

## Special issue: Hinkley Point C reaches landmark agreement

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## Notes from Nigel

On 21 October we were able to announce the Strategic Investment Agreement with our Chinese partners CGN to construct Hinkley Point C.



On Wednesday 21 October we were able to announce the Strategic Investment Agreement with our Chinese partners CGN to construct Hinkley Point C.

That's good news not just for Somerset, but also for the rest of the UK – for customers, jobs and industry. It'll be one of the largest investments ever in British history and will provide reliable low carbon electricity for decades to come.

There are a number of formal steps we need to take to finalise the investment decision, and we need to respect these formalities, but now we can say we are crossing the threshold between thinking about it and implementing it. It's a joining of forces and expertise which is good for the UK, China and France.

We will now start to put the plans in place so that we can remobilise at the site in a controlled way. We will of course continue to keep the community informed as we move forward.

The reality is that this country needs to replace today's old polluting power plants with new low carbon electricity. We have lost 20% of our electricity generation in the last five years and will lose another third by 2030.

Building Hinkley Point C will provide reliable power round the clock even when the wind isn't blowing or the sun isn't shining and that reliability will save customers money compared to leaving nuclear out of the future energy mix.

Not only that but it will also provide 25,000 job opportunities and give a massive boost to British industry up and down the country.

In the South West we have already announced contracts worth over £225 million that are set to see local companies supply goods and services to the construction site. More will follow.

We have also been busy putting into place the infrastructure that will help deliver the project and reduce its impact for the local community. £16 million has been invested in improving the local roads network – in Bridgwater, West Somerset and Cannington, with construction of a bypass for that village on schedule for completion by the end of the year.

Investment has also been targeted at developing the skills that will enable local people to take advantage of the huge variety of job opportunities during the construction and operation of the power station.

Getting to this stage has only been possible thanks to the active participation and support from around the local community, with local authorities, schools and colleges, companies, Somerset Chamber of Commerce, community groups, organisations and individuals all playing a role in shaping our plans.

A common encouragement from locals has been, "get on and build it!" Well, that is what I am now preparing to do. I'm proud and humbled to lead, backed up by a world-class team and grateful for your continued support.

**Nigel Cann**  
Site Construction Director  
Hinkley Point C

### Getting in touch with us

-  **Visit** [www.edfenergy.com/hinkleypointc](http://www.edfenergy.com/hinkleypointc)
-  **Email** [hinkley-enquiries@edf-energy.com](mailto:hinkley-enquiries@edf-energy.com)
-  **Call us** 0800 096 9650
-  **Visit us** EDF Energy Visitor Centre, Angel Place Shopping Centre, Bridgwater TA6 3TQ
-  **Tweet us** @edfehinkleyc
-  **Billing enquiries and customer services** 0800 096 9000

# Securing Britain's low carbon energy future

The United Kingdom is facing a critical time in its energy future and Hinkley Point C will play a significant role in overcoming the challenges.

The new nuclear power station will be key in the drive to decarbonise our energy system while replacing significant amounts of existing infrastructure that is due to come offline over the next decade.

Once operational, HPC will produce electricity when it is needed, day, night, summer and winter. It is also the only low carbon option for providing baseload power, and will work alongside gas and renewables, as well as future technologies.

HPC will be the first nuclear power station to be built in the UK for more than 20 years, ushering in the next generation of nuclear power stations. It will generate enough low carbon electricity to power more than 5 million homes for its anticipated lifespan of 60 years.

The new power station will bring many other benefits too. It is a huge investment project – comparable in scale to the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games creating a broad range of opportunities for Somerset and the South West and beyond.

Some 25,000 employment opportunities will be available throughout the build and the Oxford Institute for Sustainable Development has calculated that around £100 million will be



Above Visualisation of Hinkley Point C

injected into the local economy during peak construction each year. Our project is also helping to inspire the next generation of engineers and scientists, helped along the way by £15 million of local investment in education, employment and skills by EDF Energy.

