

Hinkley Point C: Realising the Socio-economic Benefits 2020



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Foreword

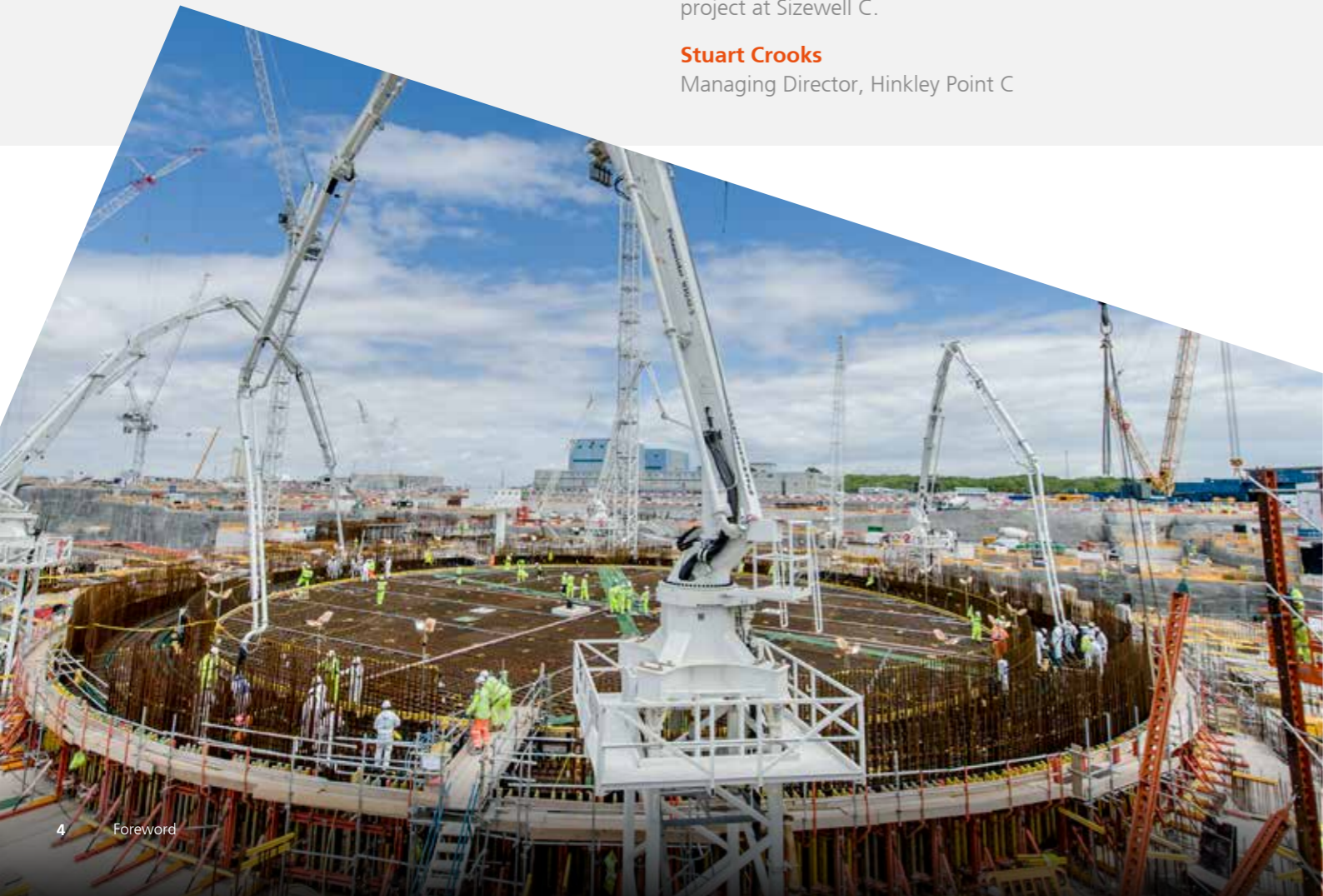


This report charts another year of success for Hinkley Point C in delivering on its ambitious targets for social, economic and environmental benefits. We have worked hard to ensure that the project makes a positive difference to as many people and businesses as possible – here in the South West and across the whole of the UK.

As I write, the country is facing the profound challenge of coronavirus. From the outset, our aim has been to protect our community and our workers whilst managing the project in a responsible way so that the region and country can emerge from the crisis as strongly as possible. That includes continuing to support apprentices and local job opportunities. It means standing by our Somerset suppliers so that they can keep paying their local employees and keeping our specialised UK supply chain intact right across the UK.

I am proud that so many people on and off the site have developed their potential and started their careers because of our project – and I am delighted that so many British businesses have grown their skills and capabilities because of their work with us. As the country and our region emerge from the current crisis, we will have demonstrated our duty of care for our community, whilst our scale and ambition to enrich people and industry will serve as a catalyst for national recovery – both through Hinkley Point C and the follow-on project at Sizewell C.

Stuart Crooks
Managing Director, Hinkley Point C



Meeting Our Ambitions – Progress to Date

Hinkley Point C is exceeding the ambitious targets for delivering wider sustainable benefit to people and businesses across the UK.

- Hinkley Point C's £1.5 billion target for investment into the South West has been reached five years early.
- Billions of pounds of investment is making a difference to regions across the country – boosting the UK's industrial capacity and creating new jobs.
- Provision of wider socio-economic benefit is progressing rapidly: 644 apprentices trained, over 10,000 jobs created and new facilities, such as the Welding Centre of Excellence helping to overcome nationally significant skills gaps.

Jobs



10,300 job opportunities created to date...

on track to meet our ambition of creating **25,000** during the construction phase of the project.

Local Employment



40% of the workforce recruited from the local area... against a target of **34%** during the construction phase of the project.

Community Investment



£119 million of community investment delivered to date...

against a target of providing **£130 million*** of investment to support the community in areas such as economic development, tourism, health, leisure and infrastructure.

Apprenticeships



644 apprentices trained on the project to date...

on track to meet our ambition of training **1,000** during the construction phase of the project.

Regional Supply Chain



£1.67 billion spent with companies in the South West to date...

against a target of **£1.5 billion** during construction.

UK Supply Chain



64% of the value of HPC contracts to go to UK-based companies.

* £130m investment includes £105m S106 and infrastructure improvement, plus c.£30m investment into local training.



Delivering a Net-zero Future

The UK energy sector will play a vital role in helping the world to move away from polluting fuels like coal and gas. That transition will displace many jobs, but it can also help create many new ones. That is especially true for nuclear power.

Building and operating new nuclear power stations in the UK presents opportunities for thousands of people and businesses to benefit from the big investment being made in Britain. Hinkley Point C alone will support around 25,000 job opportunities and is already having a huge and positive impact on the communities around the construction site and for other parts of the UK where its suppliers and workers are based.

The UK has a wealth of engineering and construction expertise to draw upon with many of these businesses already working in the supply chain for HPC. New ways of working have allowed local and regional companies to be a part of such a large project, forming new joint ventures to compete for contracts.

Communities around the construction sites are seeing the benefits of having high-skilled, rewarding jobs on their doorstep, but the opportunities are being realised across the whole of the UK, with significant spending now taking place with manufacturing and engineering companies in Wales, the Midlands, North East, North West, and Scotland. Each region stands to benefit from the new nuclear projects planned for Sizewell C and beyond. In turn, this will protect the UK's valuable nuclear industry for the long-term.

As well as investing in the physical structures of the new power stations and the companies that help build them, HPC is also investing in the future of those individuals who will design, build, operate and innovate the new energy system. Our work with schools and apprentices is already laying the foundation for this future workforce with our Inspire Education Programme, Young HPC and apprenticeship and training schemes.

Far from being an either/or argument between nuclear and renewables, all forms of low-carbon energy and innovation are needed to make the leap to a net-zero economy. In the UK, EDF is committed to cutting its carbon intensity and achieve carbon neutrality by 2050.

EDF's UK renewables business has 34 wind farms in operation with many more in development, as well as operating one of the country's largest battery storage facilities. EDF is also investing heavily in the charging infrastructure that will give people the confidence to switch to electric cars and away from polluting diesel and petrol vehicles. Our smart meters allow customers more control over when and how much electricity they consume.

It is an energy revolution and, just like the previous industrial revolution, presents an opportunity for this country to be at the forefront of transformation.





Supporting Business and the Economy



64% of the value of HPC contracts will go to UK companies.



£1.67 billion has been spent with South West companies to date.

Building UK Capability

The construction of Hinkley Point C represents a unique opportunity for UK suppliers to develop their expertise in high-quality nuclear construction – capability that is transferable to other engineering projects across the world, including Sizewell C in Suffolk.

These suppliers represent the whole of the UK, from the company in South Wales supplying pressure vessels to the business on Teesside making £90 million of hi-tech nuclear components.

We've worked hard to ensure that companies from across the country, not only in the South West, have been able to compete and win contracts.

For example, companies in the North and Midlands have been awarded almost £1.1 billion in contracts, which will increase as the project continues.

The proposal for a near identical project, Sizewell C in Suffolk, would bring similar UK-wide benefits – not only to the UK supply chain, but also through local employment opportunities, skills and training, the creation of 1,000 apprenticeships and investment in local infrastructure.

