

Driving Growth

Hinkley Point C
Socio-economic
Impact Report
2025

Contents

4

Foreword

6

Driving growth

10

Tackling the barriers to growth

12

A catalyst for growth and increased productivity

16

Supporting Britain's Industrial Strategy

26

The skills for energy security

36

Accessible training opportunities

42

Inspiring the next generation

46

Supporting people into better jobs

50

Supporting our community



Hinkley Point C's reactor was installed in December 2024. The first of two 13m long "reactor pressure vessels" will produce enough energy alone to generate reliable low-carbon electricity for 3 million homes.

Foreword

Construction at Hinkley Point C will hit a new peak during 2025 with thousands of people across Britain working hard to get the job done. When the power station's two units come online, we will generate huge amounts of reliable British-made electricity for decades to come.

The immense scale of the project means that it can be a force for good and a catalyst for change. Our investment in people, skills and industrial capacity is driving growth across Britain, increasing productivity and giving thousands of people new skills and jobs. Evidence in this report shows that we have far surpassed the commitments made on socio-economic impact when the project was proposed.

Our investment to re-establish nuclear skills in Britain has paved the way for our twin project at Sizewell C as well as the development of small modular reactors. It will give Britain the expertise to deliver the infrastructure it needs for growth and future prosperity.

I am determined that we will continue to make a positive impact on our region, its people and the communities around us. The enduring strength of that relationship underpins everything we do now and in the future.



Stuart Crooks CBE
Managing Director, Hinkley Point C

26,000

↗ jobs supported
across Britain

Driving Growth

Boosting the British economy

£13.3 billion

➤ contribution to the British Economy¹

£4.2 billion

➤ into Britain's growth-driving sectors¹

26,000

➤ direct and indirect jobs supported across Britain

£24 million

➤ investment into education and skills

64%

➤ of the value of Hinkley Point C goes to British Businesses

The construction of Hinkley Point C is providing a significant economic boost for Britain at the local, regional and national scale.

Backed by new training facilities and courses to help people take advantage of the opportunities, the project is creating thousands of higher-skilled, well-paid jobs across the supply chain. In turn, these opportunities are helping to boost growth and directly improve the prospects of businesses and people from across the country.

At the national level, the construction of Hinkley Point C is an important catalyst for growth with the project currently contributing an estimated £13.3 billion in Gross Value Added to the economy. A project of Hinkley Point C's size also creates a huge increase in employment with over 26,000 direct and indirect jobs supported across the country. Around 9,000 people are working in growth-driving sectors such as advanced manufacturing and clean energy industries alone. The project is also helping to overcome the recognised social mobility challenges seen across the country with over one-third² of those employed directly by the project being from some of the country's most deprived areas.

Boosting local and regional productivity

At the local level, within the district around Hinkley Point C, economic productivity is higher than the surrounding area with significantly increased business growth and a positive change in demographics that previously saw a large outward movement of young people from the area. Younger people are now finding opportunities to stay and develop their careers in Somerset and the local area close to Hinkley Point C has seen a 25% growth in young people aged 25-39—three times greater than the national average.³

The town of Bridgwater is seeing productivity levels 10% higher than surrounding towns⁴ whilst the district around Hinkley Point C has seen an increase in the number of medium-sized companies that is ten-times higher than the South West region.

Together with local partners we are now working to make best use of the expertise, innovation and infrastructure created so far to enable further growth, economic productivity and investment into the region. The project is opening the door for the next wave of infrastructure projects and is helping to shape the regional plans to build upon the significant investment in local people and skills.

14,300

➤ people trained to date in locally based Centres of Excellence

10% higher

➤ The local town of Bridgwater is seeing productivity levels **10% higher** than surrounding towns⁴

1,100

➤ people employed from Somerset's most deprived areas²

Ten times higher

➤ The local district area is seeing a growth in the number of medium-sized companies that is **ten times higher** than anywhere else in the South West⁴

70%

➤ of the 1,520 apprentices trained so far are from the South West

25% growth

➤ The local area has seen a **25% growth** in young people aged 25-39—three times greater than the national average⁴

1. Contribution to the economy calculated as Gross Value Added (GVA)
2. Deprived areas are defined by the UK Government Indices of Multiple Deprivation. Source: English indices of deprivation 2019: mapping resources - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)
3. Demographic change during the period 2011 to 2022. Source: Population estimates for England and Wales—Office for National Statistics (ons.gov.uk)
4. Local business growth, size and productivity estimates. Source: Office for National Statistics (ons.gov.uk) UK GVA and productivity estimates for other geographies



35%

- of all employees are from Britain's most deprived areas

£5.3 billion

- has been spent directly with South West Businesses

30,000

- training places available over the course of the construction

1,520

- Apprentices have been trained so far - exceeding a target of 1,000

70%

- of apprentices are from the South West of England

£17 million

- has been provided to local projects through the Community Fund

“Growth is the number one mission of this government. Jobs will be at the heart of our modern industrial strategy, supporting growth sectors to create high-quality, well-paid jobs across the country, backed by employment rights fit for a modern economy.”

Rachel Reeves MP, Chancellor of the Exchequer



Tackling the barriers to growth

The construction of Hinkley Point C is delivering far more benefit than the secure low-carbon electricity it will produce.

The project continues to represent a unique opportunity for sustainable growth in a region facing educational, social and economic challenges.

Aligned to Britain's emerging Industrial Strategy, Hinkley Point C is tackling the barriers to growth head-on. The development of a skilled workforce and the support for the supply chain is creating the right conditions for increased investment, high-quality jobs and, in turn, significant beneficial impacts for the local community.

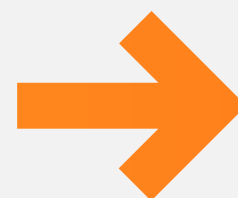
The local benefits are closely intertwined with the country's broader goals of enhancing productivity and social mobility, revitalising declining sectors and communities, and addressing a national skills gap in construction, science, technology, engineering and mathematics.

Hinkley Point C provides opportunities accessible to all. Starting in schools with the Inspire Education and Young HPC programmes, to a diverse range of training pathways and all the way through to tailored careers support for local people. This is raising aspirations and improving socio-economic outcomes for some of the UK's most deprived communities over the long term.

This is raising aspirations and improving socio-economic outcomes for some of the UK's most deprived communities over the long term.

This report highlights people befitting from the many opportunities at Hinkley point C.

A catalyst for growth



Inspire Education Programme



Young HPC



Training for all



Jobs service



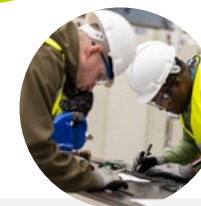
New skills, better jobs



Megan
Page 32



Stanley
Page 34



Centres of Excellence
Page 28



Helen
Page 49



James
Page 45



Kian
Page 37



Letty
Page 33

A catalyst for growth and increased productivity

People from across Britain are benefitting from the higher-skilled, higher-paid jobs available at Hinkley Point C - boosting regional growth and productivity.

The project is currently supporting over 26,000 direct and indirect jobs across Britain with 35% of workers gaining employment from areas of recognised deprivation. Closer to the construction site, around 4,500 people from Somerset are working at Hinkley Point C with 30% of those coming from some of the county's most economically disadvantaged areas. This adds even greater value to the significant economic boost the construction of the new power station brings.

