

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



Nominations for ESF Adult Learners' Week Awards open until 30 January

There is still time to nominate an ESF project or participant for an ESF Adult Learners' Week Award. Nominations for the 2014 awards can be submitted up until 5 pm on Thursday 30

January. The awards are a great way of celebrating the achievements of learners and raising the profile of ESF learning opportunities across the country.

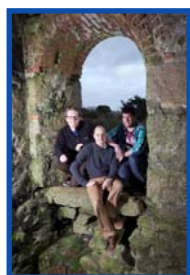
This year the national ESF awards are:

- ESF Young Adult Learner of the Year (Age 18-25)
- ESF Outstanding Individual Learner of the Year
- ESF Inspiring Learning Project of the Year

At a local level there will also be up to ten awards for each of the Individual and Project award categories.

Online forms and information about how to nominate can be found on the Adult Learners' Week website.

[>>Adult Learners' Week 2014](#)



Graduates unlock potential for mine search company

Three participants on the ESF funded Unlocking Potential graduate placement scheme in Cornwall have found permanent employment with Mining Searches UK after making a transformational impact on the efficiency and profitability of the business. During their placements Adam Winpenny, Matt Walsh and George Scott improved systems and software, and increased data sources for the company, which provides clients with mining search reports identifying risks for land associated with past mining or quarrying activities. Due to the placement, Mining

Searches UK has been able to significantly increase its data coverage in the Midlands and Yorkshire, enabling them to expand the business beyond their South West base.

[>>Mine search company unearthing big savings](#)

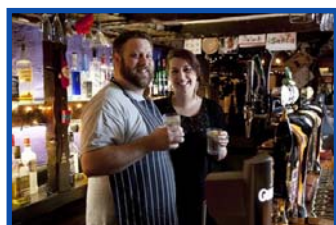


Help for the over 50s in Luton

The Employment Support for the Over 50s project is offering employability support to workless adults aged over 50 living in Luton. It is delivered by The Learning Partnership with funding from ESF, which is co-financed by Luton Borough Council. A new case study published on the national ESF website tells the story of Dave, who, with support from the project,

overcame the challenges of redundancy to find a new job as a postal worker.

[>>Help for the over 50s in Luton](#)



Skills support bringing jobs in Cornwall

Since October 2012, Access Training has helped more than 100 people find jobs across Cornwall via the ESF Convergence Skills Support for the Unemployed (SSU) programme. Dan Bailey and Rebecca Hawkins, the owners of the Dolphin Bar in Newquay, were able to make use of the programme to gain the certification they required to run their own establishment for the first time. They now plan to put their own

employees through the same courses.

[>> More than 100 find work via Access Training and ESF Convergence](#)

Free skills training for Cambridge SMEs

Cambridge Regional College is offering ESF funded training to small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) as part of the Skills Support for the Workforce programme to improve professional skills at work. Through the scheme, businesses will be able to offer their staff training in areas like Customer Service, Team Leading and Management, Information Technology, and Sales and Marketing. Employers will be able to choose which training will benefit their staff and businesses the most. Skills Support for the Workforce is a national programme co-financed by the Skills Funding Agency.

[>>Free skills training for Cambridge SMEs](#)

Helpful Links

[England ESF programme national website](#)

[@DWPESFEngland 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](#)