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## Media Release

### **£1.5 million for young people in Peterborough**

The government has today announced a further £1.5 million investment in jobs for young people in Peterborough. This is Peterborough's second successful bid to the Future Jobs Fund and will create a further 238 jobs for unemployed young people in the city. The announcement comes just days after the 100<sup>th</sup> young person started work through the first Future Jobs Fund programme, announced last year.

The first of the new jobs will start being advertised in April through Job Centre Plus. The majority will be for young people aged 18-24 who have been unemployed for more than 26 weeks. Some of the jobs are specifically for unemployed people living in those areas of Peterborough with the highest rates of unemployment. The 238 jobs will be provided by 35 partners, from across public, voluntary and private sector organisations in Peterborough.

The jobs include

- Events co-ordinator at the Women's Enterprise Centre
- Retail assistant at Best Deal 4 Baby
- Estate ranger and ground maintenance work for Cross Keys Homes
- Wildlife assistant for Peterborough Natural Networks Partnership
- Community support assistants at Cambridgeshire Constabulary

Richard Astle, Director of the Greater Peterborough Partnership said, "As a result of this successful second bid to the Future Jobs Fund, we will be able to help 405 young people back

into employment – a total investment of £2.6 million. The initiative will create lasting benefit to Peterborough by helping young people gain the essential skills for them to prosper in our growing city. At the same time it will make a difference to the communities and individuals they will be working with. This is excellent news for all of Peterborough’s residents, not just those employed through the Future Jobs Fund.”

All Future Jobs Fund roles are for a six month period and aim to provide a benefit to the local community, whilst developing the skills of the young people employed. The jobs come with training packages and are advertised through Job Centre Plus, online at [www.futurejobsfund.org.uk](http://www.futurejobsfund.org.uk) and within the Future Jobs Fund shop which can be found at 67 Long Causeway, Peterborough.

You can also find out more on the Future Jobs Fund blog: <http://futurejobsfund.blogspot.com/>

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### **Media contacts**

For media requests or to arrange photography or interviews please contact:  
Hannah Barrett on (01733) 207340, or e-mail [Hannah@gpp-peterborough.org.uk](mailto:Hannah@gpp-peterborough.org.uk).

### **Notes to editors:**

The Future Jobs Fund bid in Peterborough is a city-wide initiative being lead by the Greater Peterborough Partnership. Peterborough received £1.1 million last year to create 167 jobs through the Fund.

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.

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 of Peterborough's 10 unemployment hotspots.