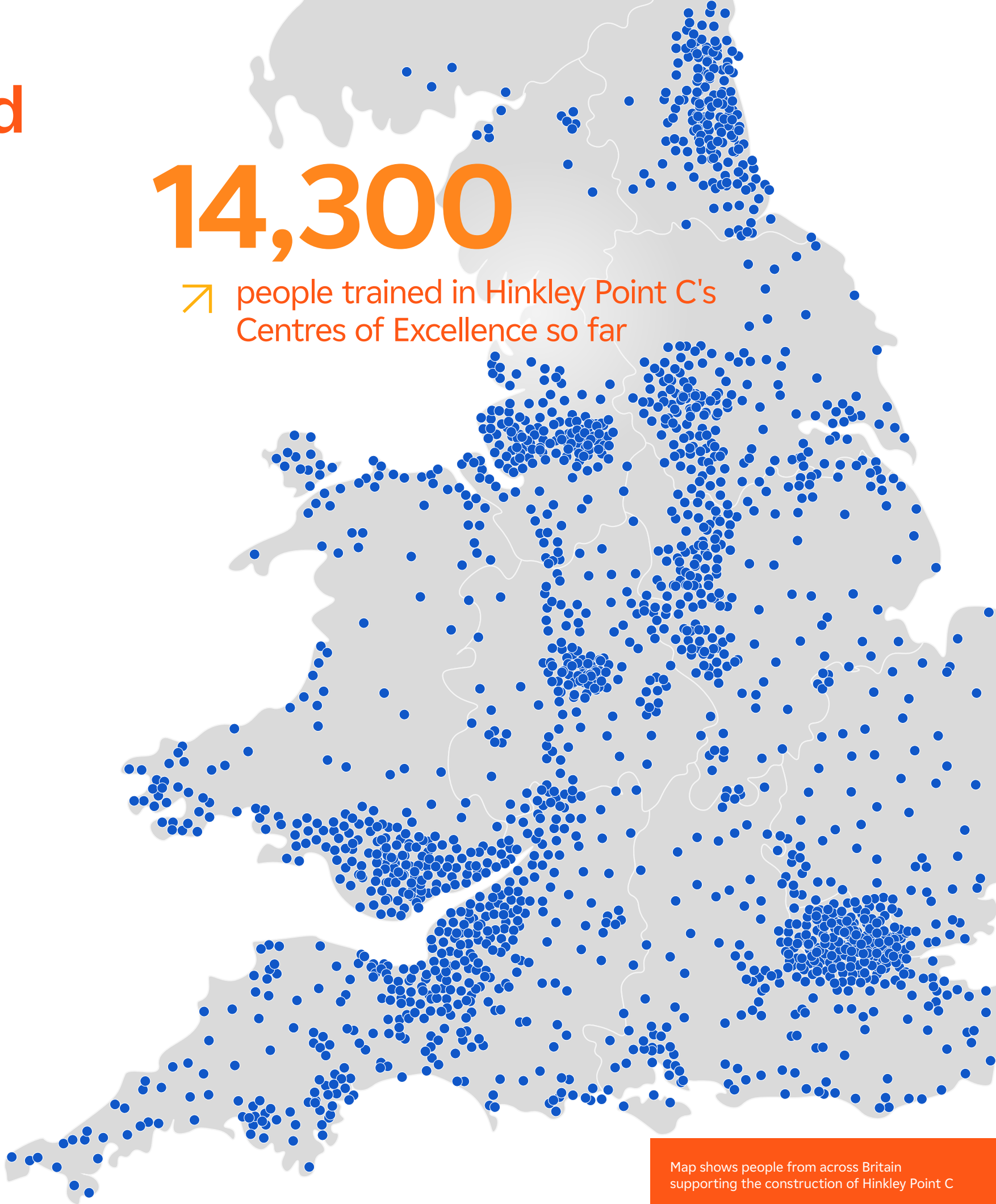
As Hinkley Point C accelerates towards the peak of construction, Britain's largest low-carbon energy project will create 3,000 additional jobs in Somerset. Over one-third of these jobs are expected to go to people in the South West , many of them also taking advantage of the training and upskilling opportunities provided at Hinkley Point C's training Centres of Excellence. These training opportunities are open to everyone, regardless of age, skill or background and can be applied to other industries.

26,000

➤ direct and indirect jobs supported across Britain

14,300

➤ people trained in Hinkley Point C's Centres of Excellence so far



Map shows people from across Britain supporting the construction of Hinkley Point C

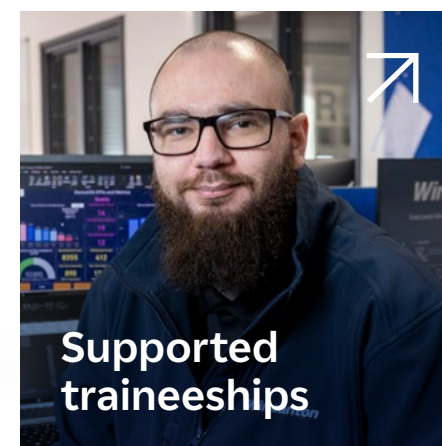
Many careers have started through the Somerset-based Young HPC programme or at the project's training Centres of Excellence in Bridgwater and Cannington. Since opening in 2022, 14,000 people have learned new skills at these facilities and the National College for Nuclear, operated in partnership with Bridgwater & Taunton College.

The centres focus on nationally significant skills gaps and support all forms of training – from the entry-level Hinkley Support Operative Programme to nuclear engineering degrees.

Alongside apprenticeships, Hinkley Point C's wider training programmes are helping people living close to the construction site access higher-skilled, better-paid jobs, directly contributing to Somerset and the South West's long-term economic growth.

14,300 people

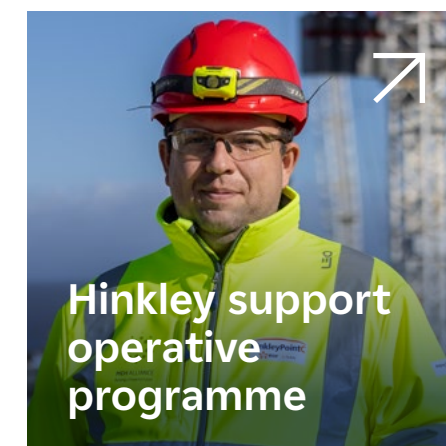
➤ have now learnt new skills at Hinkley Point C's Centres of Excellence



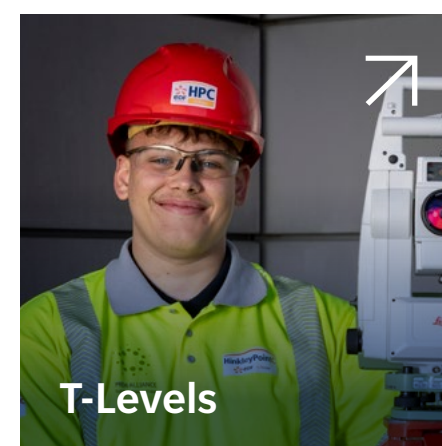
Supported traineeships



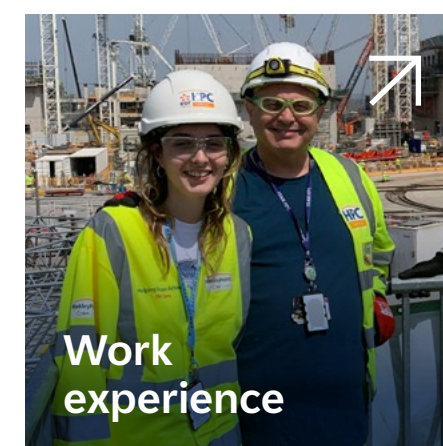
Apprenticeships



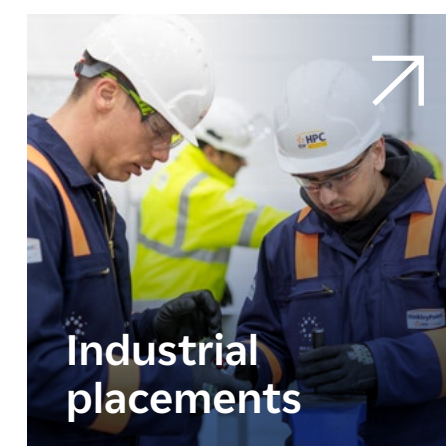
Hinkley support operative programme



T-Levels



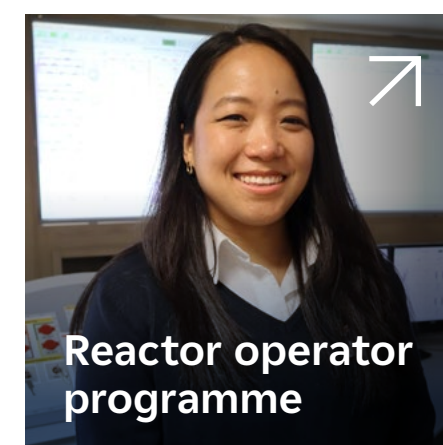
Work experience



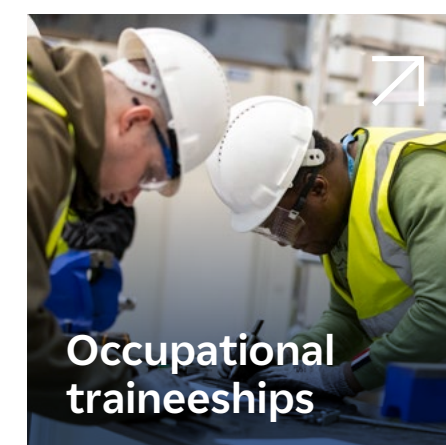
Industrial placements



Graduate programmes



Reactor operator programme



Occupational traineeships

“ Apprenticeships are incredibly important in equipping thousands of people with the skills needed to take up a career for life in the nuclear sector. Hinkley Point C is a stand-out example where 1,500 apprentices are gaining world-class experience, preparing them to be the future leaders in the nuclear industry – helping to make the UK a clean energy superpower and power our businesses and homes for generations to come. ”