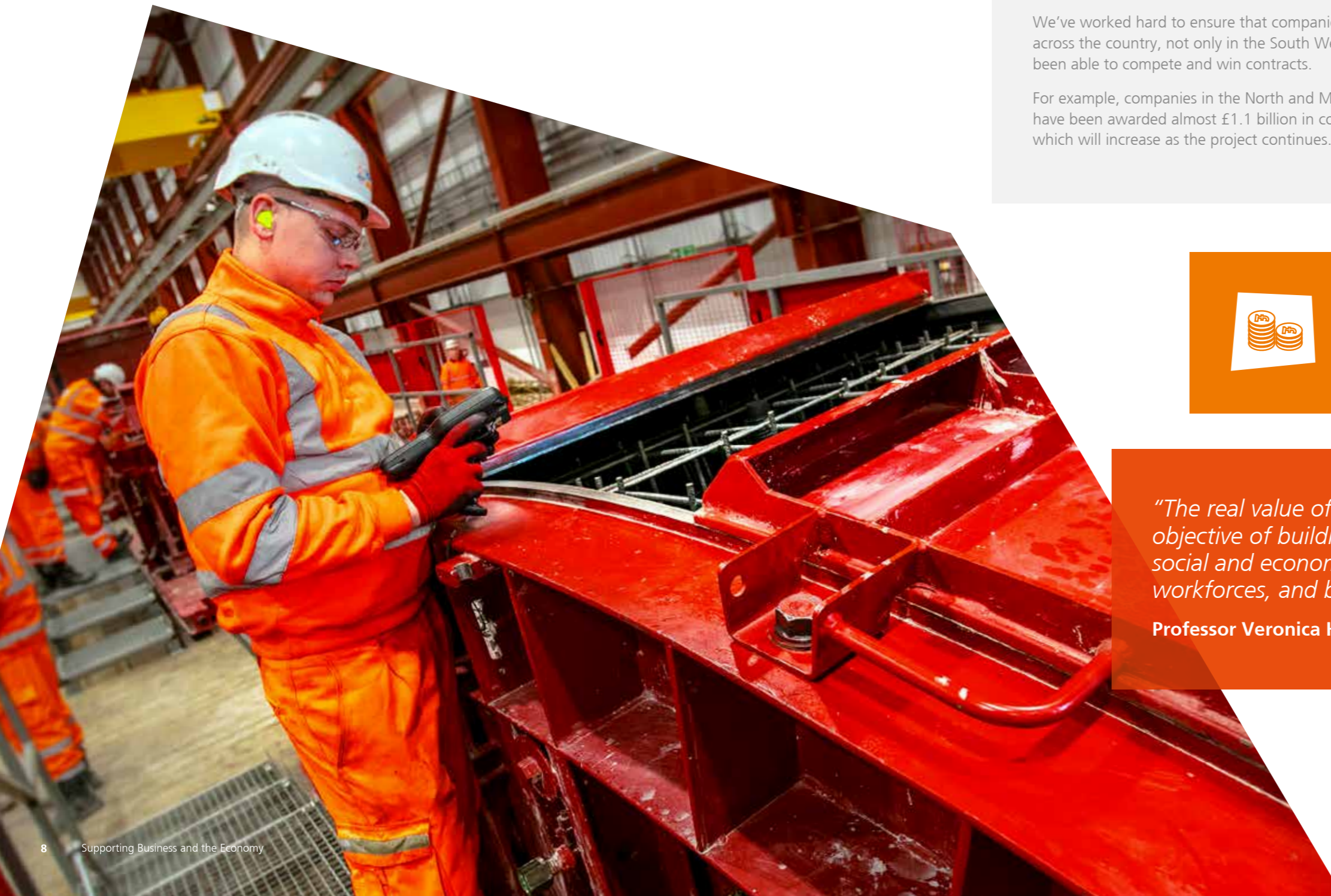
We have worked hard to maintain and support the HPC supply chain through the coronavirus crisis so that our suppliers remain in business and are able to play their part in helping the country's economic recovery.



For every £1 spent, the HPC project is generating £2.27 in regional value.

"The real value of major infrastructure projects goes beyond the core objective of building, it lies in a project's ability to address broader social and economic challenges: revitalising regions, sectors and workforces, and bringing prosperity to less developed areas."

Professor Veronica Hope Hailey, School of Management, University of Bath





Case Study: Special Formwork

Based in Aldridge, West Midlands, Special Formwork is an SME that has already benefitted from HPC contracts of more than £1.5 million.

Of its 20 employees, 15 members of staff are working on HPC-specific work. They have been up skilled to undertake the greater complexities of a nuclear project and investment has allowed growth of 3D design capabilities and a growing expertise in hydraulic systems.

John Horton, Design Engineer at Special Formwork, said: "It is great to be involved in the development of UK infrastructure and excellent that local industry here in the Midlands is able to supply to such a prestigious project. Hopefully with SZC getting the green-light there will be further work in the nuclear sector."

Specialising in the design and manufacture of purpose-made steel formworks, the company developed an innovative remote control travelling formwork system for the construction of the 750m sea wall at HPC.



Case Study: Vessco Engineering

Vessco Engineering, based in Bridgend in Wales, has secured a range of HPC contracts totalling almost £15 million.

The components are the largest and most complex items produced in the area for many decades.

The financial stability from the HPC contracts has allowed Vessco to almost double its workforce whilst investing in future technical developments and the upskilling of its employees.

It has also employed additional apprentices to support the construction of HPC and additional training provision is contributing to wider upskilling of the workforce, particularly in nuclear standards.

Julian Vance-Daniel, Managing Director at Vessco, said: "The contract means stability for four to five years as an absolute minimum. We also expect it to be the platform for our future growth in the nuclear industry and it will help us to grow in other industries as well."



Case Study: Bilfinger

Bilfinger UK, based in Warrington and Immingham, successfully won the £58 million "Balance of Plant" contract at HPC, that will see the company designing and making 56km of specialised pipework for the new nuclear power station.

The order will create 35 new jobs in the UK, 24 of them on Humberside. Investment to modernise Bilfinger UK's Immingham factory will allow an increase in UK manufacturing in this highly skilled area, boosting UK industrial capacity. Work will also be carried out by Bilfinger UK in Warrington.

Tom Blades, Bilfinger CEO, said: "Our latest contract marks a key milestone in our work on the HPC project. It not only shows how much EDF values our working relationship, but also demonstrates our outstanding capabilities with regard to large-scale new build projects in the nuclear industry."

Bilfinger UK is one of more than 120 HPC suppliers based in Yorkshire and Humberside. The North West region also hosts 180 suppliers with both regions providing a wide range of skills, including civil engineering, marine work, lifting and project management.



Regional Economic Development in the South West

Hinkley Point C has spent £1.67 billion with South West companies to date - exceeding its target of £1.5 billion five years ahead of schedule.

In 2019, the Somerset-based HPC Supply Chain Team played a key role in ensuring that regional businesses benefit from the wide range of opportunities that are still available across the HPC project.

The team, an innovative collaboration between the Somerset Chamber of Commerce, SWMAS and Business West, has grown and developed its capabilities in line with HPC's development. This adaptability, coupled with the team's detailed knowledge of the project itself, has helped over a thousand South West companies secure more than £2 billion in contracts.

This year saw the development of a new collaboration between the Somerset Chamber of Commerce, Business West and SWMAS. Using new funding provided by the Local Enterprise Partnership, the team has hosted and facilitated over 30 workshops to help regional businesses understand the requirements of such a complex project. Topics have included effective collaboration, PQQ Best Practice and risk factors in pricing for nuclear.



"Working with Tier 1 and Tier 2 suppliers, we match the project's requirements with regional companies which are registered on the HPC Supply Chain portal and flag these to the procurement teams. In 2019 1,657 South West companies were recommended for a total of 141 work packages."

Alan Windsor, HPC Supply Chain Team



Case Study: Our Response to Coronavirus

The coronavirus pandemic has brought unprecedented economic challenges to the global economy.

Throughout these challenging times we have been proud to stand by our local suppliers, such as the Somerset Larder and Somerset Passenger Solutions, providing much needed security to their locally-based workforce.

The HPC Supply Chain team and the Somerset Chamber of Commerce have been advising local suppliers on coronavirus-related business and legal issues, including advice on relevant government grants that may be

available to them. In addition, working with the HPC Jobs Service, they are supporting Somerset-based suppliers and their employees through these hard times and, where necessary, helping those facing redundancy to find new careers both at HPC and beyond.

The HPC Supply Chain portal was also used effectively to help find regional suppliers who could assist Somerset County Council in supplying protective equipment for health workers and put out a call to arms to local manufactures to assist in the production of more ventilators for the UK's hospitals.



Case Study: Global Tunnelling Experts

Global Tunnelling Experts, based in Portishead, used the experience of the HPC Supply Chain team to secure an HPC contract worth £15 million.

The company will operate the three massive tunnel-boring machines used for the construction of HPC's cooling system. The tunnels will stretch as far as 3.5km under the Bristol Channel and be reinforced with around 38,000 concrete segments, which are being manufactured by Balfour Beatty at a specialist pre-fabrication facility in Bristol.

Global Tunnelling Experts is focusing on local employment and currently have around 120 staff working at the HPC site.

Kevin Browning, Global Tunnelling Experts Director, said: "We're only as good as the people we employ, and we always use the one team approach. We see the company as a family unit; our employees are joining the family and that is paramount to our success. Our focus is always on local recruitment and local investment and we're looking forward to continuing our work at HPC."



