

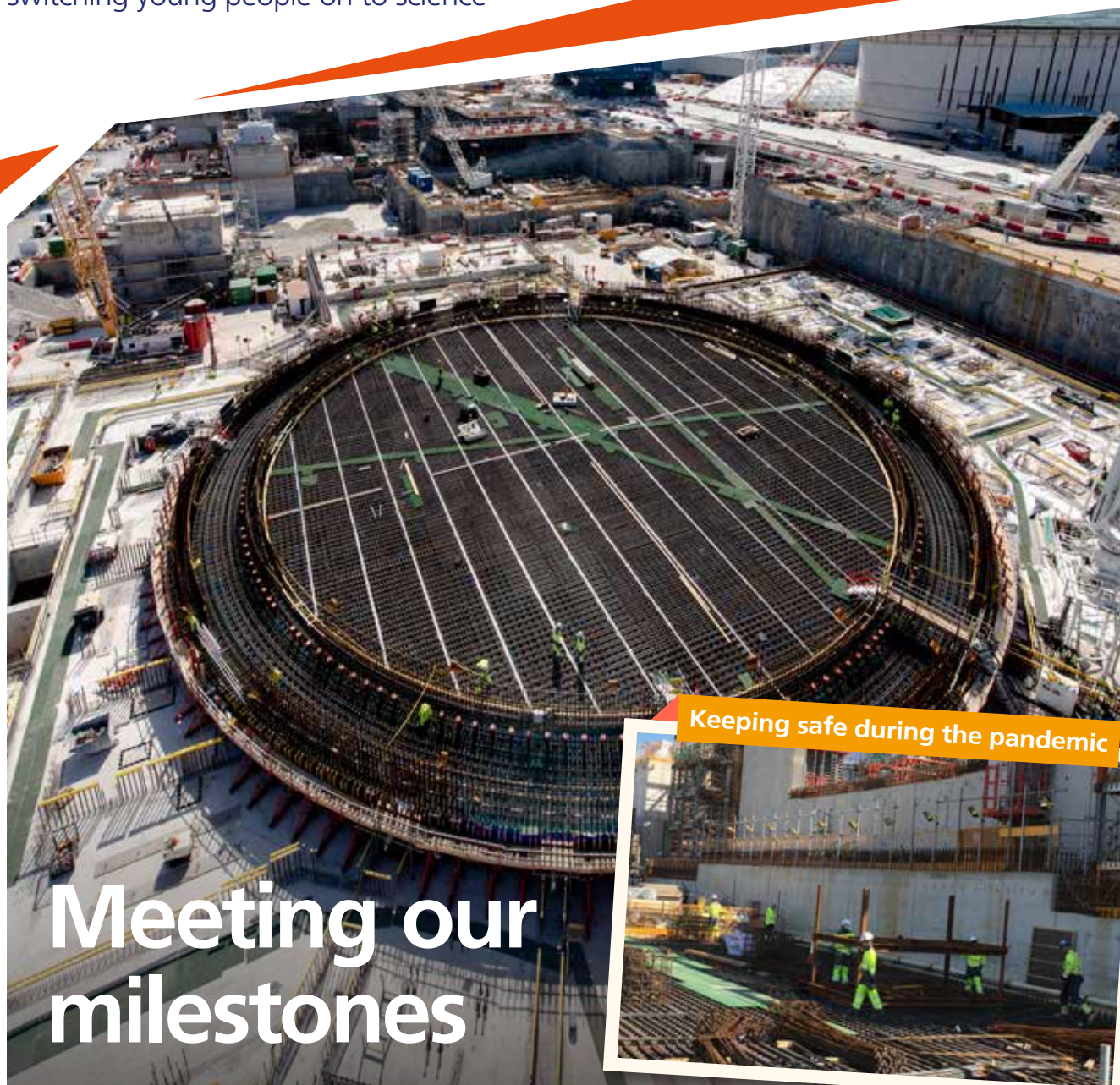
Summer 2020

Hinkley Point C magazine  
for the local community



# Plugged in

**INSIDE:** How Hinkley Point C is  
switching young people on to science



Keeping safe during the pandemic

## Meeting our milestones



# ROB'S WELCOME

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

I'm sure many of our readers would agree that the pandemic has been a worrying time.

