# European Social Fund and Regional Development Fund projects have transformed the lives of thousands across Northern Ireland

Projects funded by the Northern Ireland European Social Fund (ESF) have equipped 77,000 people with the skills and experience to thrive in the workplace and in wider society, while those supported by the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) have boosted the local economy by increasing employment and productivity.

### <u>Time is running out to protect our endangered environment warns chief</u>

If we don't take radical action now to protect our environment then every aspect of it is threatened, the head of Northern Ireland's Environment Agency (NIEA) has warned.

#### <u>Continued success in the fight against</u> <u>organised crime groups operating in</u> <u>Northern Ireland</u>

The latest Organised Crime Task Force (OCTF) Annual Report, published today, has outlined how a multi-agency approach is delivering positive results in the fight against crime.

## Report published on impact of sex purchase offence

The Department of Justice today laid in the Assembly a report of an independent review into the operation of the offence of purchasing sexual services.

## £78,000 Footway Reconstruction and Carriageway Resurfacing Scheme for Broughshane Street, Ballymena

A £78,000 footway re-construction and carriageway resurfacing scheme on Broughshane Street, Ballymena, will start on Monday 23 September 2019.