Lord Phillip Hunt, Minister of State, Energy Security and Net Zero

Supporting Britain's Industrial Strategy

For every £1 spent by the project, a further £2.29 is generated in wider economic value within the South West

£13.3 billion

into the British Economy in Gross Value Added

4,600

British businesses within the supply chain

26,000

direct and indirect jobs supported across Britain

64%

of the value of Hinkley Point C is currently with British businesses

Hinkley Point C is boosting growth and supporting the government's emerging Industrial Strategy, particularly through investment into the growth driving sectors of advanced manufacturing and clean energy.

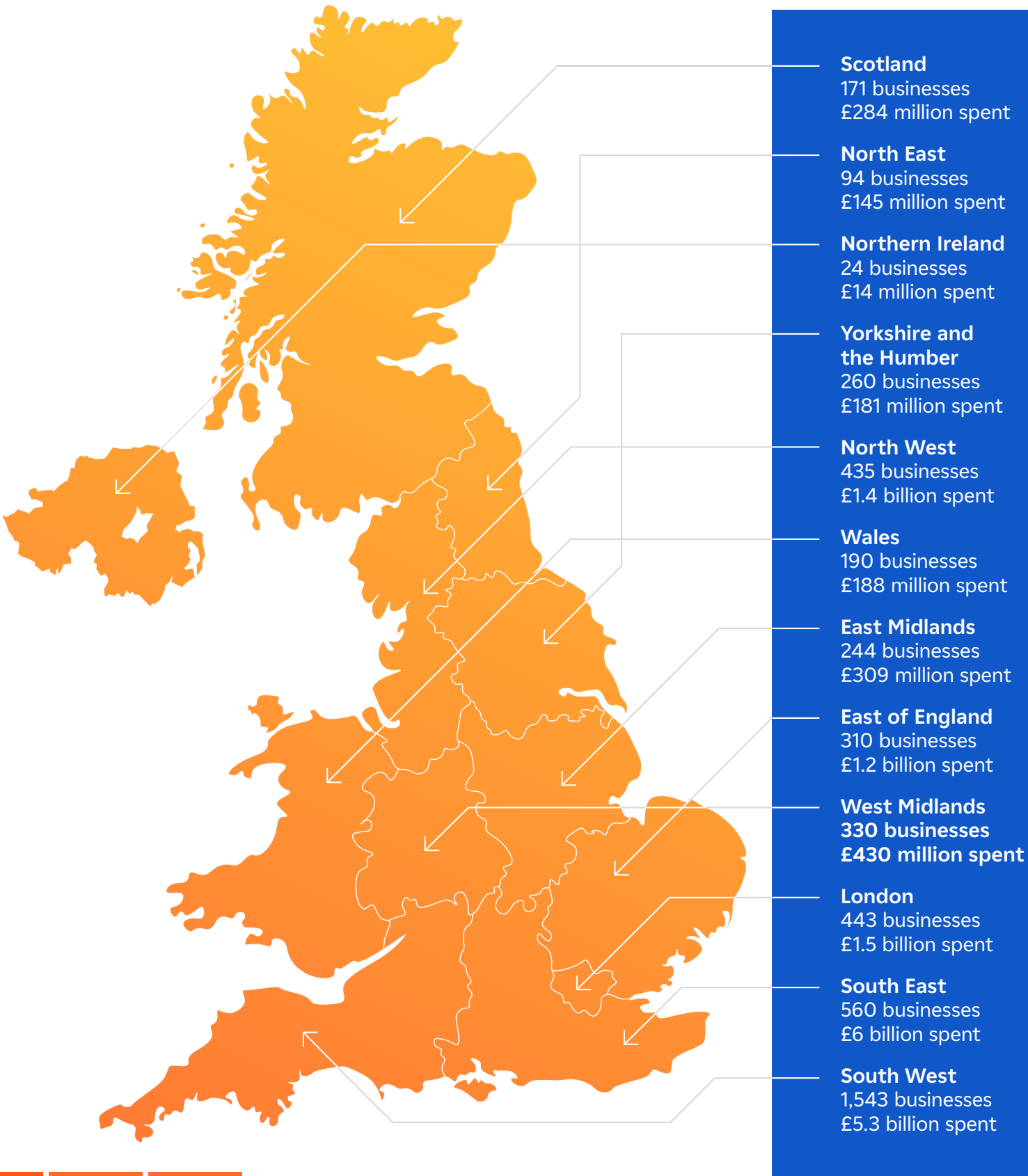
The benefit to national productivity from the construction of the new power station is clear with the project contributing an estimated £13.3 billion into the wider economy.

The project has helped British businesses into the supply chain for over a decade and is exceeding the original targets set. 64% of the value of the project going to British businesses with over £5 billion already being spent with suppliers across with South West region - well above the target of £1.5 billion.

The latest data shows that the local area around Hinkley Point C has experienced strong employment increases in the Industrial Strategy's growth-driving sectors. Employment in advanced manufacturing is over one-third higher than that seen in England as a whole, whilst employment in clean energy industries is almost three times higher.

In addition to creating high-skilled, well-paid jobs across the country the project is creating new industrial capacity to support the development of British infrastructure, including Sizewell C in Suffolk and the small modular reactor programme.

In partnership with the Somerset Chamber of Commerce, the supply chain engagement team is busy linking businesses with the significant opportunities both in the construction phase and, more recently, for the long-term 60-year operation of Hinkley Point C.





The Somerset Larder boosting local spend and sustainability

For every £1 spent by the project, £2.29 is generated in wider economic value for the South West economy. This economic multiplier is seen across the project as spending is passed down from the largest project suppliers to some of the smallest.

Somerset Larder, Hinkley Point C's local catering supplier, serves thousands of meals every single day using local ingredients. Meat comes from Somerset and Devon farms, bread and pastries from Yeovil and milk from dairies across the South West .

A local supply chain brings clear sustainability benefits, but is also an example of the indirect spending and investment that a large nuclear project provides. In the past five years, 78% of the Somerset Larder's £63.5 million supplier spend has stayed in the South West , with nearly half in Somerset. 99% of all Somerset Larder employees are from Somerset and £53.5 million has been paid in salaries, back into the county's economy.

Aspen Catering Services and M & J Pynes Butchers are based in Bridgwater and North Petherton, only a few miles from Hinkley Point C. Aspen employs local staff and supports the project with equipment supply, repairs and maintenance - around £2 million was spent with the business in 2024 alone. M & J Pynes provides local meat to the project with spend totalling over £6 million since 2020.

In the past five years, 78% of the Somerset Larder's £63.5 million supplier spend has stayed in the South West , with nearly half in Somerset.

Interview: supporting regional businesses

└ **Loretta Brown**
Local Supply Chain
Engagement Manager

In a partnership with the Somerset Chamber of Commerce, the local Supply Chain Engagement team identifies, seeks out and engages with local businesses before making the links that can deliver future contracts.



Local Supply Chain Engagement Manager Loretta Browne is at the centre of the efforts to link Hinkley Point C contractors with local suppliers.

How is your role important to Hinkley Point C?

"My role is to identify local and regional supply chain opportunities and link them with the fantastic businesses we have across Somerset and the South West. I work directly with the Hinkley Point C commercial teams and the hundreds of suppliers already working at the construction site, across the UK and in Europe. I spot the contract opportunities early for local businesses and then find the right supplier from our ever-growing database."

