

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



## ESF Adult Learners' Week regional award winners

In addition to the ESF Adult Learners' Week national award winners featured in our previous newsletter, nine regional ESF awards (for seven individuals and two projects) have also been presented at events around the country. You can read about all the award winners on the Adult Learners' Week website.

[>>Adult Learners' Week 2014 regional award winners](#)

## Latest news on 2014-2020 Programme

The June European Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF) Growth Programme Partner Update has been published. It aims to keep those interested in the ESIF (including ESF) programme up to speed on the latest developments, including progress with LEP strategies, the UK Partnership Agreement, and the ESF and ERDF Operational Programmes. You can subscribe to receive the Partner Update directly, which is published on a monthly basis, by sending an email to [esif@communities.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:esif@communities.gsi.gov.uk) stating your name, organisation and email address.

[>>Subscribe to ESIF Partner Update](#)



## The Skills Show Experience comes to Penair School

Local employers took their work into Penair School in Cornwall for a 'Have a Go' day on 1st July 2014 so that students could try out a skill used in the workplace – and find out more about their future career options. This is one of many Skills Show Experience events taking place around the country which raise the profile of skills, vocational training and apprenticeships.

[>>Have a go at Penair School](#)



## Luton programme helping young people to leave crime behind

The Reactiv8 ESF project in Luton is helping young people who come from a background of lawlessness and gang culture onto a positive pathway with its new Reach for the Stars programme. The programme is run by former PE teacher Michelle Crook and her business partner Jon Reynolds, who did active service in Kosovo and Afghanistan. Seven

young people were taken on initially to the 12 week course, and half way through the course in June three of them had already found employment. The course demands a high degree of commitment from participants and combines formal education methods with British military techniques. One participant, 27-year-old Charlene, who has a history of drug abuse and violent crime, is now fully employed and acts as an ambassador for the programme. "At first I thought the REactiv8 programme was just another course, but it's changed my way of thinking and made me much more positive."

[>>The ex-teacher and former army captain transforming lives](#)



## Skills support in Suffolk and Norfolk

The Skills Funding Agency co-financed Skills Support for the Workforce programme continues to offer small and medium sized businesses free training opportunities for workers to promote career development and business growth around the country. One example is the Futures@Beacon Park project at Great Yarmouth College, subcontractors to the College of West Anglia, who are offering free training for a wide

range of skills in Norfolk and Suffolk.

[>>Great Yarmouth College: looking to upskill your staff?](#)

## ESF Mainstreaming Leader Awards 2014

The ESF Equal Opportunities and Sustainable Development Mainstreaming Leader Awards 2014 will be launched on 7 July, with full details to be published on GOV.UK. The next ESF newsletter will also carry details of the awards, which aim to promote equal opportunities and sustainable development by sharing the award winners' good practice with other partners.

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## 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](#)

[Europa \(European Commission website\) ESF pages](#)

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

[Gibraltar ESF secretariat website pages](#)

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

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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](#)