

A HIGHLY-SKILLED WORKFORCE

Twenty-nine excellent colleges, seven world-class universities (two are Russell Group members) and many training companies supply the region with a highly-skilled workforce. With such a large and fast-growing industry, nuclear workforce development has been a South West priority for many years. Many offer an extensive range of excellent nuclear skills and training programmes built around the industry's requirements.

Quality of life in the South West is first-class. Many people enjoy outdoor activities in the glorious coast and countryside, from golf to sailing, cycling and walking trails, all surrounded by the most breathtaking scenery and of course the South West's fantastic local food and drink scene. The cities offer both modern and historical architecture,

world-class shopping and cultural experiences for all ages. There's a reason why millions of tourists flock to the South West and why so many companies choose to relocate here. The area offers a wide range of homes and top- ranking schools. The South West has the country's highest proportion of good or outstanding schools outside London.



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These are just a taste of the extensive nuclear specific skills programmes available in the South West:

Bridgwater and Taunton College - Energy Skills and Advanced Engineering Centre in partnership with the National College for Nuclear, offers engineering, science, low carbon and nuclear-related education and training. Students access testing and science laboratories and engineering, welding and fabrication workshops. The new and unique **Construction Skills & Innovation Centre** in Cannington, enables the College to offer training in excavation, groundworks, concrete pouring and scaffolding. Skills that will be highly sought after for Hinkley Point C. Civil engineering and water utility programmes are nationally renowned.

In Somerset the **EDF National Learning and Development Centre, Cannington Court** forms part of EDF Energy's 'Campus programme' for its staff, and includes an online hub and courses run across the UK. The Centre is designed to develop industry skills to work on smart metering, customer service, existing power stations, nuclear new build, human resources, finance, digital projects and other aspects of EDF Energy's nuclear business.



Gloucestershire Science & Technology Park, Berkley Green in South Gloucestershire, is operated by South Gloucestershire & Stroud College (SGS). SGS Berkeley Green will positively impact young people's career choices, and give them the

skills to secure employment. The Business Solutions employer training department offers customised training opportunities and identifies funding opportunities when available. Magnox and Cavendish Nuclear have a presence here.

The Hinkley Point Training Agency (HPTA) has been developed in response to the skills challenges presented by Hinkley Point C. HPTA brings providers together to ensure that supply chain companies have access to a workforce equipped with the right skills, at exactly the right time. HPTA meets the skills needs of the UK's nuclear roll-out programme.

The **National College for Nuclear (NCfN)** will open in 2017 to add to the highly- skilled technical workforce. The NCfN will be established in two existing nuclear locations - Cumbria and Somerset - and comprises a joint venture between Sellafield Ltd., the University of Cumbria, Lakes College, EDF Energy, the University of Bristol and Bridgwater and Taunton College. New training standards, delivered using reactor simulators and a virtual reality training environment, will help to shape the nuclear industry, developing a first-class curriculum, which responds to employers' requirements and challenges. The new Southern Hub will deliver high-level technical training to over 7,000 by 2020.

The **Nuclear Defence Academy**, currently based at HMS Sultan in Gosport Hampshire, plans to open an Academy in the South West. The Nuclear Department provides education and training for service and civilian personnel working in support of the Naval Nuclear Propulsion Programme (NNPP) and training in radiation protection for all MOD service personnel. In addition, the Nuclear Department provides research, consultancy and advice to the NNPP across a wide range of disciplines and offers bespoke courses for the UK civil nuclear sector.

The **South West Skills Campus at Weston College** has been graded as outstanding by Ofsted. The College delivers courses and apprenticeships ranging from operational to degree level, which have been designed to meet identified skills requirements. The College has invested heavily in facilities to address skills needs within the construction, engineering and nuclear sectors. The South West Skills Campus is a £14 million award winning facility housing the Future Technology Centre.

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