Hinkley Point C has put significant changes in place to ensure the safety of our workers and the communities around the site.

Meanwhile, team members have been using their resources to support organisations across Somerset. You can find out more on pages 4-5.

Despite the project scaling back to reduce workforce numbers and focus on key areas of construction, we have recently completed the second reactor's foundations. This is testament to the dedication of the project team, who have adjusted to new ways of working to meet this milestone (page 7).

I hope you enjoy this issue. Please get in touch with the Plugged in team if you have feedback or story ideas (see below).

**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?

**VISIT:** [edfenergy.com/hpc](https://edfenergy.com/hpc)

**EMAIL:** [hinkley-enquiries@edf-energy.com](mailto:hinkley-enquiries@edf-energy.com)

**CALL US:** 0333 009 7070

**TWEET US:** @hinkleypointc

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## Sign up to Plugged in

To receive exclusive Plugged in content, sign up to the email distribution list by heading to: [edfenergy.com/pluggedin](https://edfenergy.com/pluggedin)

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



# Inside

- 03** A new affordable homes development for Bridgwater
- 04-05** The project's protective actions against Coronavirus
- 06-07** Lessons learned during the second J0 milestone
- 08-09** Looking after local wildlife for future generations
- 10-11** Inspire brings benefits to the region's young people
- 12** Win a £50 Amazon voucher

**ON THE COVER:** How Hinkley Point C is continuing to meet project milestones while operating safely during lockdown – reducing the risk to both its workforce and the community.

## Immy's update

Welcome to the first edition of Plugged in for 2020. Keeping in touch with the community has been a priority for our teams. My colleagues and I have been on hand to answer questions from residents while keeping the website up to date with the latest information from the project. I hope that wherever you are reading this from, you are safe and well.

**Immy Silby, Editor**



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

# Community

SUPPORTING SOMERSET

somerset  
COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

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



## Property progress

The Hinkley Point C Accommodation Fund is making investments to create new affordable homes in Bridgwater.



David Baxter, Strategic Housing Manager at Sedgemoor District Council, discusses plans to increase bed spaces for local families and young people.

### Q Why is it important to make more housing available?

"Housing is a big issue nationally. Demand has risen, while the supply of new builds hasn't kept up. There's also a nationwide rise in homelessness and we've seen changes to the benefits system. Locally, Hinkley Point C has brought jobs and spending, but it's increased housing demand. The £7.5 million Hinkley Point C Accommodation Fund is helping to boost the pool of affordable homes."

### Q How is the fund being used to help meet demand?

"We're building new homes on brownfield

sites. Alongside this, we're using the fund to help set up schemes to support tenants and landlords, for instance with renting out rooms and properties via a lodging scheme and Somerset Home Let. We also have an 'Empty Rooms' scheme, which is making existing housing habitable again."

### Q Are the schemes successful?

"We've created more than 1,000 bed spaces so far. For me, the most meaningful sign of success is seeing families so happy to get the keys to their new homes."

## HOUSING COLLABORATION

One development, which is being built on the site of the former Slocombe's factory, is a collaboration between Sedgemoor District Council, SHAL Housing Association, Summerfield Homes and EDF.

## Squibbers Way success

Bridgwater businesses have been given a boost with the opening of Squibbers Way, a new £18.4m link road.

Part-funded by EDF, and named by local people, the road connects Colley Lane Industrial Estate with the A38, diverting traffic from Taunton Road and relieving the roads into the town from the south.

Bill Colquhoun, Business Development Manager at TMB Patterns, which is based on the estate, said: "It's excellent for the local economy. Getting trouble-free access to the motorway has transformed the logistics of getting in and out of the estate."



