

Winter 2021

The Hinkley Point C
community magazine

Plugged in

INSIDE: How the project helped
one student kick-start her career

DISCOVER

how Hinkley Point C
is helping Britain
achieve net
zero P8-9



A year of success

NIGEL'S WELCOME



Welcome to the winter edition of **Pluggedin**.

This year has seen the completion of some significant milestones. The pandemic has continued to challenge the project and our suppliers and I am proud of our enormous efforts to keep the site safely moving ahead.

Both reactor buildings are progressing well and work to build the 16m-high base for the world's largest turbine is underway. For more construction updates, see pages 10-11.

On pages 8-9 you'll find a feature on how Hinkley Point C is contributing to the fight against climate change and playing a critical role in helping Britain achieve net zero. You can also read about Daisy, one of the people from the local area who has a role to play in the future of the power station, on page 6.

In September, we wished farewell to Rob Jordan who, after five years as Hinkley Point C's Site Construction and Civils Director, took on a new challenge outside of the project. We are grateful for the steady steer Rob provided.

Thank you for your support as we build Hinkley Point C. I wish you a safe and happy Christmas and New Year.

Nigel Cann
Hinkley Point C Delivery Director

GET IN TOUCH

Have an interesting story you'd like to share, or know someone who has?

- VISIT:** edfenergy.com/hpc
- EMAIL:** hinkley-enquiries@edf-energy.com
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BEHIND THE SCENES

The Community Relations team at Hinkley Point C is larger than you might expect and features the expertise of people from across the project, emergency services and local authorities. Here we meet some of the people working behind the scenes...



Sacha Hawthorne,
Visitor Centre
Receptionist

"I am the voice at the end of the enquiries line and am always glad to assist. I can also welcome you into our new Visitor Centre at Cannington Court."



Nicola Hale,
Community Safety
Officer

"Working on behalf of the local authorities my focus is on safety in the nearby communities. I like getting out into my community to understand concerns first-hand, so I'm always happy to chat."



Caeden Cann, Enquiries Management
"I manage the email enquiries we receive. We get a high volume of email contact and I make sure enquiries are logged on our system and find their way to the right people on the project to respond."



Jake Dade, PCSO,
Hinkley Point C
Community Policing
Team

"I work as part of Avon and Somerset Police's Community Policing team, focusing on project-related policing issues. I am also the team lead on diversity and inclusion and run drop-in sessions on subjects such as hate crime and living in diverse communities."



Annabelle Ray,
Customer Service
Team Co-ordinator,
Somerset
Passenger Solutions

"Part of my job is heading up the co-ordination of the Hinkley Point C fly-parking team. Fly-parking is a key issue, and I support the team who track down and ticket those working on the project who are parking where they shouldn't."

CONTACT US

General Enquiries (including Hinkley Point C Visitor Centre and fly-parking)
0333 009 7070 / hinkley-enquiries@edf-energy.com / edfenergy.com/hpc
Hinkley Point C Community Policing Team
01278 645193 / hinkleypoint@avonandsomerset.police.uk

