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## **SHAPING THE FUTURE ANNOUNCE ANNIVERSARY SUCCESS**

- Success of Macro-Economic Talent Management programme revealed - enrolments now stand at 910 with 290 learning requests
  - Shaping the Future delivering on its targets as a £4m project mitigating the socio-economic impact of decommissioning the UK nuclear legacy in North Wales and driving economic regeneration
  - Funded by the European Social Fund (£2.3 million) through the Welsh Government, Nuclear Decommissioning Authority (£1.2 million), the Môn a Menai Regeneration Project (£240K), Gwynedd County Council and Isle of Anglesey County Council
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**Llandudno, 09 May 2013** - Today saw the first anniversary of the successful launch of Menter Môn's 'Shaping the Future' project, a £4m Macro Talent Management (MTM) initiative, which supports employment and economic and social development funded by the European Social Fund through the Welsh Government.

The project has seen 910 employees of Magnox Ltd operating at the Wylfa and Trawsfynydd nuclear facilities enrol in the initiative in the first year alone. Shaping the Future has assisted with funding 290 courses, helping people secure qualifications as diverse as installation & testing of Photovoltaics, MSc's in Manufacturing Engineering and Safety, Risk & Reliability, Engineering and a Certified Information System Security. A large proportion (30%) are developing their skills in the field of science, new technology and engineering, transferring their skills to new high tech technologies.

Independent research and analysis of the project reveals the majority of those working at the nuclear sites are now positive about their futures. It has also empowered people to take responsibility for their career path. In 2011, 51% of employees felt personally responsible for planning their future. This commitment has risen to 74% in 2012 as a direct result of the project intervention.

Three quarters of the Shaping the Future cohort believes they will be living in either Anglesey or North Wales in five years' time. Their presence can and will create a hub of highly skilled individuals with high level qualifications in science, ICT and engineering. This talent bank can help attract and create long term, sustainable, supply chains bringing wealth, prosperity and jobs for all generations to the region.

Speaking ahead of the first anniversary celebrations, the Welsh Government's Regeneration Minister, Carl Sargeant said: "Shaping the Future is encouraging the public and private sectors to work together to drive forward inward investment and promote entrepreneurship. Projects like this have a crucial part to play in

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creating jobs and building employee skills in North West Wales and the £2.5m invested by the Welsh Government and European Social Fund is money well spent."

Speaking at the anniversary event held at Venue Cymru, Ian Price assistant director CBI Wales and South West, commented: "Shaping the Future is exactly the type of innovative scheme we need to drive the skills agenda in Wales. The partnership of public and private funding is a model that can be successfully replicated in other regions to pre-emptively tackle issues that arise when large regional employers close facilities, leaving high numbers of people without employment. To drive inward investment and job creation we need to ensure that we are recognised globally as a country with an advanced, flexible workforce that is committed to welcoming new businesses."

Judy Craske, Project Director, Shaping the Future, said: "Shaping the Future represents a great exemplar for a Macro Talent Management (MTM) programme, which brings together stakeholders from the public and private sectors to affect real change. To have such a large cohort of employees from Wylfa and Trawsfynydd engaged in the programme and graduating with a diverse range of qualifications to help their future employment prospects is fantastic. The range of skills now available to employers in North West Wales is extensive and we believe will help attract more companies to locate in the region."

Shaping the Future is helping to mitigate the impact of job losses from the cessation of activity at Wylfa and Trawsfynydd power stations, whilst strengthening the decommissioning supply chain and helping people into sustainable alternative employment. The project promotes a diversification of skills and economic development by offering training to employees within the nuclear industry, future-proofing their skills for future employment in the energy industry or other target sectors of the economy.

Funding partners include the European Social Fund (£2.3 million) through the Welsh Government, Nuclear Decommissioning Authority (£1.2 million), the Môn a Menai Regeneration Project (£240K), Gwynedd County Council and Isle of Anglesey County Council.

The NDA has committed £1.2 million to Shaping the Future, highlighting the collaborative nature of this project which combines public and private investment to deliver tangible economic benefits. Magnox Ltd, which operates Wylfa and Trawsfynydd sites on behalf of the NDA, has been integral to the development of the programme and plays a key role in its implementation.

The project is championed by 12 Goodwill Ambassadors, which promote the work of Shaping the Future. The Goodwill Ambassadors include such luminaries as: Ann Beynon OBE, Director Wales BT; Greg Evans, Director of Energy at Centrica and entrepreneur Rob Lloyd. These ambassadors have close ties with North

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West Wales and work diligently to promote the benefits of operating businesses, working and living in the region to a national and international audience.

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