Photo: Jeff Searle

*Squibbing (simultaneously releasing fireworks) was part of the opening ceremony.*

## FOOTPATH FINISHED

Somerset Infrastructure Alliance (SIA) has resurfaced the footpath around Combwich Wharf.

The walkway was prone to waterlogging but SIA has resurfaced it with new stone and levelled it to make it easier to use.



# Always keeping safety first

How Hinkley Point C is protecting workers and the community throughout the Coronavirus pandemic.

## A message from Nigel Cann



The safety of the communities surrounding Hinkley Point C is of paramount importance to me and the wider project team.

Throughout the pandemic, we continue to listen to feedback and concerns from local residents and work with local councillors to address worries and make improvements.

The project has only remained operational because it has been able to adapt to find new ways of working safely during the crisis. We have been inspected by our independent regulator who has been satisfied with the steps taken.

We significantly reduced the number of people on site and asked people to work from home wherever possible. The remaining site workers have adapted well to the social distancing measures we have in place. We only ask our workforce to come to work because it's safe to do so.

I will continue to keep you informed of any updates as they arise. Please visit [edfenergy.com/hpc](https://www.edfenergy.com/hpc) for the latest information.

**Nigel Cann**  
Delivery Director,  
Hinkley Point C

## Supporting the supply chain

Hinkley Point C recognises that supporting its suppliers now will enable the local economy to come back in the best possible shape when the pandemic is over.

With more than 1,100 businesses in the South West bringing in contracts worth a total of £1.7 billion, the build has real benefits for the local and national supply chain.

The project will continue to support apprentices and local job opportunities through its many resources. The HPC Jobs Service is helping people get into work both on the project and through roles with local businesses.

By continuing to operate the project responsibly, the building blocks remain in place that will allow the region to remain resilient throughout the crisis.



### Regulator ONR supports the project's measures

The Office for Nuclear Regulation (ONR) has given its assurance that there are no risks to safety arising from continuing works on the project. The site will be continually regulated.

## SUPPORTING LOCAL PEOPLE DURING LOCKDOWN

Here are a few examples of team members' efforts in using Hinkley Point C's resources to help the local community during the pandemic...

### Food for frontline workers

Somerset Larder, catering provider at Hinkley Point C, has been preparing and distributing 600 meals a day to local NHS workers employed at mental health units, community hospitals and care homes.

Annie Maw, Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Somerset, expressed her gratitude with a personal letter. She wrote: "I would like to offer a



profound thank you for what you have done and continue to do. It is a magnificent response to the difficulties currently being faced."

### Workers' fundraising efforts

Across the project, workers have been raising funds.

For example, G4S Security Officers Joanne and Clair Tynan (pictured, inset) raised £3,235 for the Barts Health NHS Trust group of hospitals when they completed a hair shave via a live Facebook broadcast, while the Blyr Nuclear Island team has donated £2,000 to the NHS.



### Supporting the homeless

In the early stages of construction, EDF awarded £12,500 to the Beach Hotel in Minehead.

During the lockdown, the hotel gave 26 local homeless people a safe place to self-isolate.

Many other organisations that have also received EDF funding have adapted to new ways of working to continue to support local people, demonstrating the lasting legacy these funds provide.

### Donations of supplies

Schools, care homes and food banks have been among those benefitting from thousands of essential donations.

The project has donated supplies, including personal protective equipment (PPE) and social distancing-related signage, across Somerset and the South West.



Changes have been made across the project to ensure safe practice.

## Site safety is paramount

As the Coronavirus pandemic impacted everyone across the country, Hinkley Point C acted to protect the safety of its people and community by making changes to the way it operates.

Alongside social distancing, other measures have been put in place so that people can get to work, do their jobs and use the site facilities in a way that reduces risk.

Construction has been focused on four key areas: the two main reactor buildings, the Conventional Island where the electricity will be generated, and the tunnelling works in the Bristol Channel.

