

Autumn 2020

Hinkley Point C magazine  
for the local community

# Plugged in

**INSIDE:** Meet the team helping local people access job opportunities

**WIN**

A festive hamper of goodies from Pyne's of Somerset could be yours



Largest crane makes history again

# ROB'S WELCOME



Welcome to the Autumn issue of **Plugged in**.

Facing Covid-19 has made 2020 a tough year for everyone in the community and on site – and there's been little good cheer in recent news. I want to thank you for your patience, support and understanding as we find ways to work safely and to stop the spread of infection. You can read more about the latest measures in this issue.

Our approach means we've been able to continue making good progress on the Project in 2020. You can take a look at an overview of this and previous years' developments on pages 6-7.

Construction is just one aspect of Hinkley Point C. It's our goal to create a lasting legacy for the region, so turn to pages 8-9 to find out about the progress we've made in supporting and delivering projects that bring community, educational, economic and environmental benefits to the South West.

I hope you enjoy this issue. Please get in touch with the Plugged in team using the contact details below if you have any stories or feedback you'd like to share.

**Rob Jordan**  
Hinkley Point C  
Site Construction Director

## GET IN TOUCH

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

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## Covid-19 update

Hinkley Point C continues to listen to Government guidance and adapt to new ways of working to keep both our local community and workforce safe.

Although infection levels in Somerset remain low, we are not complacent. Extra measures are in place to keep the workforce and the local community safe.

Temperature checks at the site entrance, extra cleaning, social distancing, mask wearing and reduced bus capacities all remain in force to prevent the spread of infection.

There will continue to be a focus on strengthening the Hinkley Point C testing capability. This includes workers who display symptoms, those returning from high-risk areas and random testing to help identify asymptomatic cases. Workers are able to complete a test and receive their results, without the need to leave their car. Anyone that receives a positive result is fully supported and safely transferred, so that they can self-isolate.

For more information on our response to the Covid-19 pandemic, visit [our website](#).

## Continuing the good work



There have been some changes to our Community Relations team over the summer. David Eccles has taken the opportunity to retire and I have taken over the leadership of Community Relations here at Hinkley Point C.

After a number of years spent working across other areas of EDF, it's exciting to be rejoining the Community Relations team.

The Project's construction has played a large part in my professional life for over a decade. I originally joined Hinkley Point C in 2010, and

was involved in the planning and delivery of a range of initiatives that continue to provide the socio-economic benefits that we see today. Our commitment to the local area is as strong as ever, and I'm very much looking forward to working with everyone within our local community in the years ahead.

I particularly want to continue building on the positive legacy we are already helping to create. I also want to see the Project deliver on its commitment to support your aspirations, skills and quality of life now and for future generations.

**Andrew Cockcroft,**  
Senior Manager,  
Community Relations

If you have a story to share with Plugged in, you can contact our Editor Immy via the details on the left.

## SPOTLIGHT ON...



*The Jobs Service is on hand to provide careers guidance to local people looking for new opportunities. Please note: photos taken before social distancing measures were in place.*

## Hinkley Point C's Jobs Service

During its construction and operation, Hinkley Point C will create thousands of jobs and apprenticeships in a wide range of occupations. To help ensure that opportunities could be accessed by those closest to the Project, a dedicated service was created to give local people access to new vacancies.

The Hinkley Point C Jobs Service works with its partner Jobcentre Plus, as well as other support organisations and training providers, to promote local vacancies through its database.

### Varied support

As well as promoting job opportunities for the Hinkley Point C Project, its supply chain and businesses in the local area, the Jobs Service offers a range of employment guidance.

Like everyone, the team has had to make a few changes as a result of Coronavirus restrictions, but it has remained open for business throughout the pandemic.

The phone and CV support services have continued to run, and live web chat sessions are in place to allow people to talk to the team via an instant messaging service. More than 200 individuals have

already engaged in the team's live chats since they've been introduced during the pandemic.

Louise Brown, HPC Jobs Service Lead, said: "We've made ourselves as accessible and flexible as we can be. The service is there to offer help to anyone worried about redundancies and we've supported those looking for work.