Vicki's welcome



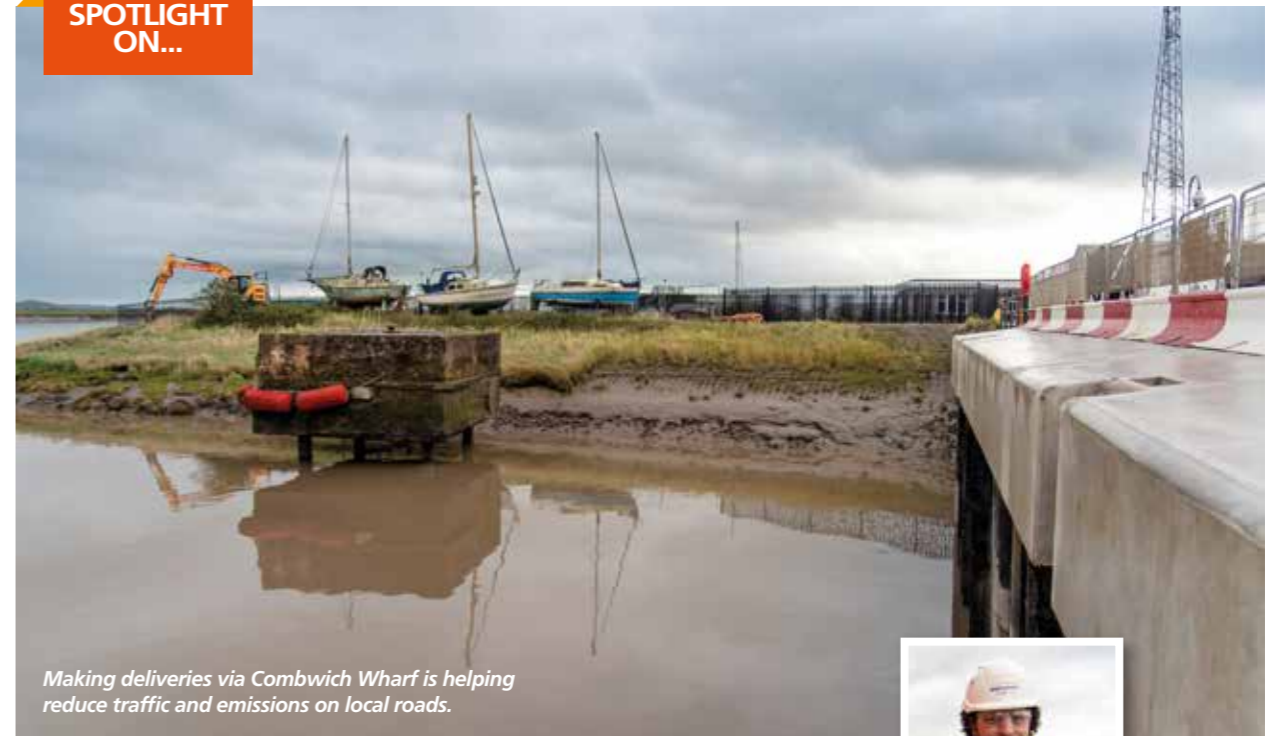
Hi all – I hope you and your families are safe and well and enjoying the festive season.

I am the Community Relations Manager for Hinkley Point C and have returned to the Community Relations team after some time in other roles on the project. I'm delighted to once again edit Plugged

in, having created the first edition back in 2013.

In this issue we share the story of how Hinkley Point C's catering team is helping feed people in need, learn more about how a new site facility is creating career opportunities for local people, and find out how the workforce is delivering festive cheer in the community.
Vicki Dingwall, Editor

SPOTLIGHT ON...



Making deliveries via Combwich Wharf is helping reduce traffic and emissions on local roads.



A FAMILIAR FACE

Alex Urrutia, our new Marine Operations Delivery Lead (pictured), joined us at the beginning of October.

In his very first week, he met with Otterhampton Parish Council to update the group on activities around the wharf and listen to any thoughts and concerns they had. He's also been busy helping Combwich Boat Club with installing new gates to the main entrance.

Alex said: "It was great to meet local people so soon after joining the team. I want to become a familiar face for anyone who has questions or concerns around our activities at Combwich Wharf. It's a privilege to work in such a beautiful setting and contribute to an important national project like Hinkley Point C."

"We're keen to have a positive impact on this area and the South West economy in general. I'm excited to be working together with local residents and groups in the coming months."

Moving at wharf speed

Some of the biggest, heaviest and tallest parts destined for Hinkley Point C will be carried to site by sea rather than on lorries. This means lower emissions, less congestion and safer driving on local roads.

