Commerce and the Greater Manchester Learning Provider Network, with funds from the ESF and the Skills Funding Agency (Skills Support for the Workforce programme).

[>>Greater Manchester Skills Gateway opens for business](#)



The Skills Show Experience in Yorkshire and the Humber

Since September last year, colleges & providers in Yorkshire and the Humber have organised Skills Show Experience events in Doncaster, Leeds, Hull, Grimsby and Bradford. Feedback from the events has been very good. Highlights include a customised HGV trailer equipped with a 3D virtual reality centre where visitors (mainly comprising young people 14-24) had the opportunity to dismantle a virtual jet engine, and an outside area dedicated to

animal care and equine studies. More Skills Show Experience events in the area are to take place in Scunthorpe (14 October) and Bradford (3 December).

[>>The Skills Show Experience in Yorkshire and the Humber](#)



Oldham Warehouse to Wheels scheme

A new Warehouse to Wheels scheme in Oldham is aiming to help lower skilled warehouse workers get higher paid jobs as Large Goods Vehicle (LGV) drivers. Including co-financed ESF support, Oldham Council and the Skills Funding Agency have invested a combined £200,000 to address the shortage of lorry drivers in the borough. As part of the council's Get Oldham Working programme, Mantra Learning Limited will train warehouse and other staff within small and medium enterprise companies (SMEs) to obtain Category C Large Goods Vehicle licences.

[>> Innovative Get Oldham Working scheme rewards those with drive](#)

Helpful links

[England ESF programme national website](#)

[@DWPESFEngland on Twitter](#)

[@esif1420england on Twitter](#)

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

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

[Department for Work and Pensions CFO](#)

[Big Lottery Fund](#)

[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](#)