"We've also been able to help local businesses looking to reach candidates through our jobs database. For example, we recently advertised positions for a company making antibacterial wipes that was looking to expand."

### Digital development

The pandemic has meant a pause in the popular recruitment events run by the Jobs Service, which regularly drew in around 700 people.

While keen to restart these as soon as circumstances allow, the team has seized the opportunity to expand on its digital delivery. It has been busy setting up virtual jobs fairs to facilitate employers and job seekers getting to know each other.

You can sign up by visiting the [Hinkley Point C Jobs Service website](#).



## SECURING A NEW CAREER

When David Lloyd from Bridgwater took a voluntary early retirement package at the age of 63, he had little idea of the type of opportunities that might be available at Hinkley Point C... until he signed up to the Jobs Service.

David said: "I was new to the job market as I had been employed for 20 years. I received brilliant advice from the Jobs Service, who set me on a new career path aligned to my experience and personal qualities."

The Jobs Service helped David to update his CV and encouraged him to send it to G4S, the contract partner delivering Hinkley Point C's security services, where he now works as a Health, Safety and Environment Lead.

# Community

SUPPORTING SOMERSET



GET INVOLVED: Find out more about grants and funding at [hpcfunds.co.uk](http://hpcfunds.co.uk)



## Visitor Centre is on the move

A new Visitor Centre is being developed at Cannington Court.

People of all ages will be able to learn more about the construction and operation of Hinkley Point B and Hinkley Point C while also exploring the challenges and technology behind the low-carbon energy system of the future.

The Hinkley Point Visitor Centre is moving from its former home in

Bridgwater's Angel Place shopping centre to its new location at Cannington Court.

The Angel Place Visitor Centre is now closed but work is well underway at the new site so that it's ready when public visits are possible again in the future. The artist's impression above shows how it'll make use of the latest technology to open up the Project to everyone.

## Funds provide essential support

A resourceful church has adapted its services to provide vital support to vulnerable people in Bridgwater.

Westfield United Reformed Church was awarded a £226,400 grant from the HPC Community Fund in 2018. Among other improvements, the grant will allow the church to carry out renovations to provide a refurbished hall and counselling rooms.

The renovation was completed during lockdown, meaning it couldn't be opened to the public. However, the church has found other ways to help the community.

Treasurer Jacky Bartholomew explained: "Since March, we've carried out more than 3,500 'acts of kindness' and vital support for the elderly and people unable to leave their homes due to self-isolation or shielding."

### From late-March to early-October, the church provided:

- 1,569 meals to rough sleepers
- 94 sets of clothes and toiletries to those in need
- 41 emergency accommodation referrals
- 889 meals to the elderly and isolated
- 115 food bank vouchers.



The renovated parklands is a great area of interest for locals.

Please note: photo taken before social distancing measures were in place.

## Green space revamped for all

The Wembdon Parklands and Community Together (PACT) initiative is a great example of how the HPC Community Fund is helping to make a positive difference for local people.

A £52,960 grant from the HPC Community Fund has gone towards regenerating and extending the park area in Wembdon, Bridgwater.

Work included creating a prairie orchard and nature trail, sensory borders and seating areas, and putting in wheelchair-accessible paths. Planting new trees, shrubs and flowers has also encouraged insects and wildlife.

More people are now enjoying the area, which proved to be particularly popular during lockdown.

"People frequently tell us how much they appreciate the development," said Lorna Edwards, Chairperson, Wembdon PACT.

"One resident was advised by her doctor to take regular walks to improve her strength.

"Now, because of the tarmac pathways, she can access the park and is finding she's able to walk a little further with each visit."



A trail marker at the parklands (above), and a 'bug hotel' encourages wildlife (right).



## ROUND-UP



### ROUTE PLAN YOUR RIDE

The Bridgwater Way's interactive cycle map, which is funded by Hinkley Point C, now includes a journey planner! Cyclists can plan their routes to suit all abilities and requirements.

