



08 March 2010

Media Release

Peterborough celebrates its 100th Future Jobs Fund employee

The Peterborough Future Jobs Fund has now employed its 100th young person.

The Government's Future Jobs Fund, has led to the creation of 167 jobs for young people in our city. The scheme has been a resounding success, with over 20 public and voluntary sector organisations coming together to create jobs for young people who have been out of employment between 26 and 50 weeks.

Future Jobs Fund roles include Microbiologists with NHS Peterborough, Community Development workers with Peterborough City Council, Heritage Assistants with Peterborough Museum and many more.

Nick Goodman, Acting Greater Peterborough Partnership Manager said; 'I was very impressed with the calibre of the applicants. Each young person who showed an interest in the Future Jobs Fund posts which I was directly involved with showed fantastic potential and enthusiasm. We were very pleased to offer the young people posts within the Environment Capital Communications Team.'

The scheme has proved so popular that Peterborough has now bid to create 250 new jobs in a second round of the scheme, with the involvement of even more local public, voluntary and this time private sector organisations. The Future Jobs Fund team will find out whether they have been successful with the second round bid by the end of March.

The Future Jobs Fund is beneficial to all Peterborough residents – not just those who get one of the jobs. All Future Jobs Fund roles must be of benefit to the local community, with each jobs role falling into the category of improving health, improving the environment and or community work.

Caroline Rowan, Future Jobs Fund deputy project manager explained: "The initiative aims to create a lasting benefit to Peterborough by helping young people gain the essential skills for them to prosper in our growing city and at the same time make a difference to the communities and individuals they will be working with. This is brilliant news for all of Peterborough's residents, not just those young people employed through the Future Jobs Fund."

All jobs come with training packages and are advertised through JobCentre Plus.

For more information on Peterborough's Future Jobs Fund visit www.futurejobsfund.org.uk. If you are interested in applying for a Future Jobs Fund job, please visit JobCentre Plus, 84 Broadway, Peterborough.

The remaining 67 jobs are advertised through JobCentre Plus and are open 18-24 years olds who have been unemployed between 39 – 50 weeks.

To find out more about applying for a Future Jobs Fund Job, please call 01733 296571 or ask your JobCentre Plus advisor. For further information on the Future Jobs Fund, visit www.futurejobsfund.org.uk.

~Ends~

Media contacts

For media requests please contact:

Hannah Barrett on (01733) 207340, or e-mail Hannah@gpp-peterborough.org.uk.

Casestudies

Please find attached case studies of 3 Future Jobs Fund employees.

Natalie Freeman – Heritage Assistant at Peterborough Museum

Max Casbon – Assistant Microbiologist

Asta Remezaite – Neighbourhood Project Worker

Photography and interviews

The casestudies and Future Jobs Fund team are happy to be photographed and give interviews.

Notes to editors:

The Future Jobs Fund bid in Peterborough is a city-wide initiative being lead by the Greater Peterborough Partnership.

The Future Jobs Fund is part of the Government's 'Backing Young Britain' campaign – which seeks to help young people into employment. This is a £1 billion national programme creating 150,000 new jobs for long-term unemployed people.

Peterborough's Future Jobs Fund bid has brought together 25 organisations from the public and voluntary and community sectors to create a range of jobs in health, environment and community work.

All Future Jobs Fund roles will last for six months, providing work for at providing 27 hours per week and are paid at the National Minimum Wage. One day each fortnight will be spent on skills for life training – including classes on in CV writing, writing job applications, interview skills and job-finding. The programme aims to ensure that every young person finishes the programme with a greatly enhanced range of skills and knowledge and a more confident approach to job seeking.

Each FJF employee will be assigned a personal manager to support them on not just with their employment but also on other areas of their lives such as housing, debt, health, and welfare – a completely wraparound approach giving each young person the best start in their career and life.

The jobs created all aim to help deliver Peterborough's Sustainable Community Strategy which sets out the vision of creating 'A bigger and better Peterborough that grows the right way' and through truly sustainable development and growth:

- Improves the quality of life of all its people and communities and ensures that all communities benefit from growth and the opportunities it brings.
- Creates a truly sustainable Peterborough, the urban centre of a thriving sub-regional community of villages and market towns, a healthy, safe and exciting place to live, work and visit, famous as the environment capital of the UK.

Peterborough has been hit relatively hard by the economic downturn, with an increase in the number of people claiming Job Seeker's Allowance of nearly 3,000 over the last year, reaching 6,363 in June 2009 – the highest in the region.

The jobs are initially open to young people aged 18 – 24 who have been out of work for over 9 months. If the positions remain unfilled after four weeks, the jobs will be made available to long term unemployed people living in one Peterborough's 10 unemployment hotspots in the city. The Future Jobs Fund is part of the Governments Backing Young Britain scheme.