

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



## ESF Leader Awards 2013 launched

The ESF Equal Opportunities and Sustainable Development Leader Awards 2013 have been launched and ESF providers and sub-contractors have until **Friday 16 August** to nominate themselves. The annual awards, which began in 2010, aim to promote award winners' good practice with other partners across the programme, with a particular focus on successes in equal opportunities and

sustainable development. The Award ceremony will be held at **The Skills Show** event on **14 November** at the NEC Birmingham.

[>>Nominate your project now!](#)

## London ESF Youth Programme



The new London ESF Youth Programme is bringing employment and training opportunities to vulnerable young Londoners. The Mayor of London has match funded the £10m programme (£5 million Greater London Authority, £5 million European Social Fund) and hopes many young people will benefit.

Initially seven projects have been awarded grants to help NEET young people, including young offenders, young people with learning difficulties and disabilities (LDD) and those who have been excluded from school, to gain the skills and experience they need to compete in London's competitive labour market and to overcome the challenges they face in securing employment or full time education. The projects will use a range of holistic support and skills to engage and motivate these youngsters.

One of the projects in the programme, Worksmart, is a two and a half year scheme delivered by Leonard Cheshire Disability supporting young person with learning difficulties and disabilities into sustainable and meaningful employment.

[>>Young disabled people in London get Worksmart](#)



## Families provision good news stories

The DWP Co-financing Organisation (CFO) ESF Support for Families with Multiple Problems page on the DWP website has been updated with a new section highlighting the achievements of participants who recently received Adult Learners' Week awards. Rebecca Hunter aged 23 from Hartlepool (pictured) is one of the award winners featured, and there are four others who have received either national or local level awards.

[>>ESF Families Provision Supported Adult Learners' Week Award Winners](#)

## New future for ex-offender in the South West

After being released from a 24 months sentence for possession with intent to supply drugs, Burt (not his real name) received support and guidance from National Offender Management Service (NOMS) CFO project new futures. Burt gained construction industry qualifications and is now in steady employment. His case study is on the national ESF website.

[>>new futures](#)



## **Cutting Gardens cultivate community engagement**

A thriving garden business set up by a graduate of the ESF funded Cornwall School for Social Entrepreneurs (Cornwall SSE) is also offering training and therapy to disadvantaged people.

[>>Cutting Gardens cultivate community engagement](#)

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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 \(Europe ESF website\)](#)

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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](#)