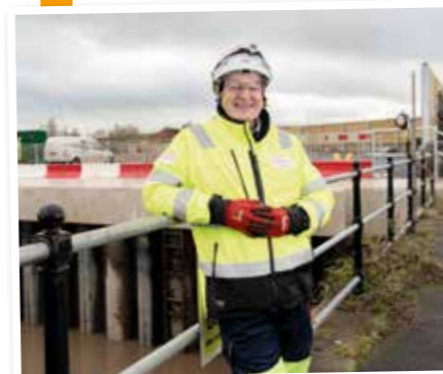
To make this possible, the team has been working to upgrade Combwich Wharf to allow it to handle pieces of equipment too big to be transported easily by road.

Soon, the first of these large loads will be transported using special

barges with a deck-carrying capacity of around 3,000 tonnes. This capacity is required in order to facilitate deliveries of heavy equipment.

Jamie Jamieson, Marine Service Manager (pictured inset), said: "Combwich Wharf has been a vital part of the construction of nuclear power stations at Hinkley Point since the 1950s, with some local residents even remembering those first deliveries. The wharf has undergone significant refurbishment to cater for the massive loads that make up the big components in modern reactors. We look forward to seeing these prominent pieces coming home to Hinkley Point C."

As part of the refurbishment, local residents will have seen a wooden acoustic fence being erected around the site. This will help in reducing any increased noise levels as deliveries are made.



Community

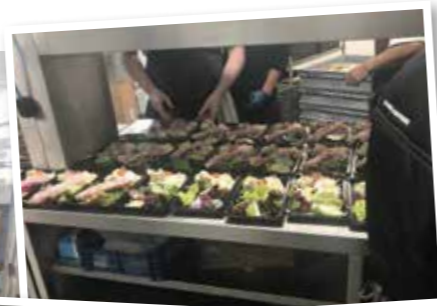
SUPPORTING SOMERSET



GET INVOLVED: Find out more about grants and funding at hpcfunds.co.uk



The Somerset Larder team supported charity FareShare, by producing an extra 500 meals each week.



Stepping up to the plate for charity

Somerset Larder, who keep Hinkley Point C's workforce fed, really turned up the heat in the kitchen to support local people in need throughout the pandemic.

The 35-strong team at the Somerset Larder's Central Production Kitchen in Bridgwater increased food production when asked to lend a hand to help people facing hardship.

They worked to produce an extra 500 meals every week during lockdown. The meals then headed to FareShare, an organisation that helps to redistribute food to a host of local charities fighting hunger.

Even though restrictions have now been lifted, the team is still donating 250 extra meals a week to the charity.

Somerset Larder's Lydia Szulc-

Krzyzanowska said: "Nourishing the community is our mission statement. So, both as a business and as individuals, we wanted to demonstrate what we stand for. For all of us it's about giving back.

"We were thrilled to be able to get involved, but it's the people on the ground who have done, and continue to do, all the hard work to make this possible."

ROUND-UP



SUN-POWER ENERGISES COMMUNITY HOTSPOT

The Bishop's Hull Hub in Taunton has gone green thanks to the HPC Community Fund. A £10,000 grant from the fund allowed the community space to install solar panels that reduce the building's carbon footprint. It's estimated the panels will save more than 5,000kg of carbon emissions over

the next 20 years!

The Hub opened in July this year to support the local community. It hosts regular events and club sessions, and operates a volunteer-run community café, which is open every Saturday morning. The hotspot is also available for private bookings.

SUPPORT FOR LOCAL SCHOOLS

Local children have been getting out and about thanks to the team at Hinkley Point C that drives our workforce to and from the site.

When things are a little quieter in the middle of the day, bus drivers from Somerset Passenger Solutions (SPS) have been providing free bus journeys

to take schoolchildren to their swimming lessons and day trips.

Simon Cursio, SPS Managing Director, said: "We're committed to being a good neighbour and we're delighted to provide support to local schools – our drivers usually enjoy these trips just as much as the children!"



Top of the class

Hinkley Point C is taking the message about caring for the environment into two Taunton schools.