Case Study: Mike Morgan Electrical Services, part of COMA

Local recruitment and apprenticeship provision have been made possible for this Bridgwater firm after joining forces with other suppliers to win an HPC contract.

Using the advice and guidance offered by the HPC Supply Chain Team, Mike Morgan Electrical Services combined with two other local companies - Wessex Water and Hydroline Solutions - to form the Construction Operations Management Alliance (COMA). From there, the Alliance successfully won a major contract for the maintenance of the construction utilities at HPC, which will total over £50 million.

Mike Morgan, Managing Director, Mike Morgan Electrical Services, said: "HPC has really established us as a company. We've grown by 70% a year for the past three

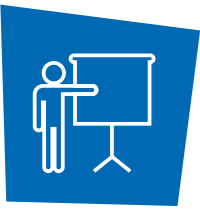
years and plan to grow by 20% year-on-year for the next three.

"Our turnover has increased six-fold and we've also gone from 12 to 68 people. In turn, this has allowed us to provide a great place for apprentices to learn their trade - we have 14 in training now - and currently four others being upskilled who may previously have struggled to become electricians.

"We're also now bringing on board more management and people with higher skill levels. That has opened doors for us to compete for bigger projects worth millions across the whole South West region. For instance, we've just won a fairly large contract for Armed Forces electrical installations."



COMA team winning an HPC Excellence Award.



Investing in Skills and Training

Hinkley Point C's multi-million-pound investment into skills and training is focused on developing the UK's engineering and nuclear expertise – capability that can be transferred to major projects across the UK.

Working with delivery partners, including colleges and industry training boards, HPC is helping to overcome critical skills shortages whilst providing new, sustainable career opportunities for people in the South West and beyond.

Our collaborative work has also been a stimulus for additional funding into skills development and training. To date, well over £40 million of additional funding has been accessed as a direct result of the initial support provided by EDF.

The number of people trained and assessed within the Construction Skills and Innovation Centre grew to over 12,000, whilst the Energy Skills Centre at Bridgwater & Taunton College has adapted to a known UK shortage in skilled welders.



The **Energy Skills Centre** is the only facility of its kind in the South West, delivering engineering, science, low-carbon and nuclear-related education. Importantly, the centre works directly with employers to create and adapt training programmes in response to employer's needs.



The **Construction Skills and Innovation Centre** has now delivered construction and engineering training to over 12,200 people. The initial multi-million-pound investment has been bolstered by new funding secured by Bridgwater & Taunton College. One example is a further £500,000 invested to expand the capacity of the 'Construction Live' programme, which offers undergraduates from leading UK universities a week-long, hands-on experience of planning, managing and implementing a range of construction projects in a safe, yet 'live' construction environment.



The **National College for Nuclear** continues to deliver state-of-the-art teaching via an innovative combination of physical, augmented and virtual reality to recreate a 'live' nuclear installation within its walls. The centre also delivers the four year Maintenance and Operations Engineering Technician Apprenticeship for EDF. Within this programme, significant focus is given to developing nuclear-ready attitudes and behaviours of the apprentices, thereby equipping them with both the technical and life skills they require to become fully effective nuclear professionals.



Over £40 million of additional funding has been accessed as a result of EDF's initial support and investment, which included:



£1.5 million to develop a **Construction Skills and Innovation Centre** at Bridgwater & Taunton College.



£3 million to Bridgwater & Taunton College for Somerset's **Energy Skills Centre**.



£1.6 million has helped fund West Somerset Community College.



South West Welding Centre of Excellence

Working closely with local and national partners and making use of EDF's existing £4.5 million investment into the Energy Skills Centre, HPC is helping to deliver a new, state-of-the-art welding centre. From new starters at Level 1, to upskilling current welders to Level 4 high integrity specialists, our new facility will be available to all levels, providing essential skills and plugging a nation-wide skills shortage.

Using the latest developments in training equipment, the new centre will be well placed to help meet demand for highly skilled welders in the nuclear sector and beyond, with the ambition to provide up to 500 welding qualifications per year.

HPC is working with the MEH Joint Venture, Engineering Construction Industry Training Board (ECITB), the Weldability SIF Foundation, South West Institute of Technology and Bridgwater & Taunton College, to develop the new Welding Centre of Excellence in Bridgwater.

Developing our Workforce



£15 million has been committed to improving local training, education and skills provision.



12,200 people have now been trained and assessed at the Construction Skills and Innovation Centre, Bridgwater.



11,354 online training course completions throughout 2019.



2,777 members of the workforce upskilled in classroom-based training in 2019.

Hinkley Point C has worked with its supply chain, local colleges, Trades Unions and organisations such as the Construction Industry Training Board (CITB) and Engineering Construction Industry Training Board (ECITB), to support its ongoing development of the project workforce and those outside of the project looking to retrain and upskill.

Investment in training by our supply chain, together with a new "Union Learn" agreement, have helped to get more people upskilled whilst working. Across the project in 2019, 2,777 people were involved in classroom-based training and 11,354 completed digital courses. This is not only helping the project directly, but also building on the long-term legacy it is creating.

Our work is supporting the UK's Industrial Strategy to improve productivity and reduce nationally significant skills gaps. We have also focused efforts to ensure that local people have the ability to access the training and development on offer at HPC.



Union Learn Agreement

In December 2019, a joint Union Learn Agreement was signed between HPC's Tier 1 contractors and the signatory unions – Unite the Union, the GMB Union and Prospect.

This joint Union Learn Agreement was proposed by the Unions to support the aspirations of the HPC project to leave a skills legacy. It focuses on the Union Learn concept, which is to help people acquire skills and qualifications to boost their job prospects and improve their employability. Union Learn works with local training providers to deliver literacy, numeracy and ICT courses.



Somerset Passenger Solutions

In 2019, Somerset Passenger Solutions (SPS) invested in its workforce to support the logistical needs of the HPC project. Focused on developing existing skills, and retaining and recognising its workforce, SPS put 187 of its drivers through the Level 2 Principles of Customer Service Course.

Thirty-eight people were promoted internally and 76 drivers who came to SPS with no professional driving qualification were put through their PVC licence with the company.



Case Study: Thomas Churchley



Thomas Churchley, from Taunton, is 36-years-old and currently completing a Leadership and Management Apprenticeship with HPC's security contractor, G4S.

After leaving school with five GCSEs, Thomas started as a window cleaner and held a variety of roles before gaining his security licence, working in the TV and film industry.

"Working in TV and film was great but it took me around the country for long periods of time. So I decided

to look for more local work to be closer to my family. That was when I found the role with the G4S security team. I couldn't believe that it was right on my doorstep!

"I've now completed a Level 2 apprenticeship in Leadership and Management. I have enjoyed this apprenticeship and think it has added to my skill set as a leader. G4S is a great company that offers its staff the chance to develop and further themselves and I intend to continue learning as long as I am able".



Case Study: Garth Young



Garth Young is a shining example of how an apprenticeship can kick start your career. Garth started his journey at HPC in 2014 as a steel fixing apprentice and is now a construction manager, overseeing a team of more than 100 people.

"I was living with my parents near Bridgwater and working in a factory. I saw an advert for an apprenticeship at HPC to become a steel fixer and I thought it would be a good opportunity."

Following successful completion of his steel fixing apprenticeship, Garth joined the Bylor team as a qualified steel fixer in 2016. Just one year later Garth was promoted to the role of steel fixing supervisor at HPC in recognition of his expertise and dedication to high-quality steel fixing on site.

Garth again climbed the career ladder in December 2019 when he was promoted to the role of construction manager for Bylor's prefabrication yard, managing a team of over 100 people, including steel fixers, carpenters, drivers and crane crew.

Garth said: "I'm so glad that I applied for the apprenticeship programme. The HPC project offers lots of opportunities to learn and develop your skills. My journey with Bylor has been a great stepping stone and I'm grateful to have been supported by my employer to progress onto a management role."

Apprenticeships



644 apprentices trained on the HPC project to date, against an aim of 1,000.



20% of our apprentices are women.



Over **half** our apprenticeships are taking on training at Level 2 and above.



Over **50** different apprenticeship schemes are currently being delivered across the project.



The creation of new apprenticeships is central to HPC's drive to train people of all ages and experience levels.

At the start of the project, we set ourselves a target of supporting 1,000 apprentices.

More than 640 apprentices have now been trained on the project, from steel fixing and crane operations to commercial management and hospitality. Not only has HPC increased the range of available apprenticeships throughout the year, but we are breaking down the barriers to entry.

Almost 20% of our apprentices are female – an extremely high figure for the construction sector.

Working with the National Apprenticeship Service, we have been able to transfer £250,000 of its apprenticeship levy to help our contractors to create new programmes and opportunities.

During the coronavirus pandemic, HPC has been able to help apprentices continue to develop their skills and take assessments via e-learning and virtual assessment.

Our Apprenticeship Delivery Team was recognised at the Somerset Apprenticeship Awards, winning the Outstanding Contribution to Apprenticeships award.

Apprenticeship Wellbeing Programme

Our Apprentice Wellbeing Program launched at Hinkley Point C on World Mental Health Day in October 2019.

The first few weeks in any new job can feel overwhelming. That can especially be the case for young apprentices who may be away from home for the first time. From managing finances and eating healthily, to coping without the support of family and friends close by, there is a lot to get to grips with.

