

New College Durham – In 2 Work Project

John, 56 years of age, a lone parent and a long time resident of Hardwick, has completed a three-day Asbestos Stripping Awareness Course at a local training company funded through the Communities Fund. After passing the course and subsequent medicals John has now started work on a local contract, after being out of work for six years.



John said: “The future now looks decidedly rosy for me and I would like to thank Peter Chinnery of New College Durham’s In 2 Work Project and also all the staff at Hardwick in Partnership for all their help and guidance”.

For one individual, Colin, the support from New College has been a life changing opportunity. Colin was an actor who had lived overseas for a number of years and had faced some challenging situations. He came back to the UK a couple of years ago but because of his intermittent employment history had struggled to obtain and achieve sustained employment.

Following his engagement on to the programme and after one to one discussions it was determined that because of his background, he should consider a customer focused occupation. He undertook a customer service course and in conjunction with project staff started looking for work.

He was unsuccessful with a number of job interviews. But with his engaging and lively personality it was clear that he would be ideal for a telesales role. The flexibility of the role ensures that Colin is able to match the job with his personal circumstances. Feedback from both Colin and the company shows that he is enjoying the role and he is very successful at what he does. This means that he is building a clearly defined job history and has found a focus for his customer based skills.