

Part time and postgraduate students in Wales invited to sign up to SFW mailing lists

Press release

The Student Loans Company (SLC) is asking part-time and postgraduate students in Wales to start planning their student finance for next academic year.



The student finance application service for part-time and postgraduate students will open in the summer, but students can sign up now to the Student Finance Wales (SFW) [part-time](#) and [postgraduate](#) mailing lists to receive an email when the services are live.

SLC advises students to apply as early as possible for their student finance, even if they don't have a confirmed place on their course. This helps to ensure that their funding is in place at the start of term.

Part-time and postgraduate Master's students in Wales can apply for a combination of loans and grants to help with their course and living costs. Postgraduate Doctoral students can apply for a loan to help them with their course and living costs.

Chris Larmer, SLC Executive Director, Operations said:

"SLC is committed to enabling opportunity through access to higher and further education, and we want to support as many students as possible to apply for student finance early, to ensure they have their funding in place at term start.

"By signing up to the mailing lists part-time and postgraduate students can be assured that they won't miss the application window opening."

To help students stay up to date with the latest student finance news and information, SLC's top tips include:

- Sign up to the SFW [postgraduate](#) and [part-time](#) mailing lists to be one of

the first to know when the application service opens.

- Visit the Student Finance Wales website to find out more about what funding is available
- Follow SFW on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#)

Full-time undergraduate students can apply now for student finance at <https://www.studentfinancewales.co.uk/discover-student-finance/>

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[Nuclear skills showcased at industry awards ceremony](#)

News story

Hundreds of nuclear professionals gathered at the 14th UK Nuclear Skills Awards at the Kimpton Clocktower Hotel in Manchester.



Corhyn Parr, CEO of Nuclear Waste Services, addresses guests at NSAN Nuclear Skills Awards

Sponsored by the Nuclear Decommissioning Authority, the event was organised on behalf of the nuclear industry and Cogent Skills.

The NDA group was heavily represented with six finalists from Sellafield, Magnox and Energus.

Winners of the night included Megan Robertson from Sellafield, who was named 'Intermediate Apprentice of the Year'. In addition, the five other finalists were named runner up, including:

- Ellie Rosewell, Magnox – Intermediate Apprentice of the Year
- Luke Doran, Sellafield – Higher & Degree Apprentice of the Year

- Luke Crampton, Sellafield – Graduate of the Year
- Ross Simpson, Sellafield & Energus – STEM Ambassador of the Year
- Sellafield and Gen2 – Best Employer & Provider Partnership Award

Corhyn Parr, CEO of Nuclear Waste Services, opened the event on behalf of the NDA:

We are celebrating the younger members of our sector tonight and all the fantastic work they do, it is a good opportunity to think to the future and how we set ourselves up as an industry of choice for long term opportunities, exciting challenges and plenty of personal and professional development.

Across the NDA businesses including Sellafield, Magnox, Dounreay and the newly created Nuclear Waste Services, we have some of the most complex challenges in decommissioning and waste management in the world. Our programme is over 100 years to clean-up the UKs legacy sites. We invest in skills because it gives us an energized and committed workforce now and in the future.

Hosting the event, attended by representatives from across the nuclear industry, was Chris Hollis, Sports & Factual Entertainment Presenter, and main presenter for BT Sport.

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[Three men fined for Alston illegal waste sites](#)

Father and son Keith and Paul Liverick pleaded guilty when they appeared at Carlisle Magistrates' Court on Wednesday 30 March.

Keith, 74, of Station Road, Alston, pleaded guilty to two charges of operating illegal waste sites, while Paul, 51, of the same address, pleaded guilty to one charge of the same offence, and two charges of illegally depositing waste.

Their associate Frank Shepherd, 77, of Leadgate, Alston, had pleaded guilty at an earlier hearing to a charge of operating an illegal waste site, and a second charge of burning waste on land.

Waste stored at the Clarghyll Colliery site

The court heard that each of the four sites; Clarghyll Colliery, land at the rear of Moredun Garage, Old Foundry Yard, and Rotherthorpe Old Mine, had varying environmental permits and permit exemptions in place to allow for restricted waste deposits and activities.

None of the sites had an environmental permit to allow for the importing, depositing, treatment or sorting of mixed waste. Environmental permits impose conditions on waste operators to govern the type of waste and the type of activity permitted on a given site.

These conditions are designed to reduce the risk of pollution and harm to the environment arising out of the site activities. Environmental permits are designed to protect people and the environment and failure to comply is a serious offence that can damage the environment, undermine legitimate businesses, put jobs at risk and cause misery for local communities.