This program of support - launched specifically for apprentices - provides advice on gambling, money management, physical health, emotional wellbeing, and mental health support from local charity 'In Charley's Memory', who provide drop-in sessions twice a month and one-to-one counselling as/when required.



One in ten young people experience a mental health issue at any one time.



Suicide is the leading cause of death for 5 to 19-year-olds.



In an average group of 30 15-year-olds, seven are likely to have been bullied, six may be self-harming and one could have experienced the death of a parent.



Supporting Apprentices from Across the Nuclear Sector

Twenty-one apprentices from Horizon's suspended Wylfa Newydd new nuclear project have been able to continue their training thanks to Hinkley Point C.

The apprentices joined EDF in 2019 and are working towards either a Nuclear Engineering Degree Apprenticeship or an Engineering and Maintenance Apprenticeship. The young engineers will gain valuable industry experience working on one of Europe's largest nuclear projects and play a vital role in meeting the skills needs of the nuclear industry.

Those not transferring their expertise directly to the construction site but keen to stay in the energy sector

will continue their training at Coleg Menai's world-class Canolfan STEM centre and carry out work experience at Doosan Babcock.

Helen Higgs, Head of Organisational Capability at HPC, said: "We are pleased to be able to support the future training and development of these apprentices for the benefit of the UK's nuclear capability. Once their training is complete, the apprentices will have access to opportunities throughout the civil nuclear industry, including future nuclear projects in Wales."

"I am extremely pleased to see HPC welcome the 500th apprentice. This adds to Somerset's skilled workforce and will contribute in the long-term to the economic legacy of HPC."

Councillor David Hall, Cabinet Member for Economic Development, Planning and Community Infrastructure at Somerset County Council.



Case Study: Richmond Atinga

Coming from a leisure management background, 24-year-old Richmond wasn't sure he'd be a suitable candidate for a role on the HPC project.

However, after engaging with the HPC Jobs Service, he soon found himself on an Electro Technical Apprenticeship with Bylor.

"I moved to Cumbria in 2013 and started an electrical course at college. But being on my own it wasn't feasible to continue, so I left to find a paying job and ended up in the leisure industry. After six years, I need a new challenge and heard about the HPC project through a friend. I handed in my notice, got my CSCS card and applied for as many roles as possible.

"When I found out I'd been shortlisted for an electrical apprenticeship, I was quite hesitant, but then I realised I'd be stupid not to take up the opportunity! And now I'm working on a project like no other, getting paid to learn and working with a really great team!"



Case Study: Tom Keirle

Twenty-seven-year-old Tom from Bridgwater never thought that he would go from being a shop worker to operating a tower crane. But having pursued a Lifting Technician Apprenticeship with Bylor, he is now well on his way at HPC.

"This opportunity is something that I never would have dreamt about. However, from hearing about it and then going away and doing some more research, it was definitely something that I wanted to pursue.

"Initially, I worried that going from my previous job back into an educational environment would be difficult. However, between Bylor and the instructors at CITB, they've really made it into adult surroundings.

"If there was anyone out there, of any age, who wants to try something new, or go for a complete career change – I would thoroughly recommend going down the apprenticeship route.

"And being able to say that I was part of one of the biggest construction projects to grace the UK for a generation – that's something pretty special."



"One of the best things about working on HPC? The Prestige! Going from telling someone I was a shop worker to now, saying I'm a tower crane operator, it's a whole other level."

Apprentice Levy Transfer Benefitting Local Companies

Having worked closely with the National Apprenticeship Service, EDF is now able to use 25% of its apprenticeship levy funds to help HPC contractors to identify and implement apprenticeship programmes.

HOST Ltd, a local company and HPC campus operator, is directly benefitting from this support. The additional funds are allowing HOST to train new recruits and upskill its existing workforce over the longer term. Our approach has been highly successful and by January 2020, the 35th HOST apprentice had started their training as a result of the support provided by the levy transfer.

"As a local company, we are in the best place to continue supporting the project and ensure we are ready for opportunities of the future, whether in Somerset or beyond", said Jade Arnold, HOST Somerset Training Manager.

Lauren Withers is one of the many local people to have recently joined HOST on one of the levy-funded apprenticeship schemes. "Having grown up in Bridgwater, it's fantastic to have such an opportunity on my doorstep – it's great for the local community too", said Lauren. "My previous job was in retail banking and account management, but my new apprenticeship will take my skills to the next level."

"I want to progress into management accounting with this apprenticeship meaning I can develop my career whilst also working on one of the country's most important energy projects."



Case Study: Latifah Salawu

After studying maths, business studies and accounting at college, Latifah wanted a career that continued to build on her experience – the Supply Chain (Commercial) Apprenticeship at HPC was the perfect fit.

"Working for Faithful & Gould at HPC has given me opportunities that I didn't think were open to me, from doing different placements across the project, to developing my public speaking skills and travelling for work.

"Working across different departments on the project has allowed me to get different experiences on my apprenticeship and meet new people. Other opportunities such as training days and apprenticeship conferences have also been provided, which has also helped with my development.

"I chose to take this role as it was exactly the topics and career I wanted to pursue. Working on Europe's largest construction project was a bonus! I get a real sense of achievement knowing that even the smallest day-to-day tasks you carry out count towards building this massive project."



Specialist Apprenticeship Programmes

A nationally significant infrastructure project such as Hinkley Point C requires an enormous talent pool with wide-ranging skills. To fill some of the existing and predicted skills gaps, a number of HPC-specific apprenticeship programmes have been developed by Tier 1 suppliers, G4S and Bylor.

These schemes are providing opportunities to local people who may not otherwise have considered a job in the construction industry, as well as the existing workforce, by providing upskilling and development opportunities. The schemes also mean we are able to fill skills shortages by developing talent in-house and creating the workforce of the future on construction projects for years to come.



G4S Apprentice Schemes

G4S, the security services provider to the HPC project, is demonstrating its commitment to the upskilling and development of its team by enrolling over 100 employees onto various apprenticeships.

It is the intention of G4S to ensure that all employees leave better qualified than they started and so, in 2019 - as part of our HPC Apprenticeship Levy - G4S sought to develop two apprenticeship schemes, specifically for HPC: Level 2 Customer Service and Level 3 Team Leader/Supervisor.



BYLOR Lifting Technician Apprenticeship

With 34 tower cranes at HPC, the demand for lifting technicians was always going to be high, but the local resource pool was limited. To ensure that local people could be trained and recruited as crane operatives, Bylor developed an HPC-specific Lifting Technician Apprenticeship.

Bylor is now able to develop talent in-house, meaning the project can fill current and predicted skills shortages. The programme has the added benefit of allowing more local people to be recruited who may not have worked – or considered a career – in construction before.



BYLOR Steel Fixing Apprenticeship

Bylor's HPC Steel Fixing Apprenticeship programme was created for the project due to the volume of steel fixers that are required to support the build. Bylor recognised that it needed to invest in training a new generation of steel fixers, and apprenticeships would be the perfect solution to achieve this.

Bylor and Bridgwater & Taunton College developed a realistic working environment for the apprentices, replicating the behaviours and safety expectations of HPC from the first day of their apprenticeship.



Case Study: Amy Scone

When Amy Scone, 38, signed up for one of Bylor's lifting apprenticeships she didn't even know if she liked heights.

Now she can regularly be seen 40 metres above ground, getting in the 1,000 hours on the tower cranes she needs to get her 'blue card' qualification.

Amy, who lives locally, was previously cleaning the HPC Park and Ride sites. Looking for something "a little bit different" she got chatting to members of the Bylor lifting team during a recruitment drive at the Somerset Energy Innovation Centre.

Now, six months into her 18-month apprenticeship, Amy has already progressed to her role as Relief Driver and does a couple of climbs a day up tower cranes on site. The next step is to operate her own!

She said: "I'm happy because I've got skills that I'd never have got before. I can stand out from the crowd and I'm proud to say what I do. My husband works as Logistics Supervisor for Bylor. I say to the kids, 'Daddy does the paperwork for the power station but Mummy's building it!'"



Education

Inspire Education Programme

The Inspire Programme is delivering free activities, workshops, assemblies and events in schools across the South West. Our work is encouraging young people into science, technology, engineering and maths subjects by delivering engaging and meaningful learning opportunities.

Our team has visited almost 500 schools and colleges in the area and has engaged in almost 195,000 student interactions since it began in 2011. Working with schools and Somerset County Council, the programme has evolved throughout the year to bring in new content, using the latest digital channels to deliver it. In the very first "Learn-Live" broadcast, the team brought together almost 10,000 students from across the UK to consider careers options across the nuclear sector.

Inspire's success was also recognised as a finalist in the Somerset Education Business Partnership Awards 2019 for the *Outstanding Employer Contribution to Education* award.



Learn Live

HPC took part in the 'Learn Live UK' broadcast sponsored by apprenticeships.gov.uk, which reached 56 schools and 9,354 students. The broadcast was part of a series of online discussions from employers about career opportunities in the nuclear industry.



Construction Live

Bridgwater & Taunton College's 'Construction Live' programme with Loughborough University, Anglia Ruskin University and University of the West of England has been supported by HPC site tours and guest speakers from the project.



West Somerset Opportunity Area

Working with the Careers and Enterprise Company, HPC is working as a "Cornerstone Employer"* in the Heart of the South West Careers Hub – which seeks to improve social mobility and ensure access to careers advice for all. Investing time and resources to support local schools and colleges will ensure that young people across the region will gain the work experience they need to make informed decisions about their futures.