Many construction jobs can be done with social distancing. For tasks that require closer working, extra personal protective equipment (PPE) is provided.

The steps taken to monitor health and prevent the risk of infection will remain in place, and numbers on site will be guided by what is safe.

### PREVENTION MEASURES ON SITE:

- Body temperature checks are conducted at the site entrance, with thermal imaging cameras installed across the Park and Rides and campuses to detect anyone with a high temperature
- Reduction of the number of workers on site by around a half
- Workers living in local accommodation have been moved to Hinkley Point C's two campus sites
- Bus stops in local communities stopped being used at the beginning of the pandemic, with workers only able to board buses at Park and Rides or the campuses
- Extra buses have been laid on to reduce the number of workers using each service and screens installed to protect the drivers
- Enhanced cleaning across the project
- Floor markers installed and changes to seating to distance canteen users from each other
- Amended shift patterns and break times to stop mixing of different teams.



## Permanent buildings take shape

Permanent buildings on Hinkley Point C's Nuclear Island are now rising from the ground.

The construction team is currently working on the vertical walls of the Mechanical and Electrical Safeguard Buildings,

which surround each Reactor Building.

Once finished, the 11-storey buildings will contain electrical and mechanical systems which will control and remove residual heat from the reactors.



## J0 milestone achievement

Less than a year after Hinkley Point C met one of its biggest project milestones – finishing the foundations for the first main reactor and surrounding buildings – it is celebrating the same milestone again for the second reactor.

This 'J0' milestone marks the start of construction of the reactor buildings above ground. The foundations, known as the common raft, are made up of 20,693m<sup>3</sup> of concrete, strengthened with 4,569 tonnes of reinforced steel across five areas.

The fifth and final raft pour to complete J0 on Unit 2 occurred over three days at the end of May, when 9,000m<sup>3</sup> of concrete was placed in one continuous pour. This is a big achievement, particularly because this milestone was set out at the start of construction, and it was reached on schedule.

Last year's identical pour on Unit 1 topped the previous record for the largest concrete pour in the UK, which was held by The Shard in London.

## Lessons learned

Here are just a few ways the teams are improving processes to make work on the second reactor more efficient:

- Prefabrication is a major area of innovation on site. Large components are lifted into place complete, keeping quality standards high. The installation times of the second reactor's steel reinforcement for the common raft are more than 25% faster than the first unit.

- The project's workforce is developing industry-leading skills as team members gain more knowledge during the build. Liza Haile, Section Engineer, Bylor, explained: "On the second reactor, we used a lot of the same workforce from the first and we're seeing the benefits. Having the knowledge from the people on the ground helped us progress faster as we worked on one of the raft pours for J0, and we completed the pour a week ahead of schedule."

- When there was a problem with the late delivery of equipment on the second reactor works, teams were able to use the knowledge they gained on the first unit to adjust the sequence of works. The changes cut the time from 10 weeks to 10 days between the arrival of the equipment and the concrete pour, and the works were completed on time.

## Leanne's J0 journey



Leanne Tarr, Logistics Manager for Bylor's Batching Plant team, never expected her typical week to involve co-ordinating the logistics behind pouring thousands of cubic metres of concrete.

Growing up on Exmoor, she began her career working as a shepherdess in lambing sheds. Leanne then had a serving job in a canteen on site, and a cleaning role for the contractor Bylor,

before moving into admin. Now, she's handling the team's logistics management, which involves co-ordinating concrete pours, processing concrete orders and sending them on to the batching plant and concrete lab, so they can plan the concrete production and testing.

"Without the concrete we're helping to produce, construction couldn't happen, so we have direct involvement with this milestone," said Leanne. "This is a great moment for the project."

## Refurbishment for Wharf

Combwich Wharf has been an essential element of the construction of both Hinkley Point A and B power stations. Now it is playing its part in the build of Hinkley Point C.