The smart new function, available via [maps.thebridgwaterway.co.uk](http://maps.thebridgwaterway.co.uk), means you can input start and end

locations, and see step-by-step directions. There's also an option to select the fastest or quietest routes, or add in stops.

Information inputted by cyclists allows the data to be as accurate as possible. You can even see how much of the journey is on and off-road.



### FLAGSHIP HALL FOR STOGURSEY

Stogursey Victory Hall is a modern facility built with the support of the HPC Community Fund, to serve the local and wider community.

Hinkley Point C has invested £1.55 million and local groups are now able to make full use of the newly opened venue.

The space consists of a leisure hall,

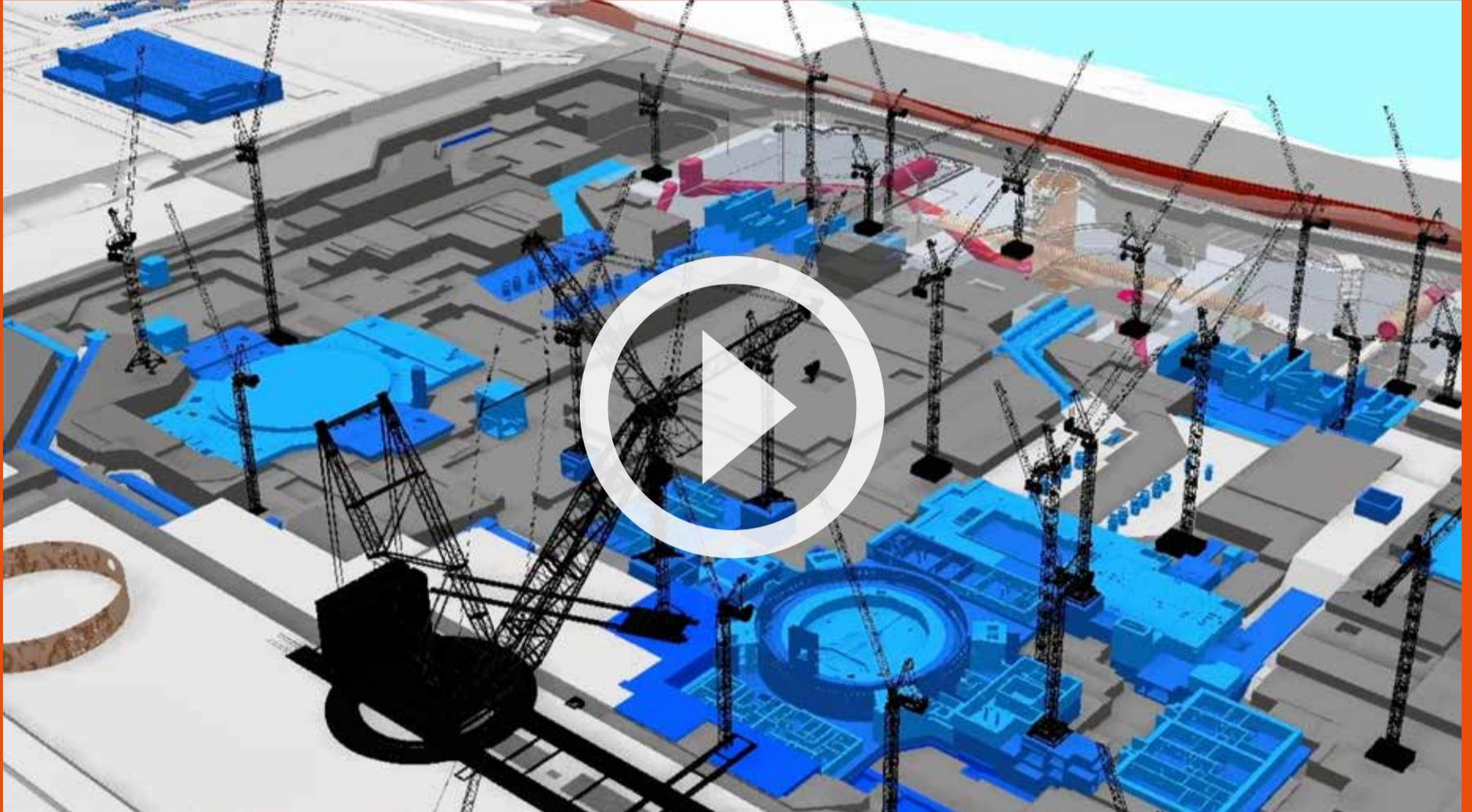
sports field, tennis court, changing facilities, bar, kitchen area, car park and rooms which are available for private bookings.