Digital Resources for Schools

As part of the Inspire Programme, HPC continues to create new curriculum and Gatsby benchmark-aligned online resources for key stages 2 to 4. Available to download from the Inspire webpage, these learning materials are a free resource for teachers to use in the classroom. It also signposts individuals to Young HPC, which has further online toolkits and resources available for 16 to 21-year-olds.



Case Study: Oliver Tolchard

Oliver, 17, is from Cannington - a village close to HPC. He attended Haygrove School in Bridgwater, which has benefitted from the range of Inspire activities. It helped him get in touch with Young HPC, which in turn helped him get an apprenticeship.

"After I finished school last year, I joined Young HPC and from there headed to an event held at the Construction Skills and Innovation Centre in Cannington Young HPC" explained Oliver. "It was really hands-on and I tried everything from steel fixing to carpentry and lifting work with a digger. I couldn't believe how many options there were.

"The team then helped me through my apprenticeship applications, and I managed to get offers for all of them. In the end, I decided to start my apprenticeship with Cavendish and I've almost finished my first phase of training as a pipe fitter – I am looking forward to starting work building the new power station."



"Great to see the impact achieved through the programme – particularly for the social mobility aspect."

Andrew Hanson, Somerset Education Business Partnership Manager

* Cornerstone Employers work with a cluster of secondary schools and colleges in Careers Hubs or Opportunity Areas to underwrite careers provision in the area.

Inspire: Making a Positive Impact

Independent research over the last five years has shown the positive impact of the Inspire Programme on young people in Somerset. The work by social analysts Sky Blue Research found that:



More than 40% of the apprentices at HPC who participated in the programme said Inspire had changed their career path for the better.



Half of the young people taking part in Inspire said they wanted to try harder in STEM subjects.



Interest in STEM careers, such as engineering, has risen by over 10% as a direct result of Inspire, helping to close nationally significant skills gaps.



Inspire has helped increase social mobility; HPC apprentices are more than twice as likely than the national average to have had free school meals.



More than half of those given careers advice said they found it easier to get work.

“EDF has listened to the feedback of leaders in education and grown its programmes in response. Whilst reaching across Somerset has its geographical challenges, the resources and opportunities have supported colleagues by ensuring they are relevant and responsive to changes in the educational landscape.”

Emma Wilkes, Chair of the Somerset Association of Secondary Heads



Case Study: Our Education Response to Coronavirus

To supplement the teaching resources already available through the Inspire website, further interactive lesson plans were created to assist teachers and parents alike during lockdown.

The activities, aimed at Key Stage 2, 3 and 4, ranged from 30-minute to one-hour lessons and included lesson plans, homework tasks and careers learning.

The education team also worked closely with Learn Live to deliver topical broadcasts and employer 'live chats'. The broadcasts covered topics and challenges such as 'How do you think the UK will be producing electricity in 2050?', with students asked to submit their project ideas on Twitter using #EnergyMix2050.

Almost 4,000 people watched the live broadcast, which allowed us to reach young people and provide relevant careers advice during lockdown. And the team is now engaged in Learn Live's employer live chat, answering direct questions from young people on work and career-related topics.



Young HPC

Young HPC supports 16-to-21-year-olds from across Somerset, building on the foundations of the Inspire programme to provide clear careers advice and guidance.

Built around our established digital platform, Young HPC has widened and improved the activities on offer. New face-to-face skills development events have engaged with around 4,000 people, the second year of the Supported Traineeship has helped those with special educational needs into work and a new partnership with "Start-Profile" opened the opportunities of HPC to thousands.

Membership of Young HPC has increased by over 10% a month, with over 1,300 young people now making the most of the benefits the programme provides.



Outreach events in local colleges, bringing HPC opportunities to young people in the community.



Regular communication with participants via newsletters, HPC updates and specific career opportunities from across the project.



Young HPC database has grown on average by 13% each month.



Emails have regularly outperformed the industry averages for open, click-through and clicks-to-open rates.



Fastest growth for Young HPC membership are those aged 20 (53%).



We're looking at whether the project can provide work experience opportunities in line with new government policies, such as T-Levels.

"What was beneficial to me was hearing all these people give me advice and, in some cases, a foot in the door to their company. Young HPC helped me make my choices in a more educated manner and, above all else, speaking to these people boosted my confidence."

Lee Parsons, Young HPC member



Case Study: Molly Fox

Molly, 16, lives in Minehead and recently finished college in Taunton, but was uncertain of what career path to take. In November 2019, Molly started a Health and Safety Apprenticeship at HPC with Bilfinger.

"When I finished my GCSEs, I was completely stuck on what I wanted to do. My aunt works in health and safety and throughout the summer of 2019 I did a few days' work with her. I thoroughly enjoyed it and realised soon after that I wanted to pursue a similar job role.

"I decided to take the role here at HPC because it may be a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. I've actually been able to pursue the career I wanted to do and I feel as though this would have been a struggle anywhere else. HPC offered me the job role I exactly wanted to do."



HPC Supported Traineeship Programme

Work experience is often hard to access for people with special educational needs (SEN), so, as part of Young HPC, an innovative programme has been developed to help young people with SEN gain skills for work.

Now in its second year, the 10-week programme offers direct links to real work opportunities, giving Young HPC trainees knowledge, confidence and experience to develop the skills they need to enter the workplace.

As well as gaining support with English, maths and essential skills for work, the trainees are offered diverse and meaningful work placements on the project.

Six new trainees started the course, which was developed in collaboration with Bridgwater & Taunton College and the social enterprise Discovery UK, who provided the vital job coaching element. The trainees made great use of the HPC Apprentice and Skills Hub; a dedicated space for people to learn and develop in a safe environment.

"The Supported Traineeship programme has been ground-breaking for Somerset, being the first employer-led programme of its kind for our Somerset young people with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND).

The programme is an excellent example of collaborative working between EDF, its contractors, Discovery and local training providers. Its success has been exceptional with all participants to date moving on successfully to employment or further training opportunities."

Dr Julie Young, Post-16 Adviser, Somerset County Council



Case Study: Charlie Gingell

Charlie, 24, joined the second cohort of the HPC-supported Traineeship programme in October 2019. Originally from Yeovil, Charlie wanted to move towards an independent life and felt that the traineeship offered him an opportunity to achieve this aim.

Charlie is a Young Ambassador for the National Autistic Society, which includes visiting MPs in the Houses of Parliament to raise awareness of autism.

This experience, and his engagement and commitment to the HPC Supported Traineeship Scheme, allowed

Charlie to develop his interpersonal, customer service and employability skills.

Another success for the programme is that it enabled Charlie to start a supported apprenticeship early in 2020 with a local medical practice. Charlie's mum, Deborah, said: "Never did I think he would have the opportunity to work in a doctors' surgery.

"That is probably the best Christmas present we could have had! Charlie is thrilled. Thank you so much for your help and input with Charlie. It means a lot".



Employment



10,300 new jobs created or safeguarded.



40% of the workforce is from the local area.



1,200 local people have received careers advice from the HPC Jobs Service team in 2019.



900 people have been placed into employment through the HPC Jobs Service to date.

The HPC Jobs Service is dedicated to supporting local people into jobs across the project. Working with Jobcentre Plus and the local authorities, we are ahead of our local recruitment target with 40% of the workforce being from the local area, whilst over 10,000 new jobs have been created so far.

Throughout 2019/20, the HPC Jobs Service team continued its programme of outreach and recruitment events across the region to great effect.



Outreach

The team continued to hold local drop-in sessions throughout the area to help individuals to register for work at HPC and provide wider career support, such as with CV writing.

Twelve recruitment fairs were also held in 2019, with 1,851 individuals engaged.

The Jobs Service team have supported the National 'Mentoring Circles' programme in both Bridgwater and Weston-super-Mare, with a view to supporting additional programmes throughout 2020. The team also attended a number of Department of Work and Pensions recruitment fairs in 2019.



HPC Opportunities Roadshow

The HPC Opportunities Roadshow is working with community stakeholders to reach as many young people, adults and businesses from a targeted region in one day.

One such event was delivered in partnership with Weston College, targeting the supply chain, young people and job seekers in different events throughout the day.

Starting with an HPC Supply Chain business breakfast, the day then focused on delivering scaffolding and welding activities to young people from North Somerset schools and current Weston College students - raising awareness of different sectors and skills needed at HPC.

The day culminated in a very successful recruitment fair, attended by a variety of contract partners from across the project.



Improved Delivery

In May 2019, the HPC Jobs Service launched a new self-service registration and application tracking system. It has allowed the opportunities available at HPC to be more widely accessible to candidates.



Response to Coronavirus

The work of the Jobs Service has also been important during the coronavirus pandemic. Our teams are supporting local people who have been made redundant, providing employment and careers advice. The team has been supporting people back into work – not only to the HPC project but also into other local vacancies.

Adapting their outreach methods during this time, the team worked hard to deliver virtual drop-in sessions for local job seekers, as well as developing a virtual jobs fair with the Department for Work and Pensions.



Case Study: David Lloyd

Having been made redundant from a position he held for over 20 years, 53-year-old David from Bridgwater, was unsure of what opportunities were available at HPC but was keen to explore further.

