

## 33 new hostels for working women sanctioned by WCD Ministry during last 3 years

As per the norms of the Scheme, financial assistance is provided to the eligible implementing organizations such as State Government agencies and Civil Society Organizations etc

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## Angela Rayner comments on reports the Government is set to accept Labour amendments on Children & Social Work Bill

### **Angela**

**Rayner MP, Labour's Shadow Education Secretary,** commenting on reports that the Government is set to accept Labour amendments on the Children and Social Work Bill, said:

"With the Bill back in the Commons next Tuesday, the Government must urgently clarify its position. If ministers are giving in to Labour's demands to abandon this dangerous proposal and accept our amendments, then that is good news for vulnerable children across the country.

"We need to learn the lessons from the terrible tragedies of the past. The protections that were recommended after the appalling cases of Victoria Climbié and Baby P need to be enforced, not weakened. There is nothing 'innovative' about allowing councils to 'opt out' of such basic requirements.

"These proposals should never have been made in the first place, and we will fight until they are removed."

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## [Official Statistics: Weekly rainfall and river flow summary: 22 to 28 February 2017](#)

Following a wet week across England, particularly in the north-west, river flows are mainly normal or higher for the time of year.

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## [Wheat and Pulses have register record sowing in term of area](#)

As per preliminary reports received from the States, the total area sown under Rabi crops as on 3rd February 2017 stands at 645.12 lakh hectares

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## [News story: Young innovators recognised in Forbes 30 under 30](#)

Eleven UK-based start-ups that have received Innovate UK support were named in the list of business and industry figures to watch in 2017.

[Forbes 30 under 30 Europe 2017](#) highlights the brightest young entrepreneurs, innovators and game changers with the potential to change the world. Across 6 of the 10 industry categories in Europe, 11 of the projects honoured have received Innovate UK support.

### **Winning projects**

#### **Industry**

- Susan Graham, co-founder of [BioCarbon Engineering](#), which uses drones and remote sensing to restore woodlands and forests by planting trees quickly and cheaply

## Retail and ecommerce

- Freddy Macnamara, founder of [Cuvva](#). Cuvva's car insurance model is designed to more accurately represent drivers' risk profiles. It allows customers to insure their parked car for a base fee and only pay extra when they drive it

## Media

- David Benigson, CEO of [Signal](#), which uses artificial intelligence (AI) to provide hyper-relevant real-time content and news to businesses

## Science and healthcare

- Amrit Chandan and Carlton Cummins, co-founders of [Aceleron](#). This partnership is working to convert end-of-life electric vehicle batteries into safe, cost-effective energy storage for developing regions
- Alex Bond, CEO of [Fresh Check](#). With fellow Imperial College PhD students, Alex has developed a simple colour-change system for food packaging that alerts consumers to bacterial contamination

## Social entrepreneurs

- Julian Melchiorri, founder of [Arborea](#), which is working to develop biotechnology solutions for urban pollution and wastewater treatment. Its BioSolar Leaf mimics photosynthesis to support energy producing, carbon-neutral buildings
- Elena Dieckmann and Ryan Robinson, co-founders of [Aeropowder](#), who are looking to repurpose feathers from the poultry industry that have traditionally gone to waste, and exploit the naturally high-performance material into new products
- Tom Webster, co-founder of [GrowUp Urban Farms](#). With his co-founders Tom has developed an aquaponics system for the sustainable, year-round farming of produce and fish, allowing consumers to locally source their food

## Technology

- Victor Dillard and Edward Perello, co-founders of [Desktop Genetics](#). The University of Cambridge postgrads marry software innovation with life sciences. They are building an AI to re-engineer the human genome and treat genetic causes of disease
- Ankur Modi, co-founder of [StatusToday](#), offers an AI tool that gives business managers insight into their employees, helping them to improve performance and recognise threats
- Timothy Sadler, co-founder, [CheckRecipient](#), which uses AI to spot and prevent email data breaches and loss before it happens

## How we support businesses

These innovators have benefitted from a variety of Innovate UK programmes, including direct competition funding, innovation vouchers and knowledge

transfer partnerships, which connect businesses with a university and recently-qualified graduate to bring in new knowledge.

Elena Dieckmann of Aeropowder was one of the winners in our [women in innovation](#) competition, receiving £50,000, a tailored business support package and mentorship. The competition aimed to challenge the low number of female entrepreneurs in the UK and encourage diversity.