If you're interested in using the space, please contact Allan Searle, Booking Secretary, on 01278 732820 or Chris Ford, Chairman, on 07552 610692.

**FEATURE: PROJECT BUILD**

# Four years of progress...

Hinkley Point C has come a long way since the main construction phase began in 2016. Plugged in charts the major milestones in its progress...



Click on the play button to see how much has changed... and what the site will look like on completion.



**1 September 2016**  
The Project gets the green light



**2 August 2017**  
First reactor base blinding concrete pour



**3 June 2019**  
The first reactor's foundations were set



**4 August 2019**  
Jetty becomes operational



**5 September 2019**  
First Tunnel Boring Machine launches



**6 September 2019**  
Heavy lift crane Big Carl ready for use



**7 November 2019**  
Sea wall completed



**8 December 2019**  
Completion of the earthworks phase



**9 September 2020**  
The second reactor's liner cup was placed

# Our route to a lasting legacy

It's not just construction that has come a long way. We're working hard to ensure the wider benefits of Hinkley Point C will last for generations to come. Here are some of the highlights...

## 2011



- Hinkley Point C launched the Inspire Education Programme. This formed part of a wider education, skills and employment plan designed to ensure local people could take advantage of the substantial benefits of the Project. The programme continues to promote Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) subjects to schools across Somerset.

## 2012

- The Hinkley Point C Project committed to investing £130 million to support the community in areas such as economic development, education, tourism, health, leisure and infrastructure
- In April, a £1.6 million investment was given to West Somerset Community College to build new training facilities and deliver new courses
- In May, a £3 million investment was granted to Bridgwater & Taunton College for its Energy Skills Centre to help local people secure new skills, training and jobs
- Somerset Chamber of Commerce delivered events to increase awareness of supply chain opportunities for local businesses.



## 2013

- A £1.5 million investment was delivered for the Construction Skills & Innovation Centre in Bridgwater, which went on to open in 2015. To date, it has trained more than 11,000 students.



## 2014

- The £20 million HPC Community Fund launched – it has since funded over more than 160 local projects
- Hinkley Point C assisted the relief effort during the Somerset floods, providing both warehouse space and logistical support to co-ordinate public donations. Workers also helped renovate Moorland and Fordgate Village Hall after it was damaged by the floods
- £200,000 was provided to the Quantock Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB), ensuring the local landscape is protected and developed for future generations to enjoy.



## 2015

- We welcomed Stogursey, Cannington and Otterhampton Parish Councillors on a site visit, as part of our new programme of public tours
- In December, Cannington bypass was completed, reducing traffic driving through the village.



## 2016



- By the summer, the Inspire programme had delivered 110,000 student engagements across Somerset
- The Hinkley Point C Jobs Service held five recruitment fairs, seven redundancy support events, one apprenticeship event and two work academy events.

## 2017



- By April, £456 million had been spent with local companies, 241 apprentices had been trained, and 3,811 jobs were created
- In October, Young HPC launched. It continues to provide 16-21 year olds with resources to support them from school into work
- The Hinkley Point Visitor Centre won the Community Champion Innovation Award.

## 2018



- In February, the National College for Nuclear opened in Cannington
- Somerset Larder, a joint venture between local suppliers, celebrated its four-year anniversary. The group of local food suppliers has since celebrated serving four million meals to the Hinkley Point C workforce.

## 2019



- 1,000 STEM and careers activities were delivered across the South West to date. They involved 415 education institutions, leading to 150,000 student engagements
- Local charity West Somerset Advice Bureau received a £108,923 grant from the HPC Community Fund to strengthen its housing support services and boost training for volunteers.