## Good for our customers

Hinkley Point C is a good deal for taxpayers and consumers:

- The consumer price for electricity produced is competitive with other forms of major low carbon generation.
- With our shared industrial experience and expert UK and international team, the HPC project will shoulder all the construction costs associated with the construction of Hinkley Point C – **there will be no cost to the taxpayer.**

## Good for our economy

Hinkley Point C will create thousands of jobs and provide lasting benefit to the local and national economy:

- Construction and operation of HPC will provide 25,000 employment opportunities and aims to **create at least 1,000 apprenticeships.**
- Over 60% of the project's construction value is predicted to go to UK companies.

## Good for action on climate change

Hinkley Point C delivers secure and affordable low carbon electricity for the next 60 years:

- Nuclear is the only proven low carbon option for providing the predictable and secure electricity the UK needs.
- The electricity generated from Hinkley Point C will **avoid some 9 million tonnes of carbon dioxide emissions per year.**

# More than a power station

With eight different sites of construction, and road improvements already underway, the project is much bigger than most people think.

As well as the construction and operation of the power station itself, the HPC project covers various necessary associated developments in the local area including a £16 million package of road improvement schemes.

## For our workforce

During the busiest construction phase over 5,000 people will work on site at Hinkley Point C at any one time. To reduce car journeys on local roads 95% of construction workers will travel to site by bus and four dedicated Park and Ride facilities are being constructed for this purpose.

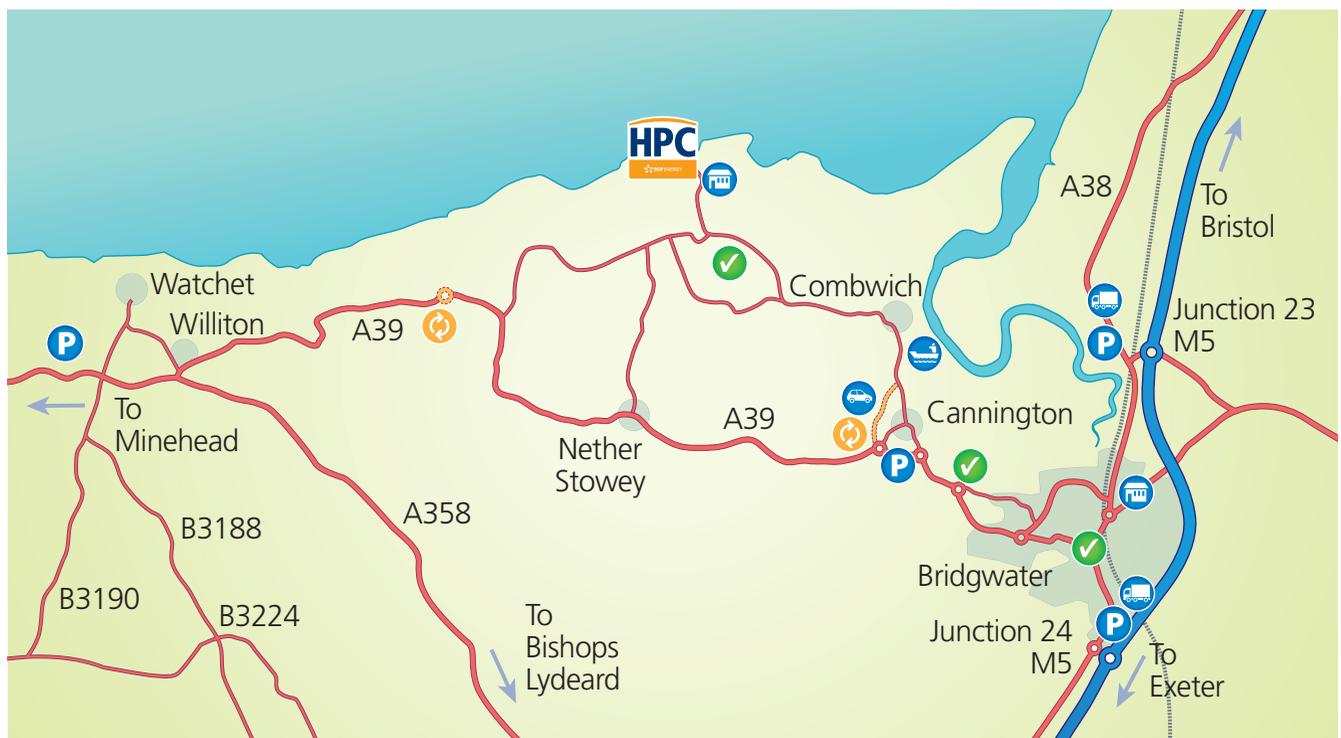
Around two thirds of workers will rent privately in the local area or be home based. For the remaining third, accommodation facilities are planned in Bridgwater along with a 500 bed campus planned for the south of the construction site. The campuses will include excellent sports and recreation facilities.