Team members from Bouygues UK, one of the project's contractors, will visit pupils at Blackbrook Primary School and St James' Church School.

They'll also be donating bird boxes and tables, hedgehog boxes, and insect and bee hotels – all crafted from recycled wood.

Ben Skudder, HSE Advisor at Bouygues UK, said: "We want to encourage children to think about how they can help the environment."



A volunteering day saw team members at Hinkley Point C clean a local beach.



Life's a beach!

Fourteen Hinkley Point C team members have given the beach at Berrow, near Burnham-on-Sea, a makeover by removing plastic and debris that had washed up along the shore.

Jo Merritt, Commercial Assistant, said: "EDF offers team members a couple of days a year to carry out

community projects. I regularly clear rubbish from the canals and paths, and it was felt that a beach clean was the best way to do something really positive for the local environment while working together as a team."

The group managed to remove several substantial sacks of rubbish

from the area, with items including disposable barbecues, bottles and even socks!

Given the success of this volunteering day, the team is already planning for next year, where they will clean the Bridgwater and Taunton canal route.

Roundup

PROJECT-RELATED PEOPLE AND NEWS

Daisy's blossoming career

Watchet-local Daisy Gallagher has fulfilled her ambition of starting a career at Hinkley Point C, despite Covid-19 throwing a few curveballs in her direction.

Twenty-year-old Daisy, who went to West Somerset College in Minehead, had her heart set on working at Hinkley Point C following a short work experience spell. She also grew up learning about her father's career at Hinkley Point B.

In September 2020, Daisy joined the project for a 12-month industrial placement. She then planned to join the Nuclear Engineering Degree Apprenticeship (NEDA) programme, which she learned about through Young HPC, the project's free skills programme for 16-21-year-olds. However, with her

exams disrupted by the pandemic, her path onto the NEDA programme was suddenly blocked.

But Daisy had made such an impression during her placement that, with support from Young HPC and her line manager, Mark Monaghan, Hinkley Point C offered to extend her placement while she looked for roles within the project.

Now Daisy works as an Operations Technician, a role she earned after passing a tough assessment centre day with more than 50 other candidates!

Daisy said: "The help I received had a big impact. I would really recommend a career at Hinkley Point C to other young people in the local area as I have always felt valued and supported here."



Supporting the local Air Ambulance

When the organisers of the Coast to Coast Cycle Challenge needed help putting on this year's event, the Hinkley Point C team was happy to assist.

The Covid-19 pandemic meant the 55-mile ride in aid of Dorset and Somerset Air Ambulance took place much later than normal this time around. As a result, it was unable to leave from its traditional starting point in Watchet as other events were already planned.

Jason Lee, the project's Off-Site Operations Delivery Lead, who arranged for 250 riders to set off from Washford Cross Park and Ride, said: "Hinkley Point C is part of the local community, so we were delighted to support this great event at short notice."



£250,000 boost for Bridgwater Cycle Scheme

A new cycleway in Bridgwater, connecting Stockmoor to Wills Road, has opened. It was jointly funded by Somerset County Council, Sedgemoor District Council and North Petherton Town Council and included £250,000 of funding from the Hinkley Point C Community Fund.

The cycleway connects with existing cycling and pedestrian infrastructure and now forms a significant travel link for Bridgwater and surrounding areas. It will also be a part of Somerset County Council's Bridgwater Way initiative.

Cllr John Woodman, Somerset County Council's Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport, said: "It's really satisfying to see another section of cycling infrastructure added to the network in Bridgwater – it's a great partnership effort."

You can find out more about cycling routes in Bridgwater by visiting thebridgwaterway.co.uk.



Hinkley Point C funding is helping keep blood bikes on the road.

Safety funds courier charity

People receiving NHS treatment across the county are the latest to benefit from a scheme at Hinkley Point C that encourages the site workforce to look after their own and others' safety.

