



Press Release

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Note to editor:

Sections in yellow are mandatory for PR according to government guidance on this fund for more info see [Technical note for applicants and deliverers \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://www.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/101111/technical-note-for-applicants-and-deliverers.pdf)

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Community Renewal Partnership for Tendring: Planting 'Seeds 4 Growth'

A brand-new partnership 'Seeds 4 Growth' led by Abberton Rural Training (ART) and delivered in partnership with Paragon Training, Colbea, Colne Radio and CVS Tendring will be launched on 1 December 2021.

This project is funded by the UK Government through the UK Community Renewal Fund managed by Essex County Council and the partnership has secured just over £500k. The aim of the partnership is to work with local employers and engage with Tendring Residents to offer them opportunities to explore employment, self-employment and training within the rural and care sectors. The project will also offer mentoring and advocacy support to help remove barriers and support individuals to progress with their life goals.

The project will be monitored and evaluated by CVS Tendring so that findings can be shared with the wider community and help to shape future projects in the area. Sharon Alexander, chief officer at CVS Tendring, welcomed the funding and the life-changing benefits it could have for Tendring residents. She said: "This project has the potential to transform the lives of residents here in Tendring.

"By opening the door to this training, they can learn new skills, make friends, and find a path into volunteering, employment or self-employment.

"CVS Tendring are so pleased to be part of the Seeds4Growth programme and look forward to seeing the difference it makes to our residents."

Abberton Rural Training (ART) will be delivering rural skills training at the Medical Centre Community Garden in Kennedy Way Clacton, ART's CEO, Jacqui Stone said,

'The 'Seeds 4 Growth' partnership are working together to address the need for more skilled workers in Tendring District who can fill jobs and deliver services within rural and care sectors.'

'We are absolutely thrilled that this funding will enable us to make a bigger difference to people's lives in Tendring District. The project will offer Tendring residents an opportunity to access parts or all of the free skills sessions as required, this includes rural skills training, communications workshops, introduction to working in the care sector and how to set up your own business or be self-employed.'

Cllr Lynda McWilliams, Tendring District Council Cabinet Member for Partnerships, said: "Abberton Rural Training (ART) has a great track record of delivering projects which really make a difference, as we saw through the pandemic with the Stay At Home, Grow Your Own initiative which helped vulnerable people who were isolating to stay active.



“Seeds 4 Growth has great potential to develop skills among our residents and help them to flourish, in line with our Back to Business agenda, and we look forward to working with ART and supporting them through this exciting initiative.”

Paragon Skills will provide free introductory training for those who are considering working in the Care Sector as well as linking them up with local employers, Amanda Kerr from Paragon Skills said,

‘We are delighted to be a part of this project and championing the care sector helping individuals to see the career opportunities and options available to them within this vital sector.’

Colne Radio will offer students taking part in Care and Rural Skills Training an opportunity to learn about community radio, and by doing so, develop their communication skills and develop promotional materials for the project.

Heather Purdey from Colne Radio said,

‘As a local community radio station Colne Radio is proud and delighted to be involved with this very exciting project’

Colchester Business Enterprise Agency (Colbea) will support individuals who want to explore self-employment or business start-up opportunities, Ashleigh Seymour-Rutherford, Chief Executive of Colbea said,

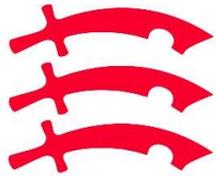
‘Colbea are delighted to be working in partnership with some of the local area’s most committed organisations. The ‘Seeds 4 Growth’ initiative is a great opportunity for those exploring a wide range of ambitions and Colbea will be working closely with those participating in the programme and providing business advice and guidance to those pursuing self-employment.’

A new website will be live soon so residents can book free training sessions www.seeds4growth.org.uk or Tendring District Residents can call the dedicated phone line to find out more and book their course 01255 615914

The UK Community Renewal Fund is a UK Government programme for 2021/22. This aims to support people and communities most in need across the UK to pilot programmes and new approaches to prepare for the UK Shared Prosperity Fund. It invests in skills, community and place, local business, and supporting people into employment. For more information, visit <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/uk-community-renewal-fund-prospectus>

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Logos:



Essex County Council



HM Government



Social Media: #UKCOMMUNITYRENEWALFUND

New website coming soon!

www.abbertonruraltraining.org/seed4growth

Images: ART has a range of stock images if you'd like some. Alternatively group photos can be arranged at the training site in Clacton, please call Wendy Bixby 01245 975773 if you'd like to arrange this.