The Jobs Service team helped David to update his CV before sending it to G4S, who shortlisted David to interview for a role as a security officer at HPC.

David was successful and joined the G4S security team based at HPC. David was quickly promoted to Control Room Supervisor and, more recently, holds the role of Health Safety & Environment Lead on the project.

David has also completed additional training and now delivers Level 3 Health & Safety sessions to the G4S team on the project. "I was new to the job market as I had been employed for twenty years by the Environment Agency.

"I was as green as the grass when getting back into work, but received some brilliant advice from the HPC Jobs Service, which set me on a new career path that was more aligned to my past experience and personal qualities.

"Their experience and positivity gave me the confidence to go to the interview well prepared and armed with some knowledge, and fortunately I was successful!"



Case Study: Simon Manwaring

Simon, 52, travelled from South Wales to attend a Jobs Service drop-in session in Bridgwater, as he was keen to secure a role at HPC.

The team supported him in exploring project contractors who would be looking for the tunnelling skills he held and advised him to register on the HPC Jobs Service database to be kept up to date with the latest vacancies on the project.

Simon maintained regular communication with the Jobs Service Team and attended a local HPC recruitment event held in Bridgwater. After applying for a role with Global Tunnelling, Simon was successful in being recruited as a Service Operative and has since been promoted to a Multi-Service Vehicle Operative working at the main HPC construction site.





Supporting our Workforce

Diversity and Inclusion

At HPC, everyone is welcome. It's a powerful statement of our intent to make sure we're about the people who work with us – a rich and unique mix of backgrounds and experiences that's vital to shaping a strong and fresh-thinking organisation like ours.

We are proud to embrace the differences brought by individuals – whoever they are and wherever they come from – and to provide opportunities to all.

Our attitude to diversity is reinforced by our various employee networks – Women's Network, LGBTQ+ Network, BAME Network, Working Parent's Network, Armed Forces Support Network, Young Professionals Network, Cancer Support and Mental Health Network.

These networks provide a platform for employees to share views, tell us what we're doing well and recommend improvements. The networks also provide support, advice and guidance in a safe and inclusive environment. We hope that this creates a sense of community and a workforce who feels that their opinions are valued. It also helps us address business challenges – getting us closer to our goal of being a truly inclusive employer.



Employee Wellbeing

The safety and wellbeing of our workforce is our top priority. We want to ensure that people who work on the project receive the necessary support and safeguarding, whatever the issue, to ensure that they are safe and well.

We have a number of initiatives in place across the project to support this and are constantly reviewing what else we can do to make HPC a safe and enjoyable place to work.



Hinkley Health

Hinkley Health is a nurse-led service with GP support, available to all HPC workers as a first port of call for health queries, whether sustained at home or at work. Being on-site makes it much more convenient than off-site surgeries and can handle drop-in queries and routine appointments, dispensing medicines as necessary to treat symptoms right away.

It extends beyond first aid and medical issues. From Occupational Health advice and fitness assessments, to lifestyle advice and delivering monthly health campaigns, the Hinkley Health team delivers a wide range of activities to fully support the project.



Mental Health First Aiders

At HPC, we are determined to do all we can to support our workers and tackle the perceived stigma surrounding mental health in this traditionally macho industry.

Alongside our Hinkley Health team, we are providing a joined up approach to physical and mental wellbeing support for our workforce. We also have more than 230 mental health first aiders ready to support their colleagues and be the first port of call for anyone who is struggling.

Mental health awareness training is provided for managers and supervisors to create a supporting environment and help identify potential signs to allow for early intervention. Additionally, 'Time to Talk' rooms have been made available around the site, providing private spaces for conversations and to find contact details for help.



Support Groups and Networks

We have an ever-expanding programme of support for workers on the HPC project.

A number of weekly support groups are available, covering a range of issues including cancer support, Alcoholics Anonymous and gambling support, providing advice and support to the workforce.



Somerset – Work, rest, play

Working with Visit Somerset, we have created Somerset – Work, rest, play – a dedicated online resource for HPC workers, their families and friends. From country walks and events guides, to restaurant and volunteering suggestions, the website aims to showcase the wide range of activities on offer across Somerset.

By building this resource and making the activities across Somerset as accessible as possible, our aim is to help our workforce achieve a better work/life balance whilst working on the project.



HPC Chaplain

A full-time chaplain was appointed to the HPC site early in 2020. Working alongside the Hinkley Health team and Mental Health Buddies, Chaplain Ewen Huffman will be on-site to help support the 4,000-strong HPC workforce.

The appointment grew out of the partnership of Churches Together in Somerset and their work at HPC. In the long-term, Ewen hopes to establish a team of volunteer chaplains to work alongside him – he knows from his 30 years' experience that being visible is a great help in the role.

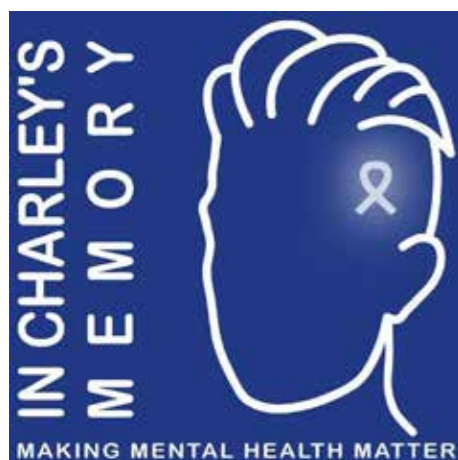


Case Study: In Charley's Memory

In Charley's Memory (ICM), based in Burnham-on-Sea, is benefitting from £10,000 from the HPC Community Fund to provide outreach support in Bridgwater and the local area.

The charity, which was set up by Jo Clement after her son Charley took his own life, helps individuals and families struggling with mental ill-health. The charity has provided over 800 hours of counselling to young people. The service is free and confidential and there's no need for a referral.

Dawn Carey, Operations Manager at ICM, said: "Without this money, we wouldn't be here. The sooner we see someone and offer support, the better. The sessions we run at HPC help with the challenges young people face when they find themselves living away from home, or just out working, for the first time."





Supporting the Community

Although used to hosting nuclear power stations in the area, the communities around HPC are also currently living next to one of the largest construction projects in the UK. Working with them to make sure they enjoy the benefits whilst the impacts are managed is absolutely essential.

This chapter sets out how HPC will do that, from Community Fund donations and volunteering, to investment in tourism and infrastructure. It all contributes to the £4 billion that will go into the regional economy during the lifetime of the project.



£10.6 million of the £20 million Community Fund has been granted to date.



164 number of projects supported through the Community Fund.



£20 million has been invested in local road improvements.

Our Community Relations Response to Coronavirus

The early part of 2020 was dominated by the coronavirus pandemic and adapting our approach to community relations - ensuring continued engagement - was central to planning at this time.

HPC has created the capacity to help our local community in a number of ways: we carried out the groundworks for new facilities at Weston Hospital, donated masks and other PPE equipment to the emergency services, and offered living accommodation to some of those who provided direct support to the NHS.

Together with the Somerset Larder, HPC supported the food charity Fareshare by establishing a fresh food supply route from Bristol, via Taunton, to Minehead. Additionally, HPC has launched a new partnership with Somerset Care, providing volunteers to support a number of the 27 homes that Somerset Care operates across the county.

We have also adapted our regular engagement methods by holding virtual Community Forum meetings and issuing information digitally rather than in print.



Community Fund

Hinkley Point C has committed £20 million to community support funds to improve the social, economic and environmental wellbeing of communities that are affected by the development of the new nuclear power station.

So far, £10.6 million worth of grants have been awarded through the HPC Community Fund. This includes a number of large grants of hundreds of thousands of pounds, but also over 90 small grants of under £10,000 awarded.

These relatively small sums of money are arguably even more beneficial as it provides significant support to local groups and charities which do amazing work in the community and, in combination, touch the lives of thousands of people.



Case Study: Somerset Larder: Feeding our NHS Frontline Heroes

Hard-pressed heroes in the health service battling coronavirus have been given a boost by the team at Somerset Larder.

Chefs at the Bridgwater catering consortium prepared and distributed meals to frontline NHS workers across Somerset and the South West. The special deliveries - offered at cost price - went to smaller NHS facilities like mental health units, community hospitals and care homes.

Somerset Larder is a consortium of local companies who came together to service the HPC project.

It uses exclusively West Country-sourced produce, working with around 20 local suppliers and around 95% of its workforce is locally employed.

The deliveries to NHS workers were in addition to the meals that Somerset Larder provided to FareShare, a charity which helps vulnerable people through tough times. FareShare South West is at the centre of an emergency distribution operation to make sure families struggling to make ends meet, the elderly and the homeless don't go hungry.



Case Study: Home-Start West Somerset

Home-Start West Somerset provides support services for families who are going through difficult times.

The charity received £142,000 from the HPC Community Fund, which allowed them to build their presence in the areas surrounding HPC and recruit a Family Support Coordinator.

Clare Pound, Manager and Senior Support Co-ordinator, said: "We are absolutely thrilled with the funding from the HPC Community Fund. We have been able to recruit a Home-Start Coordinator and we're continuing to recruit and train home visiting volunteers - we currently have 12 and counting! We also deliver group support (called Jump-Start) for parents or carers of children with additional needs and/or a disability.

"We're really pleased with how the funding has supported Home-Start in helping families and we aim to continue this beneficial development."

