

Green Skills for Jobs and Entrepreneurship - Call for Business Partners

Introduction

The University of the West of England, Bristol, in collaboration with the Black South West Network and NatWest are delivering the Green Skills for Jobs and Entrepreneurship (Green Skills) project. The project is funded by the UK Government's Community Renewal Fund (CRF) and is managed in the West of England by the West of England Combined Authority (WECA) on behalf of the Department of Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC).

The Green Skills project is a transformational 'first of its kind' programme which offer access to green jobs, training and business opportunities to Black, Asian and ethnically diverse young people (aged 18 – 28) or recent graduates living in Bristol, South Gloucestershire, North Somerset and Bath and North East Somerset.

The Green Skills project aims to empower young people in the West of England with skills and knowledge to work in the flourishing green sector. It is a pilot project that will help the West of England region transition to a green economy, while seeking to address the underrepresentation of people from Black, Asian and ethnically diverse backgrounds in environmental careers, through an inclusive and equitable programme of training and employment opportunities.

Launched against a backdrop of economic recovery, following the Covid pandemic, and the demand for 50,000 new jobs to be created in the region by 2030 to meet the zero carbon target, it will provide participants with fully paid training in key and newly emerging green skills, facilitate access to internships and support start-ups in a fast growing sector.

Project Activity

The project comprises five areas of work:

Workstreams 1&2: Green skills for jobs, entrepreneurship and social enterprise programme

- 5 x cohorts of 15 young people and recent graduates (total of 75 learners)
- 1 day a week for 8 weeks + final employer/pitch event

The working themes to be covered across the programme currently comprise:

1. Energy
2. Food and circular economy
3. Transport
4. Construction and Building
5. Innovation

Alternative themes that are considered appropriate are also welcomed as part of this call for quotations.

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We are currently working to the following dates for each of the cohorts:

	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	
	Cohort 1	Cohort 2	Cohort 3	Cohort 4	Cohort 5
Intro	08-Mar	16-Mar	24-Mar	01-Apr	To be delivered by BSWN, starting in April
Energy	15-Mar	23-Mar	31-Mar	08-Apr	
Food	22-Mar	30-Mar	07-April	06-May	
Transport	29-Mar	06-Apr	05-May	13-May	
Innovation	05-Apr	04-May	12-May	20-May	
Construction	20-Apr (all cohorts)				
Building	21-Apr (all cohorts)				
The Big Event (inc. business networking)	24-May (all cohorts)				

Workstream 3: Green skills, internships and entrepreneurship vouchers

Towards completion of the 8-week programme, all participants will have the opportunity to apply for further training, entrepreneurship or internship opportunities through the following routes:

1. Green industry internships – 20 x 8-12 week internships will take place at the premises of SMEs across the West of England, fully funded by the project
2. Green research internships – research internship at UWE Bristol
3. Green social enterprise incubation – 5 x space in BSWN's Social Innovation Hub
4. GreenTech incubation – 5 x incubator space in UWE Bristol's incubator
5. Green skills training - 30 x programme participants who are interested in further (accredited) skills training can apply for a voucher to access CPD and further study delivered by UWE Bristol and providers in the West of England. Delivery may be online.

Workstream 4: Evaluation – this is a separate piece of work being undertaken in parallel with project delivery to evaluate the pilot. An independent consultant has already been commissioned to complete this workstream.

Workstream 5: Green Skills and Entrepreneurship Hub

The project's significant legacy will include a Green Skills and Entrepreneurship Hub, providing an online toolbox of skills and business support for learners, entrepreneurs, businesses and social enterprises. This will include access to bite-sized training modules, talent and employment opportunities, and a platform for communities to connect.

Project Outputs

This 6-month project started on 1 January 2022 will end on 30 June 2022.

The project has a number of contracted output targets:

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- 75 young people/recent graduates attending training
- 25 businesses or organisations engaged in delivery and internships
- 55 young people/recent graduates moving into ongoing training
- 20 young people/recent graduates in employment following support
- 5 new businesses created as a result of support.

Commitment

We are looking to create a bank of Business Partners with the ability to provide one of more of the following services:

- Deliver a keynote speaker address (Workstreams 1 & 2)
- Design and deliver bespoke training content (Workstreams 1 & 2)
- Offer mentoring support (throughout Workstreams 1, 2 & 3)
- Offer an internship placement (Workstream 3)
- Design and deliver bespoke training content (Workstream 3).

Business Partners will work with the Green Skills team, our project partners, academic colleagues and external consultants to develop fitting content across the duration of the project, including determining timescales and schedules for delivery.

- Delivery of courses is expected primarily be face-to-face, and take place at: UWE Bristol, Frenchay Campus, Coldharbour Lane, Bristol, BS16 1QY or at venues across the West of England
- Some delivery may take place online.
- Transport to and from delivery venues will not be expendable.

Payment

There are fixed budgets for the following elements of the project:

- **Internship placement (Workstream 3)** - £3,500 to fund the salary of a programme participant to work in their organisation on a green project or activity for 8 - 12 weeks, full or part time.
- **Design and deliver bespoke training content (Workstream 3)** – programme participants will be provided with £2,500 to access modules and courses that further develop green skills.

A maximum daily allowance of £500 has been budgeted for the **design and delivery of bespoke training content within Workstreams 1 & 2).**

Payment will be made upon completion of each individual course/activity and agreed between you and UWE Bristol. Business Partners will need to be set up as suppliers to UWE Bristol and will be required to provide invoices for their services.

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Applications

Applicants must demonstrate the following:

- Prior experience of delivering workshops/courses in your chosen area(s)
- Prior experience of providing consultancy/mentoring support services
- Experience of delivering the above within a learning setting is desired
- Knowledge of the green skills challenge in the West of England is desired
- Experience of working with young people (aged 18-28 years) is desired.

Applications will be assessed against the following criteria:

1. Relevant experience
2. Example delivery plans or outlines of relevant support offers you can provide
3. Value for money – please provide your hourly and daily rates
4. Environmental sustainability – please provide your environmental sustainability policy or approach to reduce your impact on the environment.

We particularly encourage applications from organisations that employ Black, Asian and ethnically diverse candidates as we are currently under-represented in these areas within UWE Bristol, however all appointments are made on merit.

To apply, please provide a single document that explains how you meet the above criteria, and listing your areas of expertise, to the Green Skills for Jobs and Entrepreneurs team at greenskills@uwe.ac.uk.

The overall deadline for submission is 11.59pm on 6 March 2022 however, given the first cohort is due to commence on 8 March 2022, we will be assessing submissions as soon as they are received. The team will get in touch to let you know if you've been successful shortly afterwards.

Successful application will need to be set up as a supplier on the University systems and sign a contract prior to undertaking work.

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