## For efficient logistics

A 500 metre temporary jetty is being built on the site's coast so that at least 80% of the construction aggregates will arrive at the site by sea, alleviating traffic on the roads. In the nearby village of Comwich, a wharf is being refurbished to enable unloading of vessels carrying the large, abnormally sized loads that are required.

A bypass is being built to the west of Cannington to take traffic around the village rather than through it, and is on schedule for completion by the end of the year. In total, £16 million of improvements are being made on Somerset roads. In addition, to ensure that traffic flows into Hinkley Point C are tightly controlled, two freight management facilities are planned at Junction 23 and Junction 24 of the M5 motorway and a series of cameras will monitor lorry movements.

For more information visit: [www.edfenergy.com/hpc](http://www.edfenergy.com/hpc)



-  Bypass
-  Park & Ride
-  Freight Facilities
-  Wharf
-  Accommodation Campus
-  Work in Progress
-  Works Completed

# Hinkley Point C: the story so far

Over the last seven years the HPC Project has achieved many key milestones in our investment and engagement in Somerset, providing lasting economic benefit to the region.

<b>14 Oct 2008</b>  Early engagement begins with local community	<b>31 Mar 2009</b> Nomination of Hinkley Point C as potential site for new nuclear	<b>16 Nov 2009</b> HPC Stage 1 consultation 'Initial Proposals and Options'	<b>9 Jul 2010</b> HPC Stage 2 formal consultation begins 'Preferred Proposals'	<b>25 Feb 2011</b> HPC 'Update on Stage 2 Preferred Proposals' formal consultation begins
<b>11 Jul 2011</b>  Early contracts awarded to south-west firms	<b>28 Jul 2011</b> West Somerset Council approves HPC preparatory works	<b>31 Oct 2011</b>  HPC Development Consent Order application submitted	<b>30 Jan 2012</b> £30m community benefits package announced to mitigate the impacts of HPC site preparation works	<b>4 Apr 2012</b> £1.6m for West Somerset Community College to train young people
<b>18 May 2012</b> Bridgwater College receives £2m for local skills development	<b>11 Sep 2012</b> £100m package of mitigation measures agreed with local authorities	<b>2 Oct 2012</b>  'Hinkley Ready' and 'Hinkley Enterprise' schemes launched	<b>31 Oct 2012</b> 1,000 Somerset firms sign up to compete for HPC contracts	<b>13 Dec 2012</b> Regulators approve EPR nuclear reactor design for use in the UK after 850,000 hours of engineering studies
<b>19 Mar 2013</b>  Secretary of State approves planning for construction of HPC	<b>21 Oct 2013</b> Agreement on commercial terms for HPC and announcement of Tier 1 contractors	<b>6 May 2014</b>  Phase 2 preparatory works begin on site	<b>8 Oct 2014</b> European Commission approves HPC agreements	<b>23 Feb 2015</b> Construction Skills and Innovation Centre opens in Cannington
<b>31 Jul 2015</b> Preferred bidder companies join the team including contracts worth £225m with south-west firms	<b>21 Sep 2015</b> Chancellor announces £2 billion Infrastructure UK guarantee	<b>21 Oct 2015</b> EDF and CGN sign a Strategic Investment Agreement for joint investment for two EPR reactors at Hinkley Point C		

# Strategic Investment Agreement signed



Getting to this stage has only been possible thanks to the active participation and support from around the local community, with local authorities, schools and colleges, companies, Somerset Chamber of Commerce, community groups, organisations and individuals all playing a role in shaping our plans.

