

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

## Local Enterprise Partnership Guidance

Further guidance to Local Enterprise Partnerships (LEPs) on the development of European Structural Investment Fund Strategies has been published and is available on the gov.uk website. This follows publication of preliminary guidance to LEPs in April and details of England ERDF and ESF 2014-2020 allocations across LEP areas last month.

[>>Supplementary Guidance to Local Enterprise Partnerships](#)



## Major Convergence investment posts results

A wedding stationery company is just one small and medium enterprise expanding rapidly with support from ESF Convergence. Natalie Fox, who set up The Wedding Stationery Co. in 2012, took part in a Work Place Learning (WPL) project course with DPN. The £7.8m Skills Funding Agency co-financed WPL project is aimed at helping 6,000 workers in Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly progress in their careers through tailored training and development. The

project is managed by Cornwall College and delivered by a range of partners.

[>>Wedding stationery company grows](#)

## ESF families good news stories

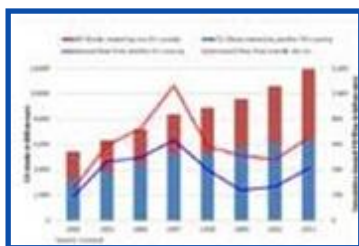
Three good news stories are now live on the ESF families website. Lan overcame a language barrier and gained work, Sarah, a mother of five, is making progress towards her chosen career path and Elsa has increased her self confidence.

[>>ESF families good news stories](#)

## Free Support for Over 50s in the North East

A Northumberland social enterprise is supporting people aged over 50 who want to make life changing plans. Stepping Up (North East) Ltd are piloting a programme that offers 1-2-1 coaching to people over 50 who would welcome the opportunity to gain skills that could lead towards the workplace.

[>>Free support for Over 50s in the North East](#)



## European Commission eighth progress report on cohesion

The European Commission's latest report on economic and social cohesion has been published.

[>>Eighth progress report on cohesion](#)

## **One East Midlands - engaging with the 2014-2020 ESIF agenda**

One East Midlands is the regional network for the Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) in the East Midlands region. Like similar networks it is engaging with the proposals for the 2014-2020 European Structural Funds Investment Funds Programme and in particular the involvement of Local Enterprise Partnerships.

[>>One East Midlands publishes policy briefing on LEPs](#)

[>>One East Midlands workshop - 1 August](#)

## **New links for ESF website homepage**

Don't forget that there a range of websites managed by ESF partners that can help keep you updated on the current programme and on latest 2014-2020 ESF and wider European Structural Investment Fund developments. To help improve access, the number of links to a selection of these on the ESF website homepage has been increased from three to six.

A new addition is the National Council for Voluntary Organisations 'European Funding Network' (EFN) recently revamped website, which provides advice, support and information to Civil Society organisations about the ESF and other EU funds. The network is part-funded by ESF technical assistance.

[>>ESF website home page](#)

[>>NCVO - European Funding Network website homepage](#)

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## **Helpful Links**

[ESF-Works](#)

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

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

[Department for Work and Pensions CFO](#)

[Greater London Authority](#)

[Cornwall Works](#)

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

[Europa \(Europe ESF website\)](#)

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

[Gibraltar](#)

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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](#)