Do you offer broader support?

"Yes - that's an important element of the job. There is often a perception that smaller suppliers cannot access the nuclear sector and that could not be further from the truth. Over the years I have seen a number of local companies grow and develop from first contracts to significant tier 1 suppliers ready to take advantage of long-term operational contracts."

What opportunities are on offer?

"The project needs everything from nuclear-grade structural steel, through to stationery and laundry services. I love this project and want local suppliers to feel the same pride. When they supply their products and services, they are putting the region on the map as a location ready to deliver the country's low-carbon infrastructure of the future."



Turnbull Nailsea

Turnbull is a lifecycle construction and operations business formed and set up in Somerset as a result of the Hinkley Point C project.

The company provides civil engineering design, build, operation and maintenance services across the construction site with a specialism in water management and utility services.

Since its formation at the start of the construction phase, Turnbull has won contracts worth tens of millions of pounds. The company has experienced significant growth, with an initial team of just eight staff now expanded to over 230 employees based across the construction site and regional office. Over 90% of Turnbull's employees are local, spanning a range of professions from operators to quantity surveyors, document controllers and project managers.

Turnbull retains a focus on developing its own staff and sourcing local talent. Whilst currently training 11 apprentices on-site at Hinkley Point C, Turnbull provides clear career pathways which span all skill levels and disciplines.

Turnbull's extensive experience at Hinkley Point C and unique integrated supply model means it is now ready to support operational nuclear sites and nuclear new build opportunities such as Sizewell C.

South West Snugs - Treborough, Exmoor

Snugs supply custom-fitted ear protection for Hinkley C and are located just outside of Watchet in Exmoor National Park.

The company uses 3D printing and AI-driven manufacturing processes to make bespoke, reusable hearing protection for a number of the project's largest contractors.

Snugs has also been playing an important sustainability role - leading the move away from disposable foam earplugs to a much more environmentally friendly option with greater levels of protection and less waste.



The steam generators for Hinkley Point C's first reactor will be installed in 2025.





Ledwood Engineering is based in Pembrokeshire and a key supplier to Hinkley Point C

Wales Ledwood – Pembroke Dock

Ledwood is an installation, steel and pipe fabrication company based in Pembrokeshire, West Wales. The company's entry into the nuclear sector and Hinkley Point C began by attaining Fit for Nuclear status in 2013.

This is a programme supported by Hinkley Point C to help non-nuclear-experienced suppliers access the sector more easily.

Ledwood attended supply chain engagement events before successfully securing its first major contract to build a temporary jetty at the construction site. Additional contracts involved the assembly of aggregate silos and the manufacture and installation of embedment pipework and stainless steel ducting.

Its latest contract is worth around £50 million and involves working with Arabelle Solutions on the construction and fit-out of the power station's turbine hall. Work on Hinkley Point C supports around 100 jobs, which will soon be increasing to 130. Revenues have grown by 25%, enabling investment into apprenticeships and the wider supply chain with a number of sub-contracts awarded to other Welsh suppliers.

North West Exentec Hargreaves – Bury

Exentec Hargreaves, based in Bury, Greater Manchester is a specialist heating, ventilation and air-conditioning (HVAC) company with over 150 years of experience.

As the project's specialist HVAC contractor, Hargreaves holds a significant contract for the design, manufacture, procurement and installation of equipment and thousands of kilometres of ductwork.

Work at Hinkley Point C currently supports 230 jobs at the company with over a third based at the company's central manufacturing facility and head office in the North West. The business is investing in skills development through its own Engineering Young Talent programme with 27 apprentices currently going through the programme in disciplines such as project engineering, fabrication, and welding and BIM.



You think, wow – a little place like Bury is making things for a major nuclear power station and you are part of it. I started ten years ago as an apprentice and now I'm a production supervisor.

**Lewis Hamilton, Production Supervisor,
Exentec Hargreaves, Bury**





Long-term partnerships

Somerset Chamber of Commerce

As part of a long-term partnership to deliver the local supply chain engagement programme, the Somerset Chamber of Commerce is working with Hinkley Point C to maximise local benefit and opportunity.

The team provide advice, networking, advocacy and direct business-to-business engagement on behalf of the local business community. The organisation also holds the responsibility of managing the thousands of businesses registering on the Hinkley Point C supplier portal, whilst looking ahead at future plans to deliver much longer-term economic benefit from the project.

Once Hinkley Point C is completed, businesses in the South West will be more than ready to meet the demands of the future net zero economy. This will mean bridging the gap between Hinkley Point C and future nuclear projects like Sizewell C or, more locally, the new gigafactory at the Gravity site in Bridgwater.

Hinkley Point C is continuing to drive the agenda for investment in both Somerset and the wider South West region. Somerset Chamber of Commerce is proud to be playing its part, working in partnership with Hinkley Point C to give local people and regional businesses the best opportunity to win contracts and benefit from the legacy of the project.

David Crew, Chief Executive, Somerset Chamber of Commerce

A catalyst for regional growth and longer-term legacy

With Hinkley Point C as the catalyst, the nuclear industry as a whole now supports 3,500 jobs in the Bristol area alone. More widely, across the South West, 27,000 jobs are now supported by the nuclear sector as a whole – three times more than in 2014.

Businesses that have grown to support Hinkley Point C are now poised to benefit from developments proposed at Berkeley and Oldbury in Gloucestershire. The projects are needed to give Britain energy security with reliable low-carbon electricity, working with wind and solar to help Britain move away from imported fossil fuels.

Plans to develop Oldbury and Berkeley for Small Modular Reactors (SMRs) offer further potential for growth in skilled jobs. These plans are supported by Great British Nuclear, the Chiltern Vital Group and Rolls-Royce.

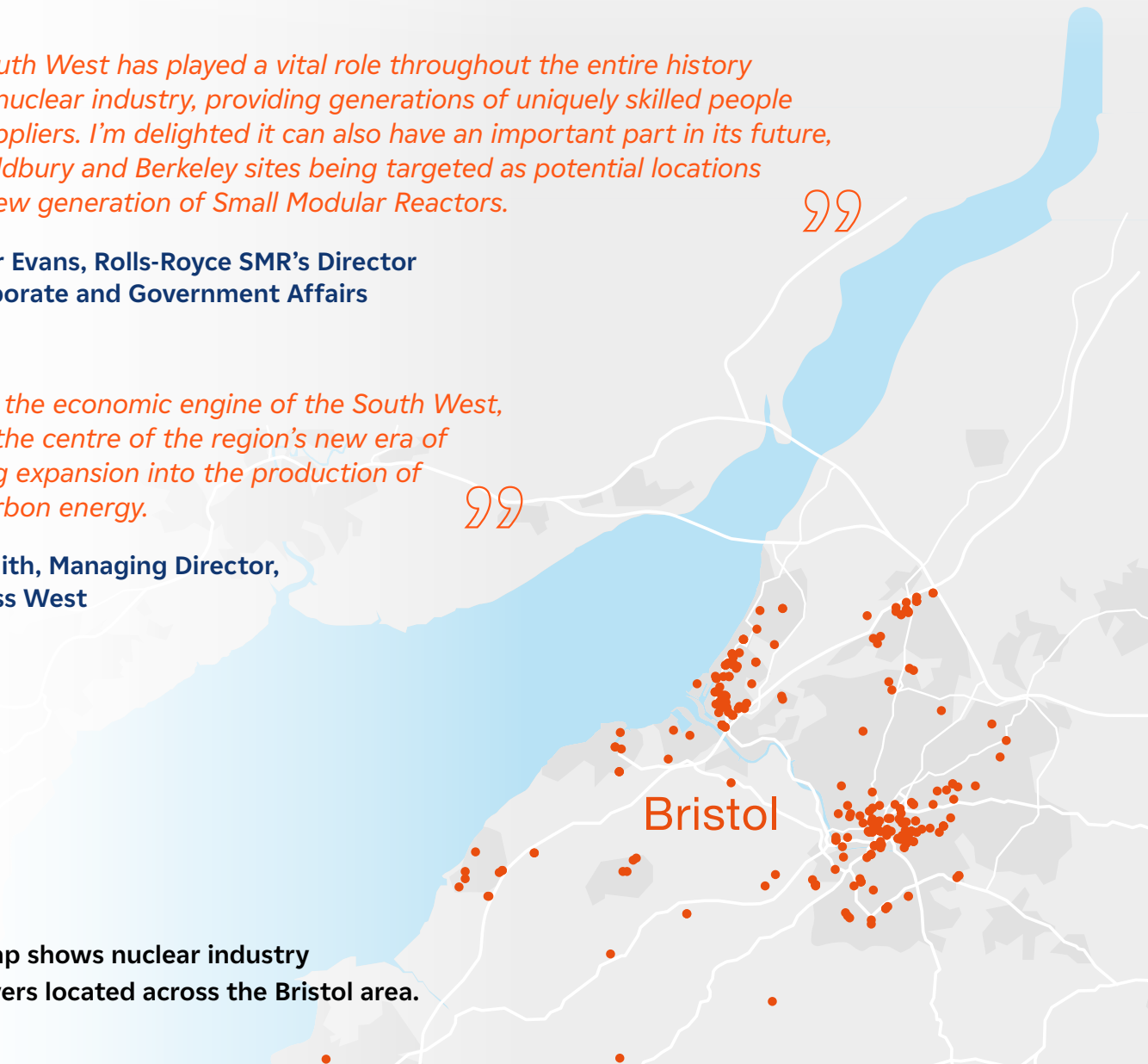
The South West has played a vital role throughout the entire history of the nuclear industry, providing generations of uniquely skilled people and suppliers. I'm delighted it can also have an important part in its future, with Oldbury and Berkeley sites being targeted as potential locations for a new generation of Small Modular Reactors.

