

[www.gov.uk/european-growth-funding](http://www.gov.uk/european-growth-funding)

[www.gov.uk/dwp/esf-2007-2013](http://www.gov.uk/dwp/esf-2007-2013)

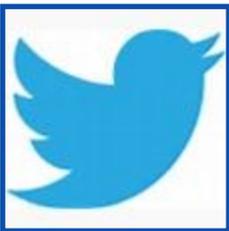
Welcome to this edition of the national European Social Fund Newsletter



## England ESIF 2014-2020 programme

The first calls for the England ESIF 2014-2020 programme have been live on the GOV.UK ESIF pages since 23 March with a total of 19 open calls made live. Most of the calls are closing later this month but more will be published in the months ahead following the adoption of the ESF Operational Programme.

[>>England ESIF 2014-2020 programme](#)



## Scotland Twitter feed

Scottish Government has a new ESF Programme Twitter feed and is asking people to follow them as they grow their network and build up activity. Their new Twitter account is [@scotgovESF](#)



## Showcasing skills and talent with Matchfit skills competitions

Matchfit is a European Social Fund (ESF) project funded through Calderdale College's Skills Enhancement Fund and runs a series of vocational skills competitions held throughout the Yorkshire and the Humber. The programme aims to motivate and continuously improve the skills of students and employees; bringing their talents to life. A number of finals will be taking place until July this year. Since its launch in 2012

the Matchfit project has seen over 3000 students, 70 employers & 35 education providers involved in over 200 competitions and finals competing in 10 different subject areas.

[>>Showcasing skills and talent with Matchfit skills competitions](#)



## Dream watersports job follows training

Unemployed mum Sarah Wardle has landed a job with South West Lakes Trust after receiving ESF (European Social Fund) Convergence support from Cornwall Marine Network (CMN). Sarah, 29, who lives in Saltash, had enjoyed sailing related activities at school and heard of CMN while volunteering for South West Lakes Trust. She completed the Royal Yachting Association Powerboat Level 2, First Aid, and Sailing Level 2 courses - all funded through

Skills Support for the Unemployed (SSU). SSU is led by the Learning Partnership and receives ESF Convergence co-financed by the Skills Funding Agency.

[>>Dream watersports job follows training](#)



## The Perfect Recipe

The Perfect Recipe – a project designed to support people with learning disabilities by showing them how to cook has been launched. Run by Volunteer Cornwall and delivered by chef Sanjay Kumar, the course is being held at a community café. Aims include giving participants more confidence to help them into volunteering. Volunteer Cornwall uses investment from ESF (European Social Fund) Convergence to support a wide variety of projects that are supporting

people to acquire new skills and access jobs and training.

[>>The Perfect Recipe](#)

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## Helpful links

[England ESF programme national website](#)

[England ESIF 2014-2020 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](#)

[London Enterprise Panel](#)

[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](#)