Volunteer motorcycle courier charity, Freewheelers EVS (Emergency Voluntary Service), was chosen by a committee of team members to receive the third donation of the year from the Hinkley Point C Way Safe Day initiative, which promotes safer ways of working.

Freewheelers EVS saves money and lives by offering an out-of-hours and

free-of-charge courier service to the NHS. Its dedicated team of advanced volunteer motorcyclists deliver essential PPE and medical supplies, test samples and results, and patient records to local NHS hospitals, as well as donated breast milk to the South West Neonatal units.

It has five blood bikes on duty, covering the whole of Somerset and beyond, and makes deliveries to both the Great Western and Wiltshire Air Ambulances. In total, the charity has received £10,800 from the Hinkley Point C Way Safe Day initiative.

Julian Barefoot, Freewheelers EVS treasurer, said: "We are thrilled and so grateful. It's a huge amount of money that is going to keep a bike on the road for two years! That's around 60,000 miles of service in the Somerset area alone and 6,000 people from just the local community that we'll be able to help."

"It's particularly important now as the pandemic really stifled our fundraising activities. We've had to dig deep into our reserves to keep our bikes on the road providing this vital out-of-hours service."

Investing in the future

A new Electrical Centre of Excellence will accept the first group of trainees in 2022 on a programme designed to boost their electrical skills and give them a better chance of a job at Hinkley Point C.

Once operational, the facility at the Somerset Energy Innovation Centre in Bridgwater will cater for hundreds of people as they gain new skills, as well as a sound working knowledge of the nuclear industry.

This forms part of

Hinkley Point C's £19 million investment to support education, training and skills. The funding has helped in the construction of other new facilities that will deliver mechanical, electrical and welding training. Together, they are creating career and training opportunities for local people, regardless of their previous experience or skill level.



Helping Britain achieve net zero

Hinkley Point C's reliable, low-carbon electricity is needed to help Britain achieve net zero and to avoid the worst environmental impacts of climate change. With wind and solar, it will allow Britain to electrify its transport, homes and businesses without depending on fossil fuels.

DID YOU KNOW?
Britain aims to be net zero by 2050. That means balancing carbon emissions with carbon removal or getting rid of them altogether.

Cutting greenhouse gas emissions to net zero is acknowledged as the only way for the world to avoid the most dangerous effects of climate change.

Additionally, nuclear power is beneficial as it produces a lot of reliable low-carbon electricity in a small space.

Hinkley Point C's contribution to

fighting climate change means that during its 60 years of operation it will have a large, positive impact on the environment.

All energy technologies create some carbon emissions in their operation and construction, but new studies confirm that Hinkley Point C's impact is even smaller than wind and solar.

Sustainability and environmental protection are also key considerations in construction.

Hinkley Point C has 50 environmental specialists who are helping to enhance local biodiversity and habitats, helping nature to thrive on land that had been intensively used in agriculture.

THE BIGGER PICTURE

Over its life, the electricity produced by Hinkley Point C will generate less CO₂ than wind or solar power.



9 million
Hinkley Point C will avoid the emission of 9 million tonnes of CO₂ a year compared to producing electricity with a gas power station.

60 days
A gas power plant the size of Hinkley Point C would emit as much CO₂ in just 60 days as the site produced during its entire construction.



BUILDING LESS, BUILDING CLEVER AND BUILDING EFFICIENTLY

98% of the steel reinforcement is recycled.



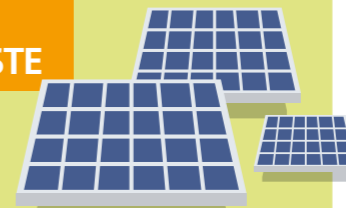
100,000
lorries will be taken off the road by using the jetty, halving CO₂ emissions.

10,000,000m³
of excavated soil and rock has been reused in construction.



MANAGING RESOURCES, REDUCING AND REUSING WASTE

58 solar tower lights + 26 solar street lights
have saved more than 500,000 litres of diesel.



Waste vehicle movements were cut by 75% by opening the Waste Consolidation Centre.