Alastair Evans, Rolls-Royce SMR's Director of Corporate and Government Affairs

Bristol, the economic engine of the South West, sits at the centre of the region's new era of exciting expansion into the production of low-carbon energy.

Phil Smith, Managing Director, Business West

This map shows nuclear industry employers located across the Bristol area.



The skills for energy security

Since 2012 Hinkley Point C has invested £24 million into education, skills and employment.

This includes the creation of three Centres of Excellence, the Construction Skills and Innovation Centre and indirect support for the National College for Nuclear.

Operated together with long-term skills delivery partner Bridgwater & Taunton College, new training facilities and career pathways are supporting Hinkley Point C, whilst at the same time playing a part in overcoming a nationally significant skills gap in key trades and industries.

In 2024 alone, £1.75 million from the projects' Engineering Construction Industry Training Board (ECITB) skills levy was reinvested into the local training providers, facilities and equipment – increasing training and future employment opportunities for the people of Somerset.

An additional, £2.4 million from the apprenticeship levy has been transferred to smaller businesses to help train more apprentices.

The investment has led to the training of over 14,000 people so far, equipping them with the skills to access higher-skilled, higher-paid jobs with long-term opportunities across Britain's future net zero infrastructure projects. The majority of those being trained are from Somerset and the South West region, places that benefit most from the skills and economic opportunities of a large nuclear project.

14,300

people trained at Centres of Excellence and the National College for Nuclear

£24 million

invested into education, skills and employment

£1.75 million

reinvested from the ECITB levy to support local training providers, facilities and equipment

£2.4 million

provided from the apprenticeship levy to support smaller businesses to train apprentices

30,000

training places are being taken up in new Centres of Excellence



➤ Welding Centre of Excellence

The Welding Centre of Excellence in Bridgwater provides comprehensive training for the many welders needed to complete the fit-out of Hinkley Point C.

Training ranges from basic skills to advanced techniques for nuclear component fabrication. Students are accessing the opportunities through apprenticeships or the government's Bootcamp scheme, creating a direct pathway to employment.



➤ Mechanical Centre of Excellence

The newest of the centres, the Mechanical Centre of Excellence in Cannington, is developing the mechanical engineering skills needed for the fit-out of the power station. It is providing high-quality training in essential mechanical disciplines such as pipefitting, steel erection and plating.



➤ Electrical Centre of Excellence

To ensure a skilled workforce for the mechanical and electrical fit-out phase of Hinkley Point C, the Electrical Centre of Excellence, situated in Bridgwater's Somerset Energy Innovation Centre, provides a wide range of training opportunities, including the project's Hinkley Support Operative programme.

The Centre offers more than 70 different courses designed to meet the specific needs of the project.



➤ Construction Skills and Innovation Centre

To address the initial demand for skilled workers the Construction Skills and Innovation Centre at Bridgwater & Taunton College was launched in 2015. Funded by a £1.5 million investment from Hinkley Point C, the College has today become a vital training hub providing a realistic construction site environment.

It continues to equip students with essential skills in steel fixing, crane supervision and other essential trades, directly linking them to job opportunities at Hinkley Point C.



➤ National College for Nuclear

Founded and operated by Bridgwater & Taunton College and supported by Hinkley Point C, the National College for Nuclear in Cannington serves as a dedicated centre for developing a highly skilled workforce for the UK's nuclear sector. The college delivers technical training and qualifications ranging from entry-level courses and apprenticeships to degree-level qualifications, all designed in close collaboration with partners from across the nuclear sector.

Local and national businesses are also enrolling their own employees in the training schemes, which are helping to strengthen the country's industrial capability.

“What’s really impressive is how the college and Hinkley Point C are working together to ensure apprentices are industry-ready with the most up-to-date skills. This is a project of national significance – not just for the local community but for the UK’s energy infrastructure.”

Bridget Phillipson MP, Secretary of State for Education

➤ Talent of the future

Hinkley Point C’s commitment to apprenticeships sits at the centre of a range of training routes that are accessible to all.

The apprenticeship programme is exceeding expectations – surging past its initial 1,000 apprentice target to over 1,500 apprentices having been trained to date. This significant achievement reflects the projects' strong commitment to developing skills in the local community and across the wider region.

Engagement with 80 schools in Somerset during 2024 and a relationship with local training providers has resulted in 70% of apprentices coming from across the South West .

The apprenticeship programme welcomes individuals of all backgrounds and ages and offers over 70 different disciplines, from welding and nuclear engineering to pipefitting and catering. Some of these apprentices will be instrumental in Hinkley Point C’s 60-year operational life, ensuring a legacy of expertise that will be vital in running the operational power station.

70%

➤ of apprentices are from the South West

19%

➤ of apprentices are female

70

➤ different types of apprenticeship are available

Case study

I want to inspire them, just like I was inspired

»»



Pipefitting Apprentice

Megan is a pipefitting apprentice with the MEH Alliance and represents the third generation of her family in the nuclear industry. 2025 marks a pivotal year for Megan as she reaches the end of the apprenticeship and the opportunity to continue building a career at Hinkley Point C.

"My contact with Hinkley Point C started back at Haygrove School, when I was the only girl in my year to take part in the HPC Inspire workshop. That experience sparked my interest in science and technology and pushed me to pursue A-Levels in Maths, Physics, and Aeronautical Engineering. Now, working on the project, I'm determined to show other young women that construction and STEM are amazing career paths. I want to inspire them, just like I was inspired."

**Megan Ellicott, 21,
Bridgwater**

Case study

I'm pretty much guaranteed a job at the end of my apprenticeship with endless possibilities

»»



Project Controls Degree Apprentice

Letty's journey is an example of how apprenticeships can pave the way for a successful and fulfilling career. At 16, she chose to bypass the traditional route of sixth form and university.

Letty discovered an apprenticeship opportunity at Hinkley Point C through the government website. *"Being local, I'd known about Hinkley since the beginning, and I could see it developing from the bottom of my road. When I saw the apprenticeship, I thought I'd give it a go and I got it."*

Letty has excelled in her Level 3 apprenticeship in project controls and recently embarked on a second apprenticeship, a Level 6 degree apprenticeship, also in project controls.

"By the time I finish, I'll have my degree and six years of experience behind me, and I won't have any student debt and crucially I'm pretty much guaranteed a job at the end of my apprenticeship with endless possibilities."

**Letty Smith, 19,
Wedmore**

Case study

Being one of the apprentices building Hinkley Point C gives you a great sense of achievement



Case study

For anyone considering a degree apprenticeship, I can wholeheartedly recommend it



Electrical Apprentice

Stanley is in his third year of a four-year electrical apprenticeship with Balfour Beatty. He comes from a family with a strong tradition of working in trades. Stanley was encouraged to pursue an apprenticeship by his family – especially his uncle, who also did an electrical apprenticeship. He sees it as a valuable opportunity for growth and development, allowing him to learn from experienced electricians and earn qualifications.