To facilitate the delivery of large pieces of equipment by sea, needed throughout construction and operation of the nuclear power station, the wharf is undergoing a refurbishment.

2020 will see the main phase of works for the wharf. Over the coming months, demolition of the Abnormal Loads Quay is planned to take place to reduce its height. Piling activity will then start, building the foundations for the transfer slab to sit on.

So that construction traffic doesn't need to go through Combwich itself, there is a dedicated private access road which goes around the village.



### FIND OUT MORE:

To learn more, visit the Frequently Asked Questions section of the website at [edfenergy.com/hpcfaq](https://edfenergy.com/hpcfaq).

### DID YOU KNOW:

**MARY'S MILESTONE:** Mary, Hinkley Point C's first Tunnel Boring Machine (TBM), is now in full bore mode as she mines Intake Tunnel 1. She's already more than 675m into her journey under the Bristol Channel.



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

# Working for wildlife



As part of Hinkley Point C's commitment to leave a lasting positive legacy, our team of environmental experts is protecting the environment and promoting biodiversity.

## Improving the environment

Hinkley Point C is committed to biodiversity net-gain, which means making sure any development work undertaken leaves local nature in a better state than before.



## Investing in the Quantocks

The Quantock Hills were England's first-ever Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. Thanks to funding from EDF and others, £2.6m will be invested in the Quantock Landscape Partnership Scheme.

Chris Edwards, Quantock Hills AONB Manager, said: "This is great news for all who live in, work in, care for, or simply enjoy the Quantock Hills. These initiatives will protect and expand key elements, from woodlands and wildflowers to bats and dormice. It'll even address what the next 50 years may bring for the Quantocks."

### DID YOU KNOW:

*The red corallina seaweed found on Hinkley Point C's foreshore provides a habitat for marine life. As corallina can die if water-deprived, the Environment team monitors the shoreline.*

## CUTTING CARBON

As part of Hinkley Point C's work to create habitats, the site has planted around 65,000 trees and shrubs to date. They will help to screen the site and attract more wildlife.

Like all plants, trees take carbon dioxide from the air and release oxygen. They also help the soil capture significant amounts of carbon too.

65,000  
TREES AND  
SHRUBS



## WILDLIFE WATCH



Check out [edfenergy.com/hpc](https://edfenergy.com/hpc) to see footage of an otter using the underpass in Cannington

Working with the Site Consultant Ecologist (SCE) team, Hinkley Point C monitors and mitigates against environmental impact from construction. This includes surveys of

bats, breeding and intertidal birds, invertebrates, night-flying moths, butterflies and insects, great crested newts and badgers. They also monitor otter and reptile populations.

"Ecological enhancements at Hinkley Point C are beneficial not only to the species they're developed for but other local species too. For instance, the improvements for great crested newts close to Bridgwater's Junction 23 Park and Ride have led to habitat benefits for barn owls and kestrels, which now hunt in this area."

Chris Dennis, Hinkley Point C Consultant Ecologist

## SOMERSET WILDLIFE TRUST

The Somerset's Brilliant Coast programme, part-funded through the Hinkley Point C Community Impact Mitigation (CIM) Fund, raises awareness of the county's coastal wildlife and helps volunteers look after the coastline.

There are many different aspects of the project. For example, Curious Coast gets people involved in conservation through guided walks, family days and beach cleans.

Meanwhile, Parish Shores motivates communities to protect the coastline through initiatives like Plastic Free Community schemes, and Wild Beach gives young people a connection with nature through activities like SeaWatch surveys.

For more information, visit [somersetwildlife.org](https://somersetwildlife.org).