## 2020

- 707 apprentices have been trained to date with access to the dedicated Apprentice and Skills Hub on site
- £10.6 million of the £20 million HPC Community Fund has been donated so far
- Between May and August, Somerset Larder delivered 37,000 meals to frontline NHS staff
- Work has started on our new Hinkley Point Visitor Centre
- Our community forums, which have been running since 2010, go online during the pandemic.

## SO FAR TO DATE...

● More than 11,000 job opportunities have been created

● 40% of the workforce has been recruited from the local area – against a target of 34% in the Project's construction phase

● £119 million has been invested in the community to minimise impact and increase non-commercial opportunities

● £2.7 billion has been spent with companies in the South West – against a target of £1.5 billion

● 60,000 trees and shrubs have been planted.

# Roundup

PROJECT-RELATED PEOPLE AND NEWS



## Workforce buses: behind the scenes

Making sure Hinkley Point C workers can get to where they need to be on a daily basis, while keeping local transport disruption and environmental impact to a minimum, is essential to the smooth running of the Project. This is where Somerset Passenger Solutions (SPS) comes in.

The 350-strong SPS team has lots of work to do behind the scenes. This, along with the fact that peak travel time for the workforce falls between 05:30-07:00 and 18:00-18:45, explains why the buses can often appear to be moving around

looking relatively empty during the normal working day.

"The buses often seem to be running with few passengers because the main movement of the team takes place when most people are having breakfast or their evening meal," explained Andy Wagstaff, Passenger Transport Service Manager.

During non-peak times vehicles are repositioned, fuelled, maintained, cleaned or used for route familiarisation. Quieter periods are also used for driver training and recruitment. Most of these activities take place around Junction 24,

which means buses frequently travel to and from that location. There are also a number of vehicles stationed at the site, for use in an emergency. So, if you spot an empty bus during wintery weather conditions, this could be because the vehicle is travelling to pick up workers if heavy snow is forecast, for example.

"This work is really important," Andy continued. "The investment we've made in safe, good-quality vehicles demonstrates the value we put into ensuring the workforce is transported safely and efficiently."

## Charity incentive for safe working

Safety remains the number one priority for everyone working at Hinkley Point C.

The HPC Safe Way is a new safety and learning initiative that encourages everyone involved in the Project to think more about safety, while also

supporting local charities.

Every safe day recorded at Hinkley Point C results in local charities receiving a £50 donation. A safe month results in a donation of £3,000.

Criteria have been set for what makes a 'safe day' at

Hinkley Point C, defining it as a day that is safe for the environment, the community and all of the people who work on site.

Keep an eye out on our [website](#) for more information on this initiative.



## NEW DIRECTOR DRIVES DIVERSITY



**Q** Hi Belen De Ugarte! Can you tell us about your career and your new role as Hinkley Point C's Civils Programme Director?

"I have a civil engineering background, with 25 years working on major projects. I helped shape the infrastructure for the 2012 London Olympics before moving onto the London Kings Cross station project, as well as working for the UK Department for Transport delivering the High Speed 2 programme. Overseeing a team of 100, I lead Hinkley Point C's Civils infrastructure programme, which covers the structures of all buildings across the site, as well as the tunnels which will bring the water in to cool the reactors."

**Q** How does it feel to be part of the Project?

"I'm incredibly proud – I have two daughters and they're very impressed with where I work! I've always wanted to work in energy and make a difference to the environment. It's great to be part of something that will create a lasting legacy."

**Q** How would you describe Hinkley Point C?

"It's a very multicultural place. However, construction is a male-dominated industry, and even though I'm completely comfortable in the environment, it'd be great to bring more women in. Diversity is definitely the way to go."

**Q** What would you say to anyone interested in working on the Project?

"This is a place for everyone, not just engineers. We need people from different sectors and backgrounds, so whatever your area of interest, this is the project for you."



## Oystercatcher birds on site

Three new arrivals appeared at Hinkley Point C this summer when a parcel of oystercatchers hatched near the sea wall. These wading birds are on the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB's) 'birds of conservation concern' amber list, but breeding pairs in England are on the rise – including these new parents.