“Being one of the apprentices building Hinkley Point C gives you a great sense of achievement. Here we are learning from skilled professionals, and you get great qualifications at the end. Choosing an apprenticeship is a great choice – you learn and earn at the same time, plus you’re part of a project with a great sense of community.”

**Stanley Taylor, 19,
Minehead**

Apprentice Site Engineer

Growing up in London with a love of art and design, Kester is a Civil Engineering Degree Apprentice and is combining hands-on learning from mentors at the Hinkley Point C site whilst studying for his engineering degree at the University of Exeter. The training is allowing him to gain first-hand experience whilst avoiding the significant cost of a traditional degree.

“For anyone considering a degree apprenticeship, I can wholeheartedly recommend it. This project is amazing and it’s great to be part of one of the largest construction sites in Europe. The journey is demanding, but the knowledge, skills and professional development you gain are worth it. Not to mention that you have your employer and your university supporting you every step of the way!”

**Kester Ansah-Akrofi, 20,
Gravesend**

Accessible training opportunities

A diverse range of routes into training are available at Hinkley Point C and are open to people of all ages, backgrounds or current skill sets.



Case study

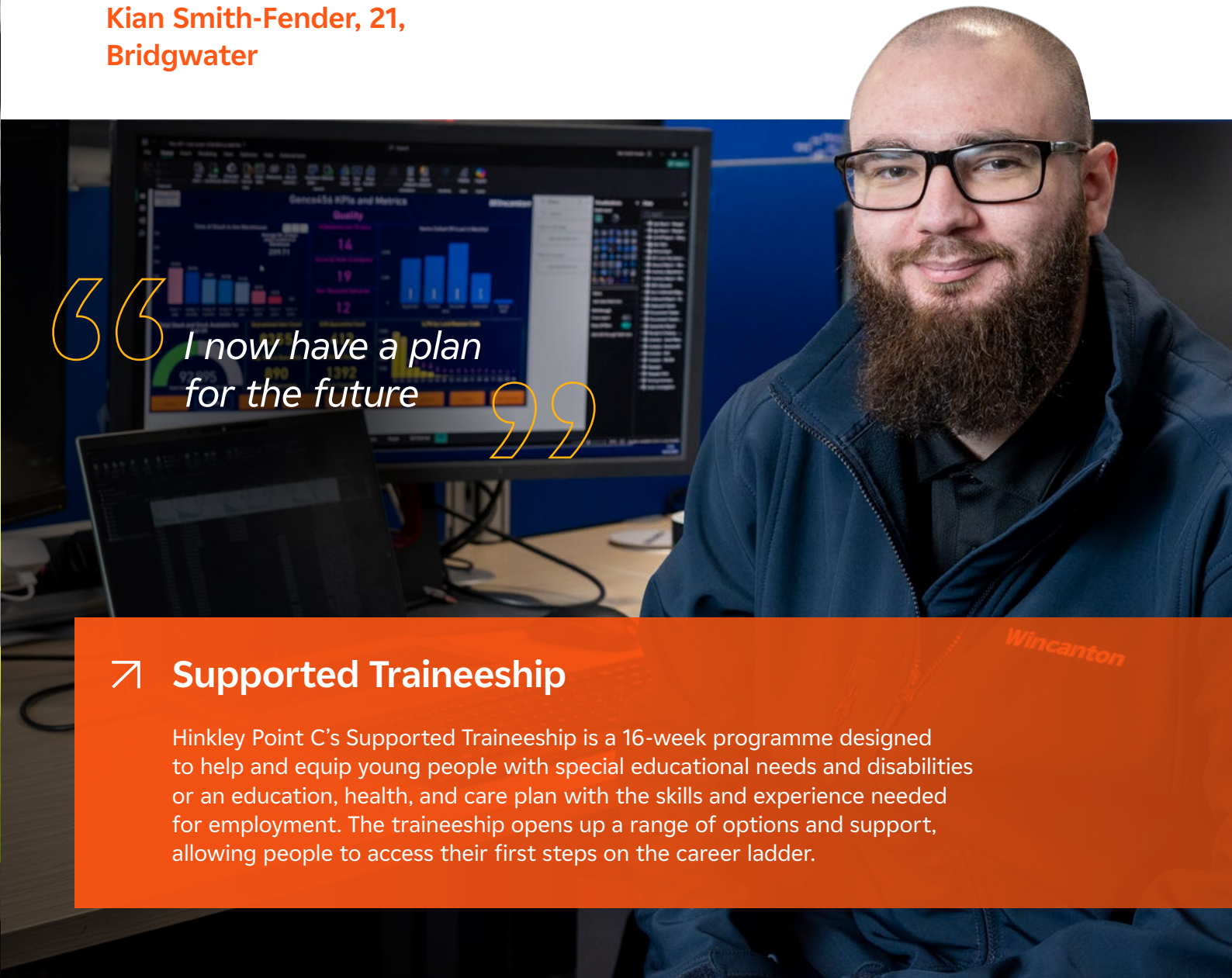
Supported Trainee

Kian, a 21-year-old trainee data analyst, started a role with Hinkley Point C’s logistics supplier Wincanton through a supported trainee programme in November 2024. Despite facing challenges due to autism and a lack of formal education, Kian has excelled, earning a company award for his hard work within weeks of joining the project.

Kian says that the traineeship and the role have provided him with “meaning and given me a place to belong and a reason to actually wake up in the morning,” as well as a structured routine which he previously lacked. The opportunity has not only boosted his confidence and provided him with his first paid employment but has also allowed him to develop a clear career path within the logistics industry.

“My income has increased since I joined the project and it means I’m able to help my mum and give her some of my income, and I was able to pay for driving lessons and buy a car when I passed my test. I now have a plan for the future, which I never had. I want to continue working on the HPC build until the project is finished and then move on to other roles with Wincanton.”

Kian Smith-Fender, 21,
Bridgwater



I now have a plan for the future

Supported Traineeship

Hinkley Point C’s Supported Traineeship is a 16-week programme designed to help and equip young people with special educational needs and disabilities or an education, health, and care plan with the skills and experience needed for employment. The traineeship opens up a range of options and support, allowing people to access their first steps on the career ladder.

Case study

T-level Student and Survey Apprentice

Eighteen-year-old Ignas, from Wellington, opted for a T-level in design, surveying and planning after leaving school. He's now a geospatial surveying apprentice with the MEH Alliance, where he appreciates the blend of hands-on experience, gaining insights from more experienced colleagues.

"I enjoy that I am getting hands-on experience and learning from everyone around me, whilst also earning at the same time."

Currently, he's a part of the setting out team, marking points for support welding, and he's enjoying the increasing responsibility of working independently with a Hinkley Support Operative.

Ignas Bergelis, 18,
Wellington

I enjoy that I am getting hands-on experience

Hinkley Point C supports T-Level students who are pursuing an alternative qualification to A-Levels and apprenticeships by providing industry placements. These placements offer mentored, practical experience on the project, preparing students for future employment.

Case study

Hinkley Support Operative

Karol's career at Hinkley Point C began in 2022 when he joined the entry-level HSO Bronze programme. Karol advanced to the Silver level and then the year-long Gold course. Last year he started his mechanical fitter apprenticeship, which is providing him with a pathway to long-term skilled employment and a trade.

"I was motivated by the chance to work on a major project that contributes to cleaner energy and a sustainable future. The training programmes have allowed me to take on more responsibilities, continue developing my expertise, and make a real impact in the industry."

Karol Kwasigroch, 41,
Bridgwater

The training programmes have allowed me to take on more responsibilities

The Hinkley Point C Support Operative Bronze Programme focuses on building fundamental health and safety skills, offering a crucial foundation for construction careers. Participants who successfully complete the Bronze level are guaranteed an interview for roles at Hinkley Point C, with options for further development through further Silver and Gold levels.

Long-term partnerships



➤ Bridgwater & Taunton College has helped train over

1,300
of the 1,500 apprentices

Bridgwater & Taunton College operate the National College for Nuclear at their Cannington Campus.