Nigel Cann, Site Construction Director Hinkley Point C



**“The UK is open for business and this is a good deal for everyone – Hinkley Point C will continue to meet our robust safety regulations and will power nearly 5 million households with low carbon**

**energy, creating more financial security for working people and their families.”**

Amber Rudd MP  
Secretary of State for Energy and Climate Change



**“Nuclear power will save customers money compared with other energy options and provide a huge boost to British industrial strength, jobs and skills both in Britain and abroad.**

**Today’s announcements are also good news in the fight against climate change.”**

Vincent de Rivaz  
EDF Energy CEO



**“My dad and my brother have worked at Hinkley B for many years. After 20 years working here myself, my hope is that my children will succeed in a career here also.”**

Sherry Clapp, visitor coordinator  
Hinkley Point B



**“We joined with other local companies to form the Somerset Larder. Thanks to the project I’ve secured a huge amount of business.”**

Butcher Malcolm Pyne  
Pyne's of Somerset

# Investing in our

Construction Skills and Innovation Centre



Somerset Energy Innovation Centre



## Energy Skills Centre

Bridgwater College received £3 million of investment towards their Energy Skills Centre which hosts science and engineering subjects as well low carbon and nuclear related education and training. It has an engineering workshop and a welding and fabrication workshop, as well as labs for instrumentation and control which will help students and local people secure new skills, training and jobs at Hinkley Point C.

## Construction Skills and Innovation Centre at Bridgwater College

We've invested £1.5 million in the Construction Skills and Innovation Centre at Bridgwater College. This facility replicates a real life construction site, with industry-standard plant, machinery and equipment and offers training in excavation, groundworks, concrete pouring and scaffolding. It will become a 'one-stop-shop' service to meet the training needs of HPC.

## Hinkley Ready

A further £1.6 million has been invested in West Somerset Community College for the Hinkley Ready and Enterprise projects which offer vocational training, such as building services, construction, plumbing, electrical and mechanical skills. The schemes are a collaboration between EDF Energy and the college, designed to help local students maximise opportunities from the project. In addition the centre intends to reach out to the wider community by offering refresher training and upskilling.

## Somerset Energy Innovation Centre

We've invested £675k in the new Somerset Energy Innovation Centre which has been built to support the establishment and growth of a low carbon energy supply chain cluster in Somerset and across the South West.

## Chilton Trinity swimming pool

Through our planning commitments we contributed £250,000 towards the community pool at Chilton Trinity Leisure Centre which is now run by the 1610 gym chain.

Energy Skills Centre



Chilton Trinity swimming pool



Hinkley Ready



# community



Community Fund



Inspire Education Programme

## Community Fund

EDF Energy has committed a total of £20 million towards a Community Fund, £1.8 million of which has already been allocated to local projects. A number of these are now becoming a reality, including a new village hall and playing fields in Wembdon, funds towards the Sydenham Together scheme, Burgage Road play area in Stogursey, and Watchet Boat Museum and Visitor Centre, to name a few. To find out more about the Community Fund visit: <http://www.westsomersetonline.gov.uk/cim>

## Inspire Education Programme

Inspire is HPC's education programme. Through a range of innovative activities across Somerset, we are helping to prepare young people to take advantage of the huge opportunities that the construction and operation of HPC will bring. We have already invested over £3 million to develop a pipeline from local education into apprenticeships, degree courses and into future sustainable employment at HPC and the projects of the future.

## Sports Pitches

We've built two new Sport England standard football pitches to replace the ones on the old Bridgwater Sports and Social Club site which will now host Hinkley Point C's accommodation campus. The new community football pitches are located at Kingsdown in the north-east of Bridgwater.