75%



reduction in carbon emissions by using an electric van to escort deliveries, compared to a diesel equivalent.

PROTECTING AND INCREASING BIODIVERSITY



50 environmental specialists are mitigating Hinkley Point C's impact on the environment and helping increase biodiversity in nearby habitats.



£540,000 has been donated to environmental projects through Hinkley Point C's Community Fund.



65,000 trees and shrubs have been planted so far – increasing local biodiversity.



Tremendous

Volunteers from the Environment team and G4S planted 100 elms south of the construction site in November. They joined forces to fund and dig in the new trees that will help offset the security teams' annual carbon footprint.

Sustainability focus

As well as working with local schools and colleges, Hinkley Point C collaborates with local companies and contractors through the Sustainability Forum. This ensures that everyone's on the same page when it comes to

tackling climate change. Teams from across the project continue to innovate to increase efficiency and increase carbon savings. Hinkley Point C's aggregate supplier, Hanson, is using a more

sustainable cement substitute to reduce the environmental impact of concrete production. The project has now used 230,000 tonnes of recycled ground granulated blast furnace slag (GGBS).



ATTENDING THE SUMMIT

Billed as 'the world's best last chance to get runaway climate change under control', COP26, the 26th annual climate change summit, brought together almost every country in the world. This year, Plugged in's Editor and local resident Vicki Dingwall was there too (pictured, middle). She said:

"I attended COP26 as part of a volunteer organisation of young people advocating for nuclear power as part of the solution to meeting net zero targets. The atmosphere was fantastic, with so many global leaders, groups and organisations moved to action and respectfully sharing ideas. Collaboration is key to change and conferences such as COP26 allow the sharing of innovations and the building of relationships on an unprecedented level. I came away with a feeling of enormous pride and positivity for the future."

A year of progress

This year has seen significant progress on site at Hinkley Point C, using pre-fabrication and innovation to increase quality and productivity – with big gains between unit one and two. Here are some of the major construction stories from 2021, each of which has contributed to shaping the landscape of the project and moving Hinkley Point C closer to delivering low-carbon electricity to millions.

FEBRUARY



The final concrete pipe in unit two was installed. This will transport the cooling water needed for the nuclear reactor.

MARCH



In March, the 15 blue columns that will make up a vital part of the support structure of the turbine hall were successfully installed.

MARCH



The domed roof, which will sit on top of the Reactor Building, is one of the most significant future milestones for the first reactor. Earlier this year the first of the 37 steel panels that make up the dome arrived on site. These were transported by sea and moved to a pre-fabrication building where work welding them together has continued throughout the year.

JULY



In July, one of Hinkley Point C's Tunnel Boring Machines (TBMs), known as Emmeline, completed its journey mining the outfall tunnel to complete the second of the three tunnels needed. Over 100,000 tonnes of earth was excavated 24m underneath the seabed. The third TBM, Beatrice, is currently busy mining the third of the three tunnels. Work also took place on the two intake tunnels, which will bring water from the Bristol Channel into the power station's turbine hall.

SEPTEMBER



The Framatome warehouse was completed. Some of the most important project components will be stored and maintained in the building.

OCTOBER



The first section of what will be the largest turbine in the world was delivered to Avonmouth. The turbine is essential in generating the electricity.

NOVEMBER



The first steel liner ring was installed into unit two. It forms part of the containment building for the nuclear reactor and weighs over 500 tonnes.

WHAT'S IN A NAME?

Learn the Hinkley Point C lingo as Plugged in breaks down its technical terms...

Turbine Hall

The turbine halls will be the powerhouse of the station. It's where steam generated from the two reactors is converted into the electricity that will produce 7% of the UK's electricity supply.

To do that, it requires the largest turbine generator in the world which sits at the heart of the turbine hall. The steam supplied by the nuclear reactor spins the steel blades, which in turn will generate enough electricity to power six million homes.

