

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



## Adult Learners' Week 2015

Adult Learners' Week 2015 has been launched, with nominations for awards now open until 17 December 2014. These include the European Social Fund (ESF) Awards which will once again recognise the achievements of individuals and projects that have been supported by the ESF. Taking place from 13-19 June 2015 and now entering its 23<sup>rd</sup> year, Adult Learners' Week is the national celebration of lifelong learning, which includes "have a go" taster events across the country, parliamentary reception, and other activities such as a national policy conference.

There are three main national ESF Award categories: ESF Outstanding Adult Learner, ESF Outstanding Young Adult Learner, and ESF Outstanding Project. Nominees will be entered both for the local and national ESF awards. ESF providers are encouraged to nominate for the ESF awards and also other awards they may be eligible for if relevant. Adult Learners' Week Local Awards Ceremonies will take place in the two weeks in the run-up to Adult Learners' Week, with the National Awards Ceremony taking place on Monday 15 June 2015. All the information you need to make a nomination can be found on the Adult Learners' Week website.

[>>Adult Learners' Week 2015](#)



## Big Lottery Fund announces funding awards to support 2014-2020 ESF Programme

The Big Lottery Fund has awarded £630,000 of Lottery funding to 36 organisations across England to raise awareness within the Voluntary Community and Social Enterprise sector of the opportunities available through the ESF. The funded projects will provide advice and guidance on the European funding that will be distributed and matched by the Big Lottery Fund in their Local

Enterprise Partnership areas from 2015, as part of 2014-2020 European Structural and Investment Funds Growth programme. It is anticipated that £260m of ESF will be matched by the Big Lottery Fund for projects to tackle poverty and promote social inclusion.

[>>Building better opportunities](#)



## The Skills Show on the road

In the run up to The Skills Show national event in Birmingham NEC (13-15 November) the Skills Show Roadshow coach is travelling across the country during autumn half term weeks (20 - 31 October), engaging young people with activities to inspire interest and excitement about the world of work.

Partnering with National Express, the roadshow features an interactive "skills challenge" inside the coach, where young visitors can Have a Go at a number of skills. In addition, careers advice and apprenticeships information will be available on board, together with City and Guilds' employer Speed Dating and ESF promotional information. This year's promotional campaign, entitled "My Self, My Future" will give young people the chance to articulate where they feel their future could take them, through spoken word, rap, music and performance.

The Skills Show 2014 is supported by the European Social Fund through a Technical Assistance project.

[>>The Skills Show on the road](#)

## **50+ Lives: TAEN launches video case studies**

As part of its European Social Fund Technical Assistance project, TAEN has commissioned a series of videos in which older workers relate their individual experiences. The case studies focus on three key themes relating to extended working lives: Still Working, Seeking Work and Active Ageing. The first videos to be released feature five people who are still working. They are available on the new TAEN ESF Media Centre.

[>>TAEN ESF Media Centre](#)

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## **Helpful links**

[England ESF 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](#)

[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](#)