## Business

Since 2010 we've been supporting local businesses through contracts with Somerset Chamber of Commerce in order to deliver a supply chain solution for the project by engaging with both Somerset and south-west businesses that want to become part of the supply chain. We have a dedicated Supply Chain Engagement Manager who provides the link between local suppliers, stakeholders and the project. Successes to date include the creation of five local joint ventures with combined contract values of £225m.



Sports Pitches



Business

# Inspiring the next generation

After another successful year, Hinkley Point C's Inspire education programme is back in schools for a new term.

The innovative and industry-leading Inspire education programme has just launched a new term of exciting activities across Somerset. Not only is the team helping to inspire young people of all ages into science, technology, engineering and mathematics (known as STEM subjects) to fill a national skills shortage, it is preparing them for the wealth of opportunities that will arrive with the construction and operation of the new Hinkley Point C power station. Over the planned 10 years of construction, some 25,000 employment opportunities will be available – many of them being taken by local people.

1620  
EDUCATION  
PROFESSIONALS  
ENGAGED



Through the constantly developing programme, Somerset youngsters are gaining first-hand experience of engineering related tasks, an appreciation of the nuclear industry and the challenges and opportunities of a low carbon energy mix of the future. It's the perfect springboard into the varied and interesting careers that are available through all of the STEM subjects.

"It's just putting that seed into students' minds such as 'I can do science, I can do engineering'."

Local teacher



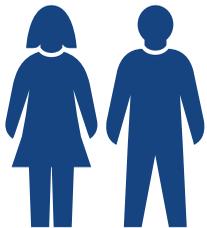
APPROX  
**853**  
HOURS OF  
ACTIVITY DELIVERED



NUMBER OF  
ASSEMBLIES DELIVERED



**46**



NUMBER OF  
YOUNG PERSON  
INTERACTIONS  
**30,347**

NUMBER  
OF  
NEW  
SCHOOLS  
REACHED IN THE SW



OVER



**200**  
AIR POWERED  
'EGG PROTECTION'  
VEHICLES CREATED

Tom Thayer, an ex-teacher himself, looks after the on-going development of Inspire from its base at Cannington Court, EDF Energy's state-of-the-art training centre. "Although Inspire has now been working with local youngsters, schools and teachers for over four years there's never a time to sit back and relax. We are constantly on the lookout for new technology and partnerships to provide the best possible opportunities for the young people involved – they are our future!"

#### Success in 2014/2015

Inspire isn't a new concept and has been steadily expanding and developing throughout Somerset and beyond since 2011. From bespoke careers assemblies at Robert Blake Science College in Bridgwater

to exciting live science experiments and shows for all schools at Millfield School in Street, the last academic year has been particularly successful for Tom and the team.

210 exciting activities were delivered across the county bringing the total number of student engagements up to almost 85,000 across 223 different schools.

Last year also saw the further development of our Women into Construction and Engineering events in partnership with Bristol University and Frome, Bridgwater and Somerset Colleges. Over 250 young women took part, gaining a greater insight into some of the fantastic opportunities available.

#### Making a difference

The Inspire programme is helping to ensure that Hinkley Point C brings a long-term beneficial legacy to the local area. Recent independent research on the Inspire programme is showing that it's really making a difference. Inspire is contributing to more interest in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) – vital parts of our future low carbon economy.

As a result of attending an Inspire activity:

- 67% of pupils said that they learnt new things.
- 48% said they have a better idea of what employers are interested in.
- 42% can make an informed decision about possible future careers.

Over 90% of pupils agreed that EDF Energy's Year 9 and 10 Challenge Days had increased their knowledge and interests in STEM as well as developing their practical skills.

## Meet your Hinkley Job Service team

If you've ever been in touch about working at HPC, it's likely you have spoken with Louise Brown and Jenny Sandy, our Jobs Service managers.