Between August and November 2018, Environment Agency officers made visits to each of the sites, where they saw illegal deposits of large amounts of mixed waste, which included scrap vehicles, skips of household waste, plastics, timber and construction waste.

Waste stored at the Clarghyll Colliery site

Over the ensuing two years, officers tried to work with the operators to bring the sites into compliance, but advice and notices were largely ignored.

In mitigation, Shepherd was remorseful, while both Paul and Keith Liverick said it was caused by poor management of the sites.

Andrew Turner, Area Environment Manager for the Environment Agency in the North East, said:

All three showed a blatant disregard for the environment over a great length of time and seemed to think the rules did not apply to them.

They deliberately and persistently allowed the deposit and storage of waste on these sites knowing the activity was illegal and presented a risk of harm to the environment. They did this in the face of officers working hard to encourage compliance.

We work hard to prevent and disrupt waste crime and we're pleased all three have admitted wrong-doing.

Shepherd was fined £666 and ordered to pay a victim surcharge of £67 and costs of £400; Keith Liverick was fined £1,980 and ordered to pay a victim surcharge of £190 and costs of £1,350, while Paul Liverick was fined £2,566, ordered to pay a victim surcharge of £190 and costs of £2,200.

Environmental incidents can be reported to the Environment Agency 24/7 on 0800 807060.

Waste crime can also be reported anonymously via Crimestoppers online or on 0800 555111.

[P&O ferries: update from the Insolvency Service](#)

News story

The Insolvency Service has provided an update following its enquiries into the circumstances surrounding the recent redundancies made by P&O Ferries.



Following its enquiries, the Insolvency Service has commenced formal criminal and civil investigations into the circumstances surrounding the recent redundancies made by P&O Ferries.

As these are ongoing investigations, no further comment or information can be provided at this time.

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[Our Megan scoops prestigious skills award](#)

Megan Robertson won the 'Intermediate Apprentice' category at the National

Skills Academy for Nuclear (NSAN) Awards.

The awards are organised by UK Nuclear Skills and Cogent Skills. They highlight excellence in the nuclear sector and recognise rising stars of the present and future.

Megan has worked for Sellafield Ltd for 3 years as an apprentice nuclear operator.

She said:

When I started my apprenticeship, I was quiet and unsure about what I could achieve. I'm now much more self-confident, proud of the skills that I have developed and delighted to of won this award.

Two other Sellafield Ltd employees were recognised on the night. And Sellafield Ltd itself, alongside training partner Gen2, were finalists in the 'Best Employer and Provider' category.

Luke Doran, a 5th year process engineer degree apprentice, was shortlisted in the 'Higher and Degree Apprentice' category.

He said:

Being a finalist shows my hard work hasn't gone unnoticed and it gives me a great deal of pride in what I've managed to achieve.

I'm incredibly grateful for the support I've received throughout my apprenticeship.

Luke Crampton, who is working towards his chartership in IChemE design systems was also shortlisted for 'Graduate of the Year'.

He said:

I was delighted to be shortlisted for this award and grateful to the company for putting my name forward.

The nuclear industry provides technical challenges which put my skills to the test while helping to better myself as an engineer.

Sellafield Ltd and Gen2, our engineering and technology training provider, were shortlisted in the Best Employer and Provider Category.

Sellafield Ltd has approximately 600 apprentices on its books with qualifications ranging from level 2 (GCSE equivalent) to level 6 (degree level) across 15 schemes.

The company also has more than 120 graduates on a 2-year programme across 24 disciplines.

Gen2 has 5 training centres across Cumbria working with over 300 clients delivering a range of short courses and apprenticeship programmes with progression routes into employment and higher education including honours degrees.

Donna Connor, head of education and skills for Sellafield Ltd said:

Being shortlisted in this category is testament to the recruitment and support provided by Sellafield Ltd and the excellent training provision of Gen2 in West Cumbria.

We have such a diverse range of apprenticeships, including nuclear welding inspection, fire and rescue and business administration, and this award emphasises the exciting career opportunities at Sellafield Ltd and the nuclear industry.

Having 3 people shortlisted and Megan going on to win, highlights the excellent calibre of apprentices on our books – I couldn't be prouder.

Amanda Towers, Managing Director of Gen2 said:

We were extremely proud to have been shortlisted for this category.

It's testament to the long standing collaboration and partnership between Gen2 and Sellafield Ltd and our shared purpose to ensure we provide high quality training for many hundreds of Sellafield apprentices.

We believe the success of the partnership is due to the shared understanding of nuclear sector, passion for training development and delivery and a flexible and responsive approach that enables training solutions which are high quality and fit for purpose.