**“ Berrow Conservation Group needed to develop our monitoring of wildlife. Through Brilliant Coast, Somerset Wildlife Trust's Mark Ward has helped us write an annual plan of monitoring, and arranged training and support. This work will help us to survey a variety of flora and fauna to preserve and maintain the habitat at our local nature reserve. ”**

Lesley Millard, local volunteer



## Safe homes for bats

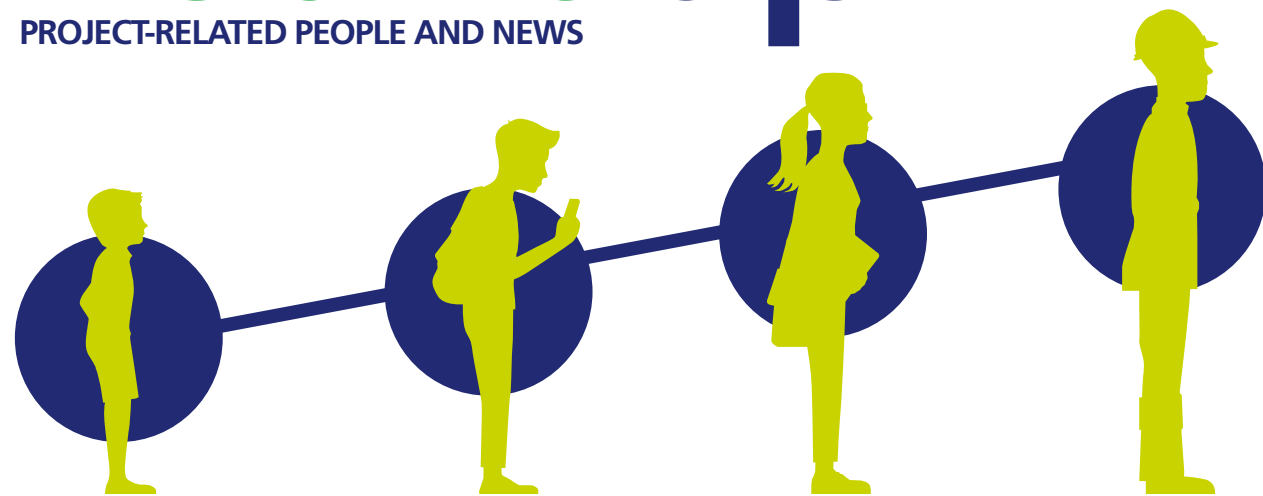
Barbastelle bats are extremely rare in Britain, but use Hinkley Point C to access wider foraging areas.

So that the bat population can continue to migrate and forage, the Environment team has built bat crossings on the site's Green Lane.

In addition, a new habitat has been established on the nearby East Quantoxhead Estate to support conservation of one of the UK's last remaining colonies of the species.

# Roundup

PROJECT-RELATED PEOPLE AND NEWS



## Study shows success of Inspire

A recent report has revealed the positive impact made by Hinkley Point C's Inspire Education programme. The initiative delivers free activities, workshops, assemblies and events which aim to support careers advice, and continues to make a difference to the young people of the region.

The study by Sky Blue Research, conducted over a five-year period, shows that the Inspire programme is successfully:

- Increasing interest in Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM) subjects
- Playing an important part in Somerset's careers advice and guidance network
- Influencing young people's further education choices
- Delivering additional social value as a result of its operation.

Joanna Whitehead, Young Person's Support Service Manager at Somerset County Council, said: "Inspire has been a well-sustained and well-resourced programme, where investment is truly for the long-term. The term 'once in a lifetime opportunity' is used a lot, but in the case of Inspire, it's quite genuine!"

### INSPIRE ACTIVITIES

So far, the Inspire Programme has:

- Delivered more than 1,200 STEM and careers activities
- Engaged with more than 400 schools
- Supported more than 170,000 student interactions.

### CAREERING AHEAD

Read on to find out how the programme is making a positive impact on local youngsters...



"I found out about the apprenticeship through Young HPC, with a taster day and site tour. Hinkley Point C is five minutes from my house, so I had to get involved! It's an exciting experience that has made me realise I'm actually quite independent."

**OLIVER TOLCHARD, PIPE-FITTING APPRENTICE**



"It's been fantastic to have the support of Inspire. The programme has given me the knowledge to find my way into construction."

