



10 March 2010

Media Release

Future Jobs Fund Shop opens in Peterborough City Centre

The Peterborough Future Jobs Fund is proud to announce the opening of a Future Jobs Fund shop in the city centre.

The shop will be opened at 9am on Thursday 11 March by Leader of the Council Marco Cereste

The Future Jobs Fund shop, which can be found at 67 Long Causeway, will offer an information hub for young people interested in the Future Jobs Fund and the opportunities it can provide for young people and the local community alike.

Currently 100 young people in Peterborough have been offered a Future jobs Fund role in the city, in positions which vary from microbiologists to painters and decorators and administration support to communications staff. Currently there are 67 jobs specifically for people aged 19 – 24 being advertised through the Future Jobs Fund. The scheme has been a resounding success in the city, with over 20 public and voluntary sector organisations coming together to create jobs for those who have been out of employment between 26 and 50 weeks.

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 be made aware of if they have been successful with the second round bid by the end of March.

Leader of the Council, Marco Cereste said, "The Future Jobs Fund is a fantastic initiative which is proving to be really popular with Peterborough young people. I'm glad that we have been able to help so many young people through the scheme and hope we can continue to offer them support and assistance through the Future Jobs Fund shop"

The shop will serve as a centre which young people can visit to find out about the latest opportunities available through the Future Jobs Fund. The shop will also provide a base for young people employed in the scheme to visit if they have any work related questions. A Future Jobs Fund employee manager will always be available in the shop to offer support and advice to the 100 plus Future Jobs Fund employees in the city.

Caroline Rowan, Future Jobs Fund deputy project manager said "Having a shop presence allows us to provide a centre for Future Jobs Fund employees to visit if they require support or assistance whilst part of the Future Jobs Fund scheme. The shop also provides a place where the local community can visit to find out more about the Future Jobs Fund scheme in Peterborough and what it has to offer the city."

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

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.

To find out more about applying for a Future Jobs Fund Job, please call 01733 296571, or visit the Future Jobs Fund shop at 67 Long Causeway, Peterborough.

~Ends~

Photo call:

You are very welcome to attend the Future Jobs Fund shop opening at 9am on Thursday 11 March, at 67 Long Causeway.

Media contacts

For media requests please contact:

Hannah Barrett on (01733) 207340, 07595645578 or e-mail 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.

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.