

Freeports Consultation Extension

- Only go outside for food, health reasons or work (but only if you cannot work from home)
- If you go out, stay 2 metres (6ft) away from other people at all times
- Wash your hands as soon as you get home

Do not meet others, even friends or family.

You can spread the virus even if you don't have symptoms.

UK airlines to save millions as navigation charges deferred

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ESFA senior staff moves

News story

An update from Eileen Milner, ESFA chief executive, on senior staff moves in the agency



Education & Skills Funding Agency

Eileen Milner, ESFA chief executive said:

The Department for Education has today appointed ESFA's Director of Apprenticeships, Keith Smith as their new Director for post-16 strategy.

The Director for post-16 strategy will lead on strategic issues across post 16 provision to deliver the Secretary of State's priorities. Keith will be working alongside Gillian Hillier, DfE Director of Careers and Further Education.

Keith will begin to formally take up the role later this month.

Keith has over 20 years' experience working in and around the education and skills system. Currently, Keith is the Director with responsibility for implementing apprenticeship funding reforms and the apprenticeship levy.

Peter Mucklow, Director of ESFA's Further Education Directorate, will be moving across to head up ESFA's Apprenticeship Directorate later this month.

Peter has over 25 years' experience working in the education and skills system and is currently responsible for oversight of FE providers.

Kirsty Evans, currently Deputy Director in the Funding Directorate and is responsible for the implementations and delivery of our funding systems, will become acting Director of Further Education, taking over from Peter.

Kirsty has 25 years' experience working in the education and skills system. Previously she was responsible for ESFA's adult funding operations, and most recently led the co-ordination of ESFA's response to COVID-19.

I wish Keith, Peter and Kirsty all the very best as they step into their new roles.

Published 8 April 2020

Last updated 18 May 2020 [+ show all updates](#)

1. 18 May 2020

We have updated this news story to reflect the appointment of Kirsty Evans our acting Director of Funding Education.

2. 8 April 2020

First published.

[New HR Director](#)

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[Coronavirus: £1million Defence innovation funding](#)

A £1million fund to fast-track innovation to aid the Armed Forces in the fight against Coronavirus is today launched by the [Defence and Security Accelerator \(DASA\)](#).

The call is open to any idea or novel approach that could boost the Ministry of Defence's capabilities and work as part of the [national effort against Coronavirus](#) or similar future threats.

Director of Defence Innovation Clare Cameron said:

Innovators and industry have stepped-up to the plate with a remarkable response to the Coronavirus outbreak. This investment will unleash the power of innovation to rapidly help us in the national effort against Coronavirus.

Coronavirus is not just a health emergency, but also one that affects many other aspects of the way we live. That is why f1m has been allocated to launch this rapid response call today seeking the very best ideas from innovators.

Head of DASA Anita Friend said:

This is a broad call for innovation, meaning we are open to any idea from anybody to solve or tackle any challenge.

If you think you have a great idea that can help us in these unprecedented times, then we want to hear from you.

The funding is a new strand of DASA's [Open Call for innovation](#). The Coronavirus strand will initially be open for one week from today – closing midday on 15 April – for rapid assessment of the first wave of proposals.

DASA will continue to accept proposals after 15 April for consideration.

[More information about this call and how to submit a proposal can be found here.](#)

The initiative is being run by DASA with support from the [Defence Science and Technology Laboratory \(Dstl\)](#).

Earlier this month, DASA launched a call for [rapid sanitising technology to speed up the time it takes to clean ambulances](#) in conjunction with the Welsh Government – attracting more than 200 proposals in just one week.

Successful proposals are expected to be chosen this week with trials and assessments starting soon after.