Following the announcement of the Strategic Investment decision, people are interested to know more about the Job Service team. *Plugged in* speaks to Jenny and Louise to find out more:

### **Why is the brokerage so important?**

**Louise:** We do more than just help find people work, the Jobs Service at HPC is critical to the project; we are committed to providing 34% of all Hinkley jobs to local people. It's our job to act as a central function to ensure HPC vacancies are filled and people are getting as much information as possible to help them become part of the HPC workforce.

**Jenny:** We also work on upskilling and offering pre-training opportunities to

individuals to ensure that we support the demands of the project with the right people, with the right skills at the right time. We work very closely with the contractors to support them through their mobilisation and demobilisation phases. As the project develops one of our key roles will be identifying opportunities for people to maintain a sustainable career at HPC through upskilling, and by placing them in different roles as the project develops.

**Louise:** We also get involved in key programmes alongside external partners, such as Jobcentre Plus, to develop employment outreach programmes and support getting the unemployed and under-employed back into work and better jobs. We're also committed to creating a diverse workforce at HPC and are part of the drive to help young people and under-

**Above** Louise Brown and Jenny Sandy, Hinkley Job Service team

**Opposite** Workers on Hinkley Point C construction site

represented groups identify skills and training opportunities alongside our partners and the HPC Inspire education programme.

### **How do you see it developing in the future?**

**Jenny:** As the project grows the services we offer and our capacity will grow too. We'll work even more closely with local colleges and training agencies to identify opportunities for individuals, with a particular focus on those already living locally. We've also got some big plans to develop other services which will feed in to

us giving people the best possible advice and guidance from experts across the industry.

**Louise:** Although the HPC Jobs Service is in its early stages of development we have already placed over 180 people into jobs at HPC and have really high hopes for how the service will develop in the future.

### **Tell us about your backgrounds**

**Louise:** My background has always been recruitment and prior to my current role I spent 10 years supporting the long-term unemployed into work.

**Jenny:** Mine's similar, I previously worked for Careers South West, offering information advice and guidance to both employed/unemployed people.

### **What's the best part of your job?**

**Louise:** How quickly your day can change. I love promoting a vacancy then matching

candidates to vacancies/training opportunities and helping them secure employment. It's a really good feeling when you've helped someone find a job that they enjoy.

**Jenny:** I've always enjoyed the relationship building, with candidates and with suppliers. Living locally I'm really pleased to have the opportunity of being part of such a prestigious project

### **How does the brokerage work with other companies?**

**Louise:** We work with local companies and offer support with opportunities created at HPC via the supply chain – for example we have recently been working with Somerset Larder

### **What are the top benefits of signing up to the brokerage and how would that differ from signing up with an agency?**

**Jenny:** We don't just offer a raft of advice

and support to anyone who approaches us, we can offer focussed advice, guidance and in some cases pre-training that will enhance people's opportunities at HPC.

**Louise:** As the project moves from one phase to another, signing up with the brokerage will give the added support of helping you find further work on the project when your contract potentially may end.

### **How to find out more:**

Employment opportunities will start in 2016. Louise and Jenny will be dropping into the EDF Energy Visitors Centre in Angel Place Shopping Centre in Bridgwater soon to run sessions with anyone who is interested in finding a job at HPC in the future. Look out for more information over the coming months.





## Why do we need nuclear power?

Nuclear power is a vital 'baseload' generation source – providing electricity when it is needed, during winter and summer, day and night. This baseload is required to underpin intermittent renewable generation from solar, onshore and offshore wind. It's also good for the environment. The electricity generated from Hinkley Point C will avoid 9 million tonnes of carbon dioxide emissions a year. The UK has a legally binding emission reduction target of 80% by 2050 vs 1990 levels, so as much new electricity generation capacity as possible needs to be low carbon.

## Is this a good deal for UK consumers and taxpayers?

Hinkley Point C will provide reliable, cost-effective electricity for 60 years from 2025. Taxpayers are not funding Hinkley Point C or taking construction risk, and consumers pay nothing until electricity is produced. The price consumers pay – the strike price of £92.50/MWh – is competitive with the lifetime costs of other forms of generation in the mid-2020s, and will fall to £89.50/MWh if Sizewell C goes ahead.