The charity has seen their case load double since the start of the coronavirus pandemic and have now expanded their outreach to the whole of Somerset. Adapting their approach from face-to-face to online delivery, the group is ensuring that they can continue to provide their much-needed support to local families.

Clary Binding, whose role as Family Support Coordinator is directly funded as part of the HPC Community Fund grant, said: "It's so important at this time where people can't meet in person, that we create an online community where parents can get together. Not only getting support from professionals but also sharing and learning from each other's experiences".



Case Study: Rusty Road 2 Recovery

Rusty Road 2 Recovery (RR2R) is a new social enterprise in Bridgwater that supports people with mental health issues, providing assistance with vehicle maintenance for financially disadvantaged people in the area, as well as bringing them together to restore classic British vehicles and art therapy sessions.

RR2R received £4,783 from the HPC Community Fund and is putting it to immediate use by better equipping its metalworking workshop.

Vince Davis, Director at Rusty Road 2 Recovery, said: "The HPC Community Fund grant we've been awarded has meant that we can deliver a better and more rewarding service to the people of Sedgemoor - with an immediate effect. The money from the grant is being used to better equip our metalworking workshop, enabling us to teach new skills and trades. This will help our users gain a better, more satisfying and fulfilling life, and also help them back into work."

"Thanks to RR2R, I no longer feel alone. Because of its support, my future looks better."

Jess Enisto, RR2R visitor

Charity Fundraising

Following a very successful three-year partnership with Breast Cancer Now, EDF employees raised over £450,000 for the charity. And with the additional donation from EDF, our fundraising total was in excess of £600,000!

From January 2020, Prostate Cancer UK is the EDF charity partner and HPC look forward to working with them to raise awareness and money for this important charity. With a large percentage of our workforce being male, this is a great opportunity to help tackle what is fast becoming the most common cancer in the UK.

The HPC project also raises money for local charities and we are very proud of what the team has achieved so far!



Annual Rugby Match - EDF Barbarians vs the Tier 1 Contractors

Now in its fifth year, the annual rugby match between the EDF members of the HPC project and those who are employed by our contract partners continues to raise money for our chosen charities.

Raising nearly £25,000 for Breast Cancer Now, the match is an excellent opportunity to engage with the local community, which turns up to Bridgwater & Albion Rugby Club's ground in their hundreds to support the sides and help raise money for charity.



HPC Heroes vs Man United Legends Football Match

HPC and Bridgwater Town FC hosted Man Utd Legends in July 2019.

HPC Heroes played out an entertaining 2-2 draw against Man Utd Legends, which included former first-team players Wes Brown, Danny Webber and Keith Gillespie. HPC put together a team of 17 to play the ex-pros, selected from more than 100 colleagues at the first trials.

Proceeds from the match, and the evening auction afterwards, raised over £10,000 for local charity MIND Somerset.



1 in 8 men will be diagnosed with prostate cancer in their lifetime. EDF is proud to be supporting Prostate Cancer UK.



Tourism

Tourism across Somerset continues to be supported by HPC's £20 million of community funding.

The investments into tourism are not only ensuring that any negative impacts of the project are minimised, but will leave a long-term sustainable legacy for the industry.

During 2019, over £500,000 was invested into a range of projects, including;



The Steam Coast Trail

An existing cycle network will be extended to encourage more cycling and walking between Minehead and Williton. The current focus is on connecting Minehead to Dunster Beach and Blue Anchor.



Enterprising Minehead

Building on previous investment, improvements will be made to Minehead's seafront promenade to enhance its appearance. Funding will be used to lay on new events and activities to encourage visitors to stay longer and leave a legacy for West Somerset's flagship seaside resort.



Bridgwater Quayside Festival

Investment will support Bridgwater Town Council's push for greater tourism to support the struggling high street, and will help the growing Quayside Festival to become an annual fixture in the local calendar.



Burnham Evolution

This public-private partnership focuses on revitalising Burnham-on-Sea's seafront and the Princess Theatre so the town can increase its resilience as a year-round destination for tourists.



The Cheddar Vision Group

More money will be invested into marketing the village and the neighbouring Mendip Hills, attracting a demographic who will generally stay longer and have more disposable income.

Roads, Cycling and Infrastructure

The HPC project has invested over £20 million into highway improvements to mitigate the impact of its traffic on the local road network. This includes a £6 million bypass of Cannington village and more than £5.5 million into cyclepath and walkway improvements.

Squibbers Way

Bridgwater businesses have been seeing the benefits following the opening of Squibbers Way, the new £18.4m link road. EDF contributed nearly £3 million to the scheme.

The link road also opens up brownfield land in the area for new housing, which will create local jobs.

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 business for our people and suppliers. It's really improving industry lead times."

Photograph by
Jeff Searle

Combwich Wharf Footpath Maintenance

HPC contractor, Somerset Infrastructure Alliance (SIA), recently completed works to the footpath around the Combwich Wharf refurbishment. Following bad weather, the path was in poor condition, with complaints coming in from local residents. SIA completed work to improve the underfoot conditions. By re-laying new stone, the path is now able to better drain water and is therefore safer for members of the public making use of it.

A section of the path takes walkers up the flood embankment, providing access to the river side. The team reduced the steepness of the access and laid stone, making it easier and safer for walkers to use.

SIA also work closely with local companies Greenslade Grounds Maintenance and Sedgemoor Tree Services to deliver landscape maintenance and improvement works for the project.

Housing and Accommodation

Over half of the £7.5 million HPC Housing Fund has now been spent by the local authorities, who have generated more than 2,000 new bedspaces. Of these, 568 are in new build affordable homes.

The Housing Fund also made a substantial contribution towards refurbishing the old Highbridge Hotel. This YMCA development has seen the fire-damaged building transformed into a community café, sports hall, conference and meeting space as well as 23 rooms of supported accommodation. The building will now host a range of fitness classes, youth services and community events as well as offering rentable meeting and conference rooms.

Exploring Additional Social Value

The concept of "social value" is a growing area of interest and considers how the intangible social, economic and environmental benefits created by infrastructure projects, such as HPC, can be measured.

The HPC project has begun to explore how many of the project-led initiatives and investments seen in this report contribute to the creation of wider social value for the communities in which the project operates - using monetary values to represent them.

The application of robust valuation methods is allowing us to better understand how previously unrecognised benefits are being created by measuring social and economic outcomes.

In an example of the additional value provided by grants from HPC's £20 million Community Fund, the initial £112,000 investment into Bridgwater's Westfield Church generated an additional £279,000 of social value.

It achieved this through job creation, volunteering and training opportunities, and the support the team at Westfield Church provided to members of the community seeking careers advice and guidance.



"Social Value can be defined as the additional socio-economic benefit to the communities in which we operate over and above the direct purchasing of goods, services and outcomes."



Protecting the Environment

Hinkley Point C will play a vital role in tackling the climate change crisis and the UK's move to a net-zero future by providing secure low-carbon electricity to 6 million homes.

During the 10 years of construction we are also building the new power station in a way that helps to minimise the impact on the environment.

We are focused on reducing carbon emissions, reducing the volumes of materials being used, managing our water resources effectively, reducing and reusing waste, whilst also protecting and increasing bio-diversity.

We're delivering this by working with our suppliers and taking our environmental ambitions seriously. In 2019, we opened the new jetty to take thousands of vehicles off the road, commissioned a new waste consolidation centre and fuel farm, and completed the planting of 65,000 trees and shrubs around the site.

Our suppliers are also playing their part: The Somerset Larder, who feeds the workforce, uses local produce and is eliminating single-use plastics; Somerset Passenger Solutions is trialling new electric buses; whilst BYLOR is working to reduce the CO₂ in its concrete production methods.

The project also has an eye on the future sustainability of the construction site. By the end of the build, we will have undertaken a successful and complex landscape restoration to the south of our site, designed to provide a net-gain in biodiversity. It will be a world class example of what can be achieved in terms of biodiversity net gain alongside low-carbon electricity production.



Sustainable Transport

The use of marine transport is a central part of the project's logistics plan and alongside freight consolidation, plays an important role in reducing the number of delivery vehicles and the associated carbon emissions.

HPC's jetty was successfully commissioned in September 2019, with the first delivery of 6,000 tonnes of sand to be used in the production of concrete. Each delivery keeps around 300 lorry loads off the roads and the jetty is expected to handle the equivalent of around 100,000 lorry loads over its life.

The majority of aggregates for concrete production are also quarried locally in Somerset. Much of it comes from Hanson UK's Whatley quarry near Frome, where it can be transported directly by rail to Bristol Port, before travelling the last 32 miles to HPC by ship.



Minimising Waste and Single-use Plastics

The Somerset Larder – HPC's catering supplier – implemented a range of new measures in 2019 that have helped the site to reduce waste and minimise single-use plastics. This included the removal of plastic water cups, eliminating condiment sachets and a move away from non-recyclable sandwich packaging.

The Larder is also trialling reusable coffee cups – eliminating single-use cups from across the site. The aim is to provide a cup that can be 'disposed' of in on-site recycling bins and collected for washing and reuse. Once the cups reach the end of their life, they will be transferred to a local recycling facility to be chipped and turned into traffic cones to be used back on-site.



Waste Consolidation Centre

A new Waste Consolidation Centre is now operating at HPC, helping the project to achieve its ambition to stop all non-hazardous waste from going to landfill. Operated by locally-based Viridor, it currently includes a weigh bridge, waste storage areas and offices, with a waste processing and materials recovery facility coming later this year.