➤ Bridgwater & Taunton College

Insights from Matt Tudor, Vice Principal of Strategy & Partnerships.

The collaboration between Bridgwater & Taunton College and Hinkley Point C has been transformative, both for the college and the wider region. From our first discussions in 2011, we have worked closely with the project and its supply chain partners to ensure that the skills pipeline aligns with the demands of one of the UK's largest and most important infrastructure projects.

Impact

The impact of this collaboration is profound and multifaceted. Not only has it significantly enhanced our educational offerings, making Bridgwater & Taunton College a leader in nuclear education and training, it has also provided the local community with an economic boost through job creation and skill development. We have now trained over 1,300 of the 1,500 apprentices for the project at an average achievement rate of 90% – One of the highest success rates in the country.

The ultimate benefit for our college is that the significant employment opportunities created by Hinkley Point C have raised the employment aspirations of hundreds of adults in the local community – including people who were formerly long-term unemployed and learners with special educational needs and disabilities. In particular, the award-winning supported internship we have created with Hinkley Point C is helping young people with disabilities, giving them the opportunity to undertake work placements, providing them with employment-focused skills and ultimately achieving long-term paid employment.

Our collaboration with Hinkley Point C has positioned the South West as a leading centre for nuclear and engineering excellence, ensuring long-term skills development in the region.

Lessons for the future

Our partnership has demonstrated the value of industry-education collaboration, ensuring training remains high quality, responsive and aligned with workforce needs. Investing in specialist facilities such as the National College for Nuclear and the Construction Skills & Innovation Centre has created a lasting resource in the local area that will be poised to support future projects and the country's Industrial Strategy.

Providing clear career pathways has also been essential. The partnership has reinforced the importance of structured routes into the sector, including apprenticeships, T Levels and reskilling programmes, ensuring a steady pipeline of skilled professionals.

Supporting the region to reach net zero

Bridgwater & Taunton College is committed to further expanding its training capabilities to cement the South West's status as a centre of excellence for low-carbon growth. We will continue to strengthen our regional partnerships, working closely with other education providers, industry partners, and government to build a sustainable skills ecosystem that extends beyond the catalyst provided by Hinkley Point C.

“The impact of this collaboration is profound and multifaceted. Not only has it significantly enhanced our educational offerings, making Bridgwater & Taunton College a leader in nuclear education and training, it has also provided the local community with an economic boost through job creation and skill development”

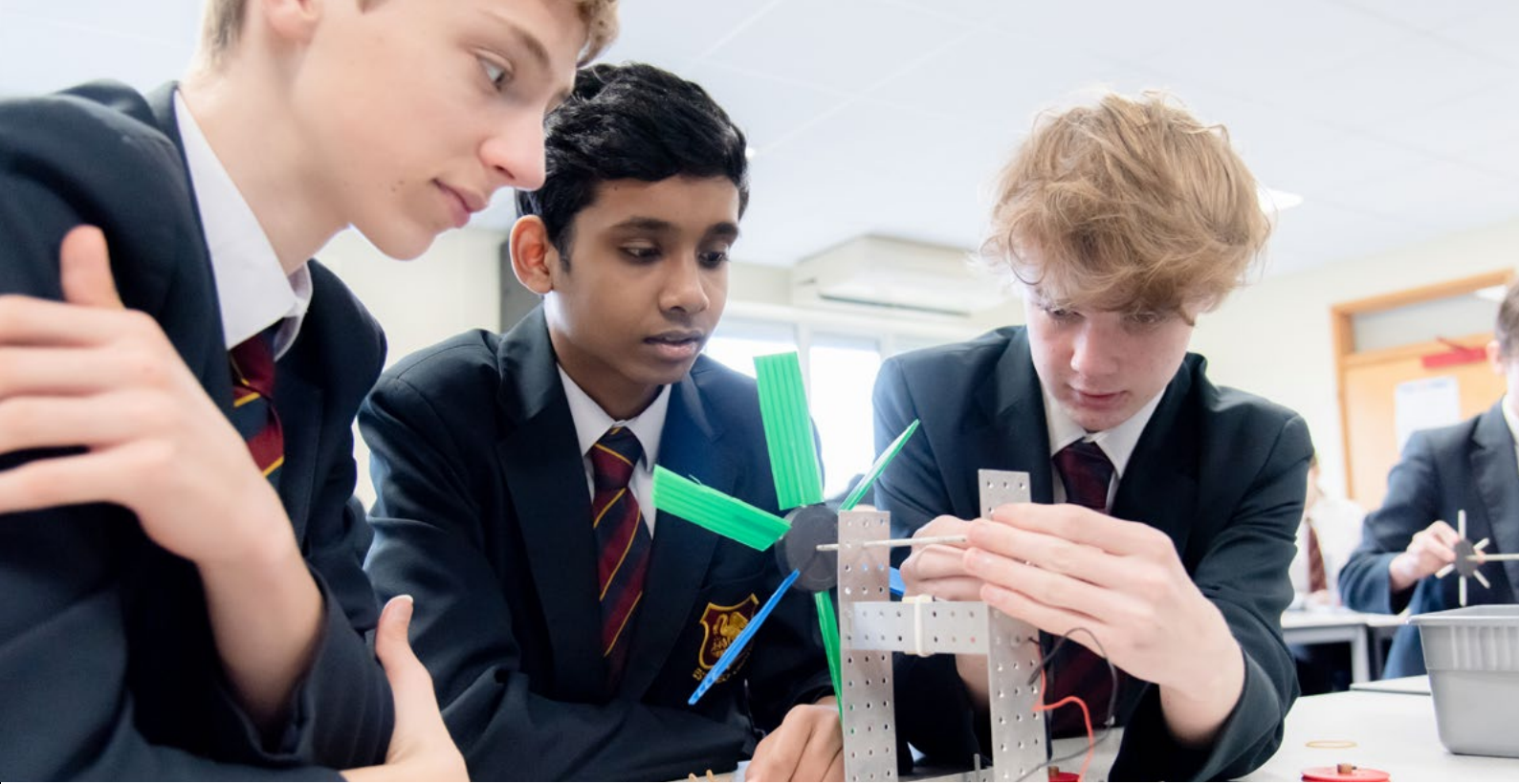
Matt Tudor, Vice Principal of Strategy & Partnerships, Bridgwater & Taunton College

Inspiring the next generation



£24 million

➤ invested into education, skills and employment



Hinkley Point C's education programme, Inspire, has been running since 2012 and continues to support Somerset's young people through curriculum-focused content, events and visits.

The education team hosts site tours and visitor centre experiences for children aged eight and above, in which children and young people get the opportunity to learn about the project.

The team hosts workshop days focusing on science, technology, engineering and mathematics challenges. Away from our own project locations, teams of volunteers also pay visits to local schools and offer engineering workshops, bringing hands-on learning experiences directly to young people which have been an inspiration for many of our apprentices to look for careers at Hinkley Point C.

The Hinkley Point C virtual work experience programme is a free scheme designed for children aged 14-16 who are interested in engineering, construction and apprenticeships.

For young people aged 16-21 living in Somerset, the Young HPC programme offers a range of opportunities. Participants gain access to free, in-person events, informative webinars and exclusive tours of the site. Additionally, the programme provides up-to-date information on apprenticeships and job vacancies on the Hinkley Point C project.

1,220

➤ people are now part of the Young HPC Programme

2,000

➤ young people engaged in school events in 2024

80

➤ Inspire Education events delivered in 2024

Case study

“EDF came to our school, and I knew instantly it was something I wanted to be part of”



Case study

“Engaging with schools is hugely rewarding. It’s always fantastic fun for everyone involved – staff and pupils alike”



Young HPC programme

Anabella’s first contact with Hinkley Point C was at a Young HPC event at school.

Eager to explore the opportunities, she signed up to Young HPC, and with her family’s support, her experience has led to the start of a career. *“Seeing the site and learning how the reactor worked was fascinating, it really helped me understand the scale of the project and EDF’s role.”*

Beyond the technical knowledge, she says the programme really helped her learn great practical skills and solidified Anabella’s ambition to pursue an apprenticeship.

“The Young HPC team helped me work on my CV and cover letter and I gained information about the apprenticeships on offer which inspired me to be part of this incredible project.”

