



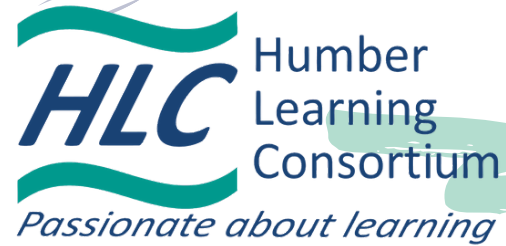
**European Union**  
European Structural  
and Investment Funds



**Education & Skills  
Funding Agency**

# E-Bulletin

September 2021 Vol.34



## WILLERBY OPENS UP BRIGHT FUTURE FOR JOBLESS YOUNG PEOPLE

Leading holiday homes manufacturer Willerby is offering unemployed young people who have faced challenges in their lives sought-after career and training opportunities.

The company has joined forces with HLC's Springboard Youth Employment Initiative (YEI), a project aimed at 16 to 29-year-olds from Hull, who are not in education, employment or training, and need help to develop their skills to access work.

Since December 2017, Willerby has employed four young people through the scheme, in a range of production roles, including Liam Marshall and James Lewis, who are now into their fourth year with the company.

Liam, 23, was just 19 when he joined Willerby as a Production Labourer and has recently been promoted to Jig Shop Operative, building walls and roofs for Willerby's premium holiday homes on the company's newly-opened fifth production line at its Hull headquarters.

Liam said: "I was in a dark place before I started at Willerby. I used to work on building sites, but I didn't have a regular job or any money.



"I found out about Springboard YEI and they helped me to sort out my CV, which led to an interview at Willerby. I got the job and I've got my life back on track. I don't know where I'd be if I hadn't come to Willerby. I'm now getting married, learning to drive and I've got my own home. I'm over the moon."

Springboard YEI has helped more than 1,000 young people in Hull into employment, self-employment, apprenticeships, further education or training since it began in April 2016.

James, 30, joined Willerby as a Production Labourer in 2017 and is now a Trainee Gas Fitter, which includes preparing copper piping, fitting ovens and installing electric fires in holiday homes.

James said: "My last job didn't work out. I needed something more solid. I didn't know where to go until I heard about Springboard YEI. Willerby is a fantastic place to work and everyone is caring and supportive, especially when you're learning."



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**"IT'S FANTASTIC TO BE ABLE TO  
OFFER THESE OPPORTUNITIES TO  
YOUNG PEOPLE..."**

**Springboard**



Alongside Liam and James, two more young people have recently joined Willerby in production roles and the company also offers work experience to other young people supported by the project.

Jo Narborough, Hull City Council's Springboard YEI Key Worker Project Manager, said: "We're delighted to work in partnership with Willerby. This relationship is providing much-needed roles and opportunities. It also demonstrates that our programme is giving young people the skills that renowned companies like Willerby require, along with the tools to sustain employment."

Aaron Cambridge, Head of Manufacturing at Willerby, and Hannah Bell, the company's People and Data Coordinator,

support the young people who have joined the business through Springboard YEI.

Aaron said: "It's fantastic to be able to offer these opportunities to young people and watch their knowledge, skills and confidence grow as they progress within their roles. We train them on the job and offer courses or additional training to help them progress even further.

"Young people are our future and the background work that Springboard YEI does sets them up for the world of work. We're really proud of Liam and James and we're looking forward to seeing our new starters progress in the same way."



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## THIS-ABILITY WELCOMES TWO NEW TEAM MEMBERS....MEET JOY - PROJECT MENTOR...

On the 12th July 2021 the This-Ability project welcomed a new mentor, Joy Barnes. Joy has had a long career in the learning sector with roles such as a Lifeskills tutor and working with young people with disabilities on employment skills, personal & social development skills alongside enrichment activities.

Joy said: "I undertook a working interview in June at This Ability and felt very welcomed by the other mentors. It was great to be in this environment again doing what I love and having positive interactions with students and staff. I was so excited at the prospect of becoming a 'This Ability Mentor' and buoyant about the entire day and how rejuvenated it made me feel.

"Since starting as a mentor I am being introduced to the role. I am loving coming to work every day and being part of a team, meeting students and playing a part in their journey. It has been brilliant to meet the wider team on team building days and getting to know them and the important role they play."

Joy's interests include coach journeys with her son and collecting autographs! We wish her all the best in her new role and hope she is very happy being a part of the wider HLC team.



## ELISHA - 'COOK WITH ABILITY'S' NEW MENTOR....

The This-Ability team welcomed another new member of staff last month, Elisha Allen. Elisha is a mentor that will be primarily working on our 'Cook with Ability' project by transforming our allotment, preparing recipe cards and supporting learners to access all elements of our project amongst a whole host of other things.

Elisha says: "In my past roles I have worked in face-to-face customer service, so I have no trouble with speaking to new people. I've grown up with people in the caring industry and that has influenced my career choice today. I'm looking forward to being a part of everyone's journey and helping them achieve their end goal which is to be in their ideal employment."

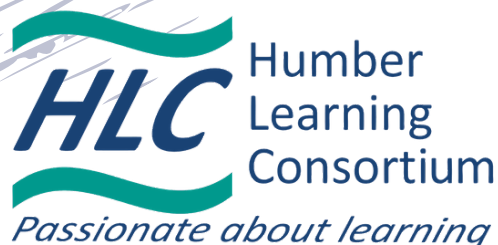


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**JOB VACANCY**

**This-Ability Employer Engagement Officer**  
Humber Learning Consortium  
This-Ability Project

Full-time 35 hours per week  
Salary £20000 – £24000 per annum Post covering Hull/East Riding  
Excellent benefits including 10% employer contribution to company pension scheme and life insurance cover.  
36 days annual leave including bank holidays.  
Working pattern to promote a healthy work/life balance.

HLC is the lead partner for Springboard and This-Ability, which are part-financed by the European Union through the European Social Fund (ESF) and supported by the Youth Employment Initiative and the National Lottery Community Fund.

## WE'RE HIRING!!!!...

Would you like to help us in our campaign to empower and support employers to harness the skills of young people with disabilities?

Do you have the skills and experience to create bespoke packages for micro-businesses and SMEs, right through to large organisations?

If the answer is yes then please get in touch, we'd like to hear from you. Please see our website for more details about this exciting role [LINK](#).

## ESF COMMUNITY GRANTS ROUND 6 IS NOW CLOSED....

We would like to thank everyone that has applied for this round of funding. The CG team are happy to announce a very successful round of applications. We received 23 applications from both new and previous grant recipients. We are currently still busy scoring and processing them all.

## Community Grants ●●●

So far, we have scored a wide range of provision and we look forward to the delivery of successful activities to support disadvantaged, 18+, unemployed / inactive participants back on the journey to employment or into further education. The support our voluntary organisations offer is invaluable to all those they work with to help them move forwards in their lives especially in the last year.

We would like to give a warm welcome to all the new Grant Recipients who have been successful in round 6 of this funding. So far 12 applications have been successful with a diverse range of activities including: Construction, English skills, sewing skills, bicycle mechanics, horticulture, ICT skills, food preparation, and art activities. The Community Grants team looks forward to working closely with you and seeing the great work you will do in the coming months.



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