

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

UK Partnership Agreement

On the 29 October 2014 the European Commission adopted the UK Partnership Agreement. The Partnership Agreement describes how we will use European Structural and Investment Funds (including ESF) in 2014 to 2020 to help meet long-term goals as set out in the UK and EU's growth strategies. The Partnership Agreement together with the Equality Impact Assessment have been published on GOV.UK.

[>>European Structural and Investment Funds: UK Partnership Agreement](#)



Skills Fund for Hinkley project

Hinkley Point C in Somerset is to be the UK's first new nuclear power station in 25 years. Bridgwater College and a consortium of training providers across the South West have received funding from the European Social Fund to support small and medium employers in the local area to re-skill and upskill their workforce in preparation for this major investment. Bridgwater College is inviting business owners and employees

interested in accessing this free training to contact them now.

[>>Skills Fund for Hinkley](#)



Reactiv8 helping young people in Luton

A project which is co-financed by the European Social Fund and Luton Borough Council gives employment support for 19 to 29 year olds who are at risk of lawlessness or gang activity. The Reactiv8 project provides a 12 week course of military type training and one-to-one mentoring to get the young people back on track. So far about 40% of the participants who have completed the programme

have gone into paid employment - for most of them this is their first job. The link with this article takes you to a recent BBC Look East programme featuring the project. [This link could cease at any point]

[>>Reactiv8 helping young people in Luton](#)

Community Grants funding opportunities

TCHC, the ESF Community Grants body for the East of England, has announced a new phase of Community Grants applications for the region, with bids from community and voluntary organisations needing to be in by 28 November 2014. Community Grants are grants of up to £15,000 for local projects to help disadvantaged people gain skills and experience to give them a better chance of finding employment.

[>>TCHC Community Grants](#)

There are also Community Grants funding opportunities currently in Yorkshire & the Humber (closing date 7 November) and in Cornwall (closing date 9 December).

[>>Humber Learning Consortium – Community Grants](#)

[>>Cornwall Development Company – Community Grants](#)



Skills Show Experience Success in Wadebridge

A highly successful Skills Show Experience event took place over two days at the Royal Cornwall Showground, Wadebridge, with coachloads of students from local schools visiting the event and more than a 100 organisations and employers taking part. The young people were able to 'have a go' at a whole range of activities designed to inspire them to

think about their future and explore career pathways into apprenticeships, further education and higher education.

[>>Skills Show Experience Success](#)



Revised ESF Improving People's Lives booklet

A new version of the ESF Publicity Booklet, Improving People's Lives 2014, has been published. It is a revised version of the booklet that was published last year, and it is available in print and on the ESF pages in GOV.UK. Hard copies can be ordered, free of charge, by request from the ESF.feedback@dpw.gsi.gov.uk mailbox.

[>>Improving People's Lives booklet](#)



Get Fruity Lands Ocado Deal

Cornwall business Get Fruity, which has been supported by the ESF Unlocking Potential (UP) programme, has landed a deal with Ocado – Waitrose's online home delivery partner – to sell their fruit bars. UP is a Combined Universities in Cornwall scheme managed by Cornwall College, which places graduates with businesses in Cornwall to undertake specific projects and offers support including valuable expert mentoring. Get Fruity is a new small business run by chef Davina Whiteoak (pictured).

[>>Get Fruity lands Ocado deal](#)

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](#)

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](#)