The site's Environment team first spotted the parents searching for a nesting site. They monitored the two wading birds and put protective measures in place to protect their clutch of eggs.

The trio fledged in August and now forage and fend for themselves along the Somerset coastline.

### DID YOU KNOW:

*The Environment team completes regular wildlife monitoring and assessments, working with contractors to organise proactive surveys. Their systems make sure that correct reporting, logging and the appropriate measures are in place to protect all birds nesting on site.*

## Elevating young people's careers

Hinkley Point C teamed up with Weston College this summer to deliver Elevate, a work readiness programme for 16-21 year olds preparing for their future careers.

**'Helpful and enlightening'** The two-week programme included a Dragons' Den-style competition to come up with an innovative product or service, as well as talks from an apprentice and an

engineer from Hinkley Point C, to give participants the insider view on working in the construction industry.

Joshua Lee, who has begun studying engineering at a local college since taking part in the course, said: "I really enjoyed the Elevate programme and found it extremely helpful, enlightening and a thorough introduction into what I'm aiming for in the future."

### Prompting interaction

Cora Heal, Early Skills Co-ordinator at Hinkley Point C, said: "There were lots of ways to get everyone interacting online. The aim was to help attendees identify their strengths and give them practical ways to stand out."

The next Elevate programme, aimed at 19-21 year olds, will run from 23 November.

### Register with Young HPC

All 10 Elevate participants are part of Young HPC. If you're aged 16-21 and not already registered with Young HPC, why not get involved? It's free to join and you'll be sent new opportunities like the next Elevate programme, as well as careers guidance. Visit EDF's [Young HPC](#) page for more information.



## COMPETITION

**CLICK HERE  
TO ENTER**  
Entry deadline  
Monday 14  
December  
2020

## JOBS BOARD

### LOOKING FOR A JOB OR INTERESTED IN A CAREER CHANGE?

Hinkley Point C expects to create an additional 1,200 jobs and 300 apprenticeships in its next phase of construction. You, or someone you know, could be just the right fit.

The Hinkley Point C Jobs Service matches the skills, experience and values of local people to job opportunities from across the Project and its supply chain. And, with the size and reach of the construction, there's a wide variety of exciting roles on offer.

To register for free and browse the full list of current job and apprenticeship opportunities, visit the [HPC Jobs Service website](#).

You can also look out for Hinkley Point C career opportunities in future issues of Plugged in.

# Win... a festive food hamper

Would you like to be in with a chance of winning a fabulous food hamper jam-packed with festive goodies?

All you need to do is fill in our survey. It'll only take a few minutes and by letting us know your thoughts we'll be able to continue bringing you the updates that matter the most. Complete the

survey and you'll be entered automatically into our prize draw.

We'll use your comments to make improvements to Plugged in, so please do be honest and detailed in your answers.

The hamper of festive goodies is donated by Pyne's of Somerset – Great Britain's Best Butcher. Good luck!

## WANT TO FIND OUT MORE?

If you're interested in learning more about the stories covered in this issue, click on the links below or visit [edfenergy.com/pluggedin](https://www.edfenergy.com/pluggedin)

### Click here:

- [Elevate training](#)
- [Community projects funded by Hinkley Point C](#)
- [Hinkley bus team](#)
- [Hinkley Point C Jobs Service](#)



### TERMS AND CONDITIONS:

The winner will need to be able to collect the prize from Pyne's of Somerset in North Petherton, Bridgwater. By entering you give Plugged in permission to contact you via your supplied details. Entrants' data will not be used for any other purpose and will be deleted once the prize draw has taken place. The prize is non-transferable and cannot be replaced with a cash alternative. The judges' decision is final.



**PICTURE PERFECT**  
Follow Hinkley Point C on Instagram to see the latest updates from the Project.



For International Women's Day, we're shining a light on some of our many inspirational women.



Construction of the second reactor at Hinkley Point C passed a major milestone with the lifting of the first part of the massive steel containment liner.