DECC (the Department of Energy and Climate Change) estimates that a new nuclear programme could reduce average household

electricity bills by up to around £30 in 2030 compared to leaving nuclear out of the future energy mix. As Hinkley Point C is the first of a new generation of nuclear power stations, costs are likely to fall with subsequent projects, as economies of scale are realised, and as our investments in rebuilding the UK's nuclear skills base and supply chain pay off.

The cost of Hinkley Point C is also competitive with other forms of electricity generation in the 2020s:

- The average cost of renewables which will be operating on the UK system by the beginning of the 2020s is around £130/MWh.
- A baseload combined cycle gas turbine (CCGT) generation project commissioning around the same time as HPC would have a lifetime cost of £95/MWh based on DECC's most recent central scenario prices for gas and carbon.

## What does it mean for UK businesses and for UK jobs?

This investment in the UK will bring the country huge economic benefits. It will mean thousands of British jobs and billions of pounds in supply contracts for British firms. Hinkley Point C will mark the biggest inward investment in British history and create up to 25,000 employment opportunities during construction. Some of these jobs will be in Somerset but many more will be created across the rest of the country, with British companies on target to win contracts worth more than 60% of the value of Hinkley Point C's construction.

Sizewell C and Bradwell B will also offer huge opportunities to local people and British firms, with the majority of workers employed to build and operate each plant set to come from the British workforce.



# Building our Supply Chain

## Opportunities for Somerset and south-west Businesses.

EDF Energy has been working with the Somerset Chamber of Commerce for several years preparing the ground for the Hinkley Point C Project. In the New Year the Chamber's Hinkley Supply Chain team is likely to move to the new Somerset Energy Innovation Centre, and will provide a focus for connecting potential regional suppliers with the many opportunities that will arise on both the construction and associated development sites of Hinkley Point C.

EDF Energy has undertaken to use local sources of labour, service providers, materials and components wherever practicable on the project and the contracts prepared for signature with the main contractors reflect this commitment.

One area of focus covers the provision of support to the site – from catering and hotel management services to the handling of waste and the transport of construction workers to and from the Park and Ride locations. In July this year, it was announced that five local groups of companies had been identified as preferred bidders for key contracts in these areas with an estimated combined contract value of £225 million. To put this into context, it is expected that these contracts alone will create approximately 1,000 local job opportunities.

Furthermore, and given the scale of the manufacturing and construction effort required to build the new power station, EDF Energy and its main contractors also need to identify a large number of high quality suppliers in these specific sectors too. The Hinkley Supply Chain team has therefore been targeting the

capabilities of companies slightly further afield in the south-west. Significant work has already been undertaken on early identification of opportunities that are of most relevance to suppliers for the entirety of the south-west region.

Currently there are 1,980 Somerset suppliers and over 900 south-west regional suppliers registered on the Hinkley Supply Chain portal [www.hinkleysupplychain.co.uk](http://www.hinkleysupplychain.co.uk)

The ever expanding team are also busy leveraging support for suppliers from other industry organisations such as the Manufacturing Advisory Service, the Business Growth Service and Fit 4 Nuclear.

Early engagement in this area has already identified large demand and over £60 million worth of steel fabricated

components needed by the main civils contractor. Framework agreements with a number of companies in the South West are simultaneously being developed ready for the mobilisation of the construction works.

Even at this early stage there has been concerted effort in other areas, including the identification of south-west companies capable of supplying specialist steel fabricated components.

Over the coming months more main contractors are expected to be appointed and they too will begin to engage with suppliers in the region with full support provided by the Hinkley Supply Chain Team. The boost to the economy of the region will be enormous and businesses are determined to make the most of this once-in-a-generation opportunity.



Above Visit [www.hinkleysupplychain.co.uk](http://www.hinkleysupplychain.co.uk) for more information



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