**MEGAN HANDLEY, PROJECT CONTROLS APPRENTICE**



"Inspire is part of the legacy we want to leave local young people by helping them to make decisions based on their own skills, interests and qualifications."

**CHRIS YOUNG, HINKLEY POINT C APPRENTICE AND SKILLS LEAD**



### FIND OUT MORE:

Visit [edfenergy.com/hpceducationandskills](https://edfenergy.com/hpceducationandskills) for details.

You can also check out job vacancies at [hpcjobsservice.edfenergy.com](https://hpcjobsservice.edfenergy.com).

## Build benefits extend across Britain

Ever wondered how far the benefits from the Hinkley Point C project are reaching? You can now discover this for yourself via a new interactive map highlighting all the companies involved.

The Built in Britain map lets you explore Hinkley Point C's supply chain across the whole of the UK. You can see where the project suppliers are based as well as a summary of the money they've generated for the area so far.

With 64% of the construction costs being spent with UK companies – whether they're supplying Welsh steel or building high-tech nuclear components on Teesside – the economic benefits from the build are being enjoyed across Britain.



### FIND OUT MORE:

Explore the map and learn more about contract opportunities and upcoming events by visiting the Built in Britain section on [edfenergy.com/hpc](https://edfenergy.com/hpc).



## New report reveals project benefits

The Hinkley Point C: Realising the Socio-economic Benefits 2020 brochure details how the project has managed to meet its target of spending £1.5 billion with businesses in the South West five years ahead of schedule. The report also outlines how Hinkley Point C is making a positive impact on communities across the UK.

### THE REPORT DEMONSTRATES THAT THE PROJECT IS:

- A multi-billion pound investment boosting the UK's industrial capacity and creating employment

opportunities - more than 10,000 jobs have been created to support the project so far

- Already training 640 apprentices – almost two-thirds of its target of creating 1,000 apprenticeships during the construction phase
- Focusing on a range of environmental initiatives that are reducing the impact of construction, minimising waste and creating sustainable wildlife habitats.

Read the full report at [edfenergy.com/HPCbenefits](https://edfenergy.com/HPCbenefits).





## PHOTO COMPETITION



Entries  
must be  
submitted by  
Friday 28  
August 2020

# Win... a £50 Amazon voucher

**Congratulations to last issue's winner, Oliver Priddle, who has won a £50 Amazon voucher for this brilliant image (above), taken at Weston-super-Mare.**

### GET THE SHUTTERBUG

The weather is getting warmer and the

skies are getting lighter, so there's no time like the present to get out there and take some amazing shots of the great outdoors.

On your ventures in or around the South West, while adhering to the social distancing guidelines, grab your camera (or smartphone) and inspire us with your best snaps... whether it's wonderful wildlife or

lush landscapes, we want to see them!

The winning picture will feature in the next issue of Plugged in, and the photographer will win a £50 Amazon voucher. Enter by submitting an image via your Instagram account, using **#PluggedInPhotoComp**. Don't forget to mention where the picture was taken.



### TERMS AND CONDITIONS:

Visit [edfenergy.com/pluggedin](https://edfenergy.com/pluggedin) for full terms and conditions.

## NEW CHARITY PARTNER CHOSEN



Having raised £570,000 for Breast Cancer Now, Hinkley Point C is hoping to exceed this figure through fundraising for its new charity partner, Prostate Cancer UK.

Every year in the UK, 11,500 men die from the disease, which has overtaken breast cancer as the most commonly diagnosed cancer in England. There are more than 47,500 new cases every year.

To find out more about the charity, and to learn more about the risk factors and symptoms of the disease, visit [prostatecanceruk.org](https://prostatecanceruk.org).

### DID YOU KNOW:

*The project has its own fully staffed medical centre, Hinkley Health, which provides GP and NHS services for Hinkley Point C team members. Hinkley Health has identified 40 early cancers over the past 18 months.*