For Anabella, Young HPC wasn’t just an educational experience; it was a catalyst for her career. *“It equipped me with communication skills, knowledge, which helped me secure an apprenticeship at the National College for Nuclear.”*

Anabella Andison, 17, Bridgwater

Inspire Education programme

James organises and supports local school visits to site, and visits local primary schools to deliver workshops and talks. These involve designing, building and testing small-scale replicas of some of the equipment used at Hinkley Point C.

“Engaging with schools is hugely rewarding. It’s always fantastic fun for everyone involved – staff and pupils alike – and it’s great to help people understand where their electricity comes from and how nuclear power works.”

James Mansfield, Education Visit Coordinator

Did you know?

In 2024 Hinkley Point C hosted more than 80 visits from schools, colleges and universities to the Hinkley Point C site, showing more than 2,000 pupils and their teachers the incredible work being done.

Supporting people into better jobs



5,000

➤ people from across the region are expected to be building Hinkley Point C in 2025

24,780

➤ people from within 90 minutes of the site supported in job applications since 2021

89

➤ employment events held in 2024

14,500

➤ people from within 90 minutes of the site registered on the Hinkley Point C Jobs portal

Job service priorities

1 Matching people

to available jobs at Hinkley Point C

2 Providing targeted support

for local people looking for careers advice

3 Arranging and attending events

to raise awareness of opportunities

4 Working in partnership

with Somerset Council and JobcentrePlus as part of the Somerset employment hub network

Hinkley Point C is committed to ensuring that at least a third of the project's workforce is within a 90-minute drive from the construction site. The Hinkley Point C Jobs Service works in partnership with Jobcentre Plus and Somerset Council to help people into work, regardless of their background or current skillset.

The team organises and delivers its own regular outreach and recruitment events in Somerset whilst also attending other local jobs fairs. Expert advice is also available for anyone looking to access the opportunities with careers advice and CV writing support available.

In a new and developing partnership with the SBA, a Somerset-based Community Interest Company, and Somerset Council, the project will be working to support those struggling to access the world of work with targeted engagement events and support.

Reduncancy support – Tata Steel

The Jobs Service also helps people facing redundancy and, over the past five years, has lent a hand to people facing redundancy in the South West or South Wales.

When the Tata steelworks in Port Talbot shut down its blast furnaces for the last time in September 2024, the Jobs Service team were ready to support the thousands of people from South Wales who were seeking new careers in construction and the nuclear sector.

As well as targeted support for individuals on new training opportunities and attendance at events in the region, the Jobs Service team worked closely with training providers and Engineering Construction Industry Training Board in Port Talbot to help build links between the training routes designed for Hinkley Point C but applicable to the wider construction and engineering sector.



The Hinkley Point C Jobs Service is working to support local people into jobs. In 2024, the team supported 89 recruitment events across Somerset.

Case study

“What an opportunity!”



MEH Alliance, project support

Helen attended a Hinkley Job Service drop-in session out of curiosity, keen to learn more about the opportunities available at Hinkley Point C. Guided by the Jobs Service team, Helen registered on the projects jobs portal, ensuring she received regular updates on available roles.

With a background in construction and a passion for the industry, Helen was eager to explore new opportunities where she could make a real impact. When a Project Support position was advertised, her previous administrative experience made it an ideal fit. Encouraged and supported by the job service, she applied, interviewed and successfully secured the role.

Now working on one of the most significant infrastructure projects in the UK, Helen’s story highlights the invaluable support provided by the Hinkley Job Service.

Reflecting on her journey, Helen said, “I was so happy to have received an interview and the offer of the job working on this fantastic and truly incredible project – What an opportunity!”

Helen Flatt,
MEH Alliance, project support, Bridgwater

Supporting our community

Hinkley Point C is a nationally important project, delivered in the heart of Somerset and the South West .

The project provides significant benefits to the local area but we also consider the impacts a large project can have on the community and work to minimise disruption. Our commitment to this remains a responsibility we take very seriously.

As the workforce expands throughout 2025, the project will continue, to build on successful initiatives like the £9 million accommodation fund that has already helped to deliver new affordable housing and 4,000 additional bed spaces in towns such as Bridgwater and Taunton. Funding and support for other initiatives to support community cohesion and local policing will also continue, as will the project's support for local health services, tourism and road infrastructure.

Hinkley Point C will continue to listen to local communities to ensure that any potential impacts are minimised and that the benefits for local people are maximised.

£17 million

provided to local projects through the Community Fund

£140 million

of total support to mitigate local impact and build opportunity

Free

Community bus connecting Somerset's rural areas

Public forums

link the project with local people and opportunities

The project has a big focus on reducing impact on local roads. The on-site jetty can take delivery of at least 80% of the materials we need to make cement. This means we can take 125,000 HGVs off the roads. And we'll also use the sea to bring in the really large pieces of equipment we need for the reactor itself.

Keeping people informed

Hinkley Point C’s Community, Main Site and Transport Forums meet regularly, allowing the project to stay in touch with its closest neighbours. The meetings, held in Cannington and Stogursey make sure that concerns are heard and opportunities taken.

Community Forum

The Community Forum meets three times a year and has the widest representation from the local area and discusses project progress and the initiatives to minimise impact and maximise opportunity.

Main Site Forum

The Main Site Forum is designed to support those living closest to the construction site. Meeting three times a year, members discuss and advise us on key issues affecting them.

Transport Forum

The Transport Forum meets to discuss the transport and logistical operations at Hinkley Point C and its interaction with the local community. The Transport Forum meets three times a year and includes representation from Somerset Council.

Hinkley Point C Community Fund

Hundreds of projects from across Somerset have benefitted from Hinkley Point C’s Community Fund.

Totalling £20 million, it continues to support a diverse range of projects that are helping to mitigate impacts whilst maximising the local opportunities made possible by Hinkley Point C. Projects range from upgrades to village halls, support for local mental health organisations and environmental, educational and tourism initiatives.

Acts of Random Kindness

£100,000 received from the Community Fund

Acts of Random Kindness provides essential support to individuals with learning disabilities, autism and mental health challenges.



Over the years we’ve seen significant referrals coming from the Bridgwater and Highbridge area. Without our support the demand increases, as does the strain on private health services and the NHS.

Nigel Bell, CEO of ARK at Egwood



Stacked Wonky

£10,000 received from the Community Fund

Stacked Wonky, a dance theatre company from Porlock were awarded a £10,000 grant from the Hinkley Point C Community fund, allowing them to support young people taking part in the national Making Moves choreography and performance programme.

The funding helped 14 young performers take the stage at London’s renowned Sadler’s Wells, a performing arts theatre.

Without that funding we would never have been able to create this piece of work by our young director Benjamin, our performers, as well as our young costume and lighting designers.

Sarah Shorten, Artistic Director, Stacked Wonky



Burnham BMX Club

£10,000 received from the Community Fund

Burnham BMX Club welcomes members from deprived backgrounds through to those with behavioural and learning problems.

A £10,000 grant from the HPC Community Fund has significantly improved the club’s facilities by upgrading outdated halogen lighting to energy-efficient LED systems. The new LED lights increase visibility, reduce operational costs will extend winter training opportunities.

My sons have been coming here since they were three years old, sometimes three or four times a week. Now Elliot is qualified this year for the world championship in Denmark.

Ross, father of BMX club members Elliot and Arlo



Stogursey Community Network

£2,500 received from the Community Fund

Stogursey is the closest village to Hinkley Point C and its Community Network was awarded £2,500 to support its weekly community lunch group. Run by 20 local volunteers the group provides regular social gatherings and essential transport services for medical appointments.

36

Volunteering is a way of getting more involved in the local community. I've found that I've got to know more people and I enjoy working with others on projects which provide opportunities and experiences otherwise unavailable in a village without public transport

22

Teresa, Community Network Volunteer



Bridgwater Carnival

£1.25 million received from the Community Fund

Hinkley Point C have joined forces with Bridgwater Guy Fawkes Carnival in an innovative and unique sustainability partnership. In addition to a Community Fund grant, and in a new collaboration for 2024, excess materials, no longer needed at the construction site, were reused and recycled by Bridgwater carnival clubs for their spectacular 2024 entries.





CHANGE IS IN *OUR POWER*

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