It takes an impressive building to house this equipment! The turbine hall itself is now being built around the 16m-high steel columns that will support the turbine itself.



Turbine hall updates

There's been exciting progress on Hinkley Point C's first turbine hall throughout 2021. The critical building will contain the turbines themselves and all the equipment needed to transfer steam from the steam generators located in the reactor building. The turbine's rotor is turned by high pressure steam to generate 1.6 gigawatts of electricity – enough to power 3 million homes. At the start of the year, the blue columns which will hold the turbine 16m off the ground were installed and became an iconic sight for those working at Hinkley Point C (even

making it onto the cover of Plugged in earlier this year).

Scaffolding has now grown around the columns, ready for a major concrete pour to create the tabletop that will support the turbine itself.

This complex piece of concrete work will not only be completed at height, but will also have to be delivered in one continuous pour of 2,500m³ of concrete. The end result will be a 70m-long and 20m-wide surface ready to support the largest turbine generator in the world, the Arabelle turbine.

Training for safety

The Hinkley Point C workforce is building the first nuclear power station in the UK for a generation – and this involves training Reactor Operators, Supervisors and Shift Managers to run the new power station safely and efficiently from day one.

The simulator building, a facility dedicated to this training, is currently nearing completion with fit-out now well underway. It will house a full simulated replica of the main control room, classrooms and other nuclear-specific training equipment.

The building will support the training of the power station's operators in accordance with stringent regulatory

requirements, so they are primed and ready to start the commercial operation of the power station.

Nuclear safety

The training programme for the Reactor Operators, Control Room Supervisors and Shift Managers will take 18 months.

This is already underway to be ready to safely operate the site from the moment of nuclear fuel delivery and commercial operation.

As well as the simulator and ancillary training equipment, the new building will house 13 classrooms, as well as office space for the growing team.



SPOTTED ON SITE – ROAD SAFETY



Staying safe on the roads

Over the winter months, the roads can become even more dangerous, due to longer periods of darkness and the colder weather.

In November, Hinkley Point C marked Road Safety Week as the workforce was reminded to slow down, be careful and stay mindful during a week-long campaign entirely focused on road safety.

A variety of activities and events took place, ranging from webinars and briefings on driver fatigue, driver safety and vulnerable road users, to the real crashed car that was displayed at Hinkley Point C and at the Park and Ride facility at Junction 24, showing a stark reminder of some of the risks associated with road use.



FUNDING FOR LOCAL PROJECTS

Did you know that Hinkley Point C supports local businesses and projects with its funding scheme managed by Somerset Community Foundation? The HPC Community Fund Small Grants programme has funding available, and applications for grants can be made at any time.

Charities, voluntary groups and social enterprises that normally operate on less than £100,000 a year can apply for grants of up to £5,000, though grants of up to £10,000 (over a period of three years) may also be offered in exceptional circumstances. The funding is available to projects or initiatives that help mitigate impacts felt in the community as a result of Hinkley Point C's construction.

Generally, decisions are made every six to eight weeks. The deadline for the next round of funding decisions is 9 February 2022. More information can be found at hpcfunds.co.uk, and if you have any questions, you can contact Peter Stolze on **01749 344949** or by emailing peter.stolze@somersetcf.org.uk.

Celebrating Christmas in the community

Team members working on site have been getting into the festive spirit with some charitable Christmas activities.

The Hinkley Point C campus at Sedgemoor will be serving Christmas lunch for local charities Nelson Trust, Arc Inspire and CHARIS Refugees, as well as delivering boxed meals to Westfield Church in Bridgwater and Arc Inspire. Seventy cupcakes will be sent to St Margaret's

Hospice as a 'thank you' for all the work they do supporting the community, too.

Somerset Larder, the catering company at Hinkley Point C, will also make meal donations to people in need, and Balfour Beatty is supporting FareShare in Bridgwater with donations to support families during the festive period. The Salvation Army has also received a bumper gift of toys donated by team members.



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