Saving Water Resource

Surface water at HPC is managed through six Water Management Zones. They collect rainwater from across the site to clean it before it is discharged. In periods of warmer weather in spring and summer, discharge from these ponds is suspended to allow the water to be reused for dust suppression. The technique is saving significant amounts of water whilst reducing dust levels across the site.

Water is also being reused at the site's concrete production facilities. The concrete plant has a system to capture water before pumping it back into tanks to be reused. To date, over 22,000m³ of water has been recycled – equating to around 20% of the total amount used so far.



Low-carbon Lighting

The project now uses solar-powered mobile lighting towers instead of the traditional diesel-powered systems. The new technology provides a range of environmental benefits, including zero emissions, zero noise and reduced fuel costs.

Sixty-six of these towers are operated by local company, Prolectric, and have saved 400,000kg of CO₂ compared to standard diesel powered versions - equivalent to taking almost 200,000 cars off the road.





Biodiversity and Ecology

At Hinkley Point C, we are working to protect and enhance biodiversity for areas impacted by our operations.

We're not only ensuring there is no net-loss of biodiversity as a result of the construction, but going further still to deliver a net-gain once the project is complete.

We have rigorous ecological monitoring in place, as well as plans for habitat maintenance, restoration and creation, ensuring we mitigate our impact on the natural environment and maintain key features that will fit into and add value to our final restoration plan.

Ecological enhancements at HPC are not only beneficial to target species but other species too. For example, improvements for great crested newts near the Junction 24 Park and Ride site have led to habitat benefits for barn owls and kestrels, which now hunt in this area.

We have now planted 65,000 trees and shrubs across the site. As part of our final restoration, we will plant hundreds of thousands more, creating habitats that are locally, regionally and nationally important in themselves and to the species they support.



Case Study: Sustainable Living at HPC Campuses

During 2019, HPC's campus accommodation facilities were certified by BREEAM (Building Research Establishment Environmental Assessment Methodology), the world's leading sustainability assessor for construction projects, infrastructure and buildings.

Having been measured across several categories, including energy and water usage, management, materials, waste, pollution and innovation, both the Hinkley and Sedgemoor Campus sites received 'Very Good' certification under the latest BREEAM criteria.

Achieving the certification was a real collaborative effort. EDF worked alongside the campus architects AWW, civils structures and mechanical, electrical and plumbing (MEP) specialists AECOM, and construction contractor Laing O'Rourke, throughout the design and construction stages of the build for both campuses.

Sedgemoor Campus also received particular praise for the development of the site's ecological value from its previous use, as well as its commitment to continue the enhancement of the grounds by implementing a landscape and habitat management plan.

"We were really pleased to find out that we'd achieved the ranking for the campus buildings, as it was one of EDF's key Development Consent Order commitments. The work was also a great example of collaboration - all the way from the design to the construction stages of the project."

Rosy James - Laing O'Rourke Environmental Advisor





About Us

EDF

EDF is leading the transition to a cleaner, low emission electric future, tackling climate change and helping Britain reach net-zero. It is the UK's largest producer of low-carbon electricity, meeting around one-fifth of the country's demand and supplying millions of customers with electricity and gas.

It generates low-carbon electricity from eight nuclear power stations, more than thirty onshore wind farms and two offshore wind farms, and operates one of Britain's biggest battery storage units, one gas and one coal power station, EV charge-points, and combined heat and power plants.

EDF is leading the UK's nuclear renaissance with the construction of a new nuclear power station at Hinkley Point C, and plans for new power stations at Sizewell C in Suffolk and Bradwell B in Essex. Hinkley Point C will provide low-carbon electricity to meet 7% of UK demand. The project is already making a positive impact on the local and national economy as well as boosting skills and education.

EDF also invests in a range of low-carbon technologies including renewables, solar and battery storage. The company's largest offshore wind farm is currently being built in Scotland and the 450 MW Nearth Gaoithe project will be ready in 2023. It is applying research and development expertise to improve the performance of existing generation and developing the potential of new technologies.

EDF is helping its customers, both in business and at home, to join generation electric and take their first steps to sustainably powering their lives. Whether it is buying an electric car, generating and storing electricity or selling energy back to the grid – everyone is welcome. EDF is one of the largest suppliers to British

business and a leading supplier of innovative energy solutions that are helping businesses become more energy independent. In addition, the company's energy services business, Imtech, is one of the largest technical service providers in the UK and Ireland.

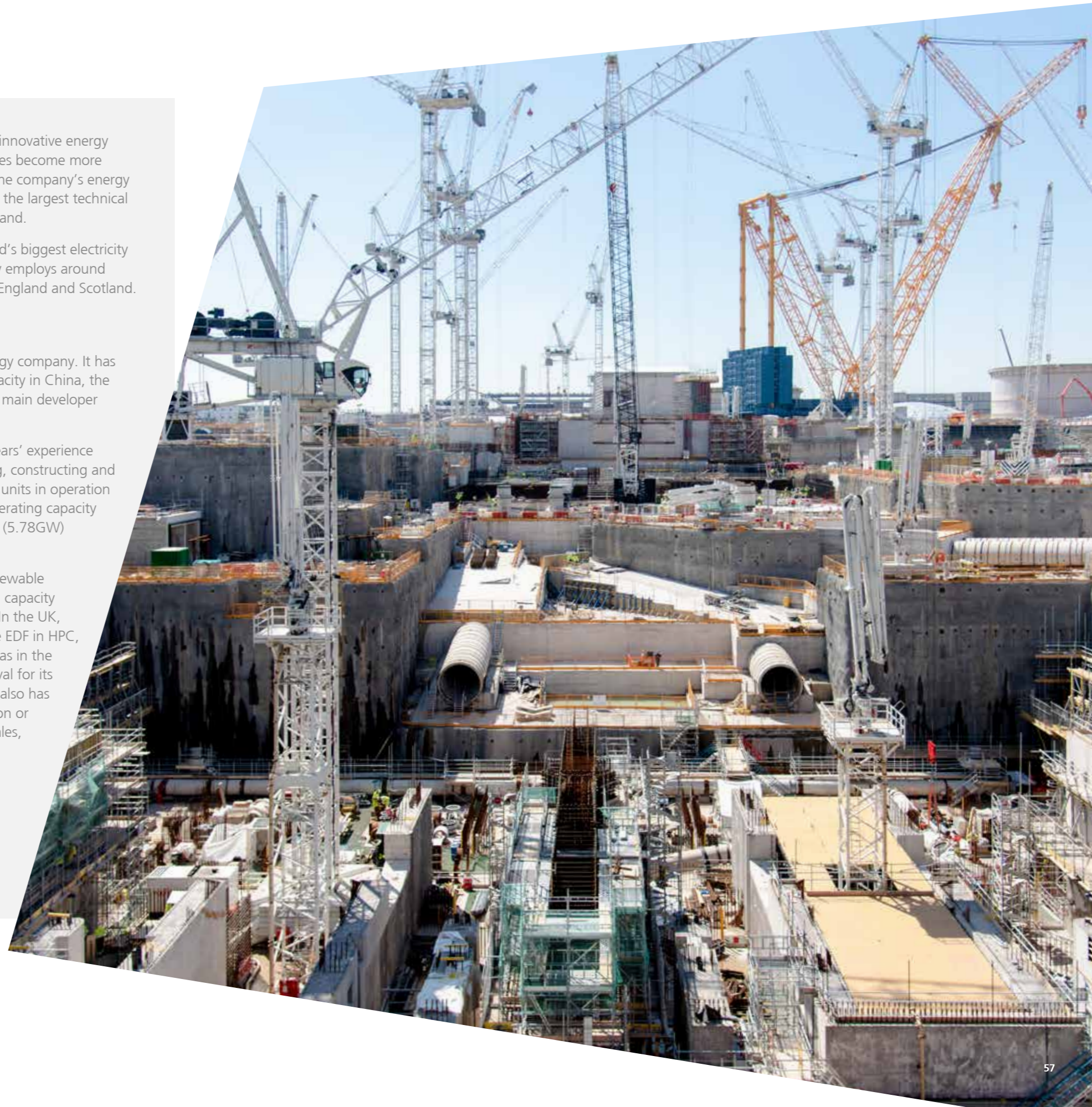
EDF is part of EDF Group, the world's biggest electricity generator. In the UK, the company employs around 13,000 people at locations across England and Scotland.

CGN

CGN is a leading global clean energy company. It has the largest nuclear generating capacity in China, the third largest worldwide, and is the main developer of new nuclear power globally.

The company has more than 30 years' experience of safely and effectively developing, constructing and operating nuclear plants. It has 24 units in operation in China, with a total installed generating capacity of 27.14GW, and a further 5 units (5.78GW) under construction.

CGN is also a major investor in renewable energy, and has 30GW of installed capacity in 15 countries around the world. In the UK, the company is investing alongside EDF in HPC, Sizewell C and Bradwell B, as well as in the project to secure regulatory approval for its UK HPR1000 reactor design. CGN also has 340MW of wind power in operation or under construction in England, Wales, Northern Ireland and Ireland.







edfenergy.com

NNB Generation Company (HPC) Limited, 90 Whitfield Street, London, W1T 4EZ

Registered Number 06937084.

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Designed and produced by outlookcreative.uk

