

PRESS RELEASE



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Unemployed reaches 1.86 million

Skills Secretary John Denham has unveiled details of a £158 million emergency fund to help people made redundant or who fear losing their jobs with the aim of helping them find new work. The emergency fund will help jobseekers to fill in application forms, draft CVs, obtain references and prepare for interviews as well as confidence building, identifying their skills and how to look for jobs.

Harry Freedman, founder of Career Energy, the leading provider of career change advice and job search assistance to individuals, said, “

“This is all very worthy, but the majority of people can write a CV and complete an application form. What they need help with is the career planning. There are jobs available. If work is no longer possible in their industry, they need help finding out what other jobs are right for them. Once people know what they want, they can probably write a CV that sells themselves.

“Some of the new training budget should be allocated to career planning, helping people to discover their options, allow them to make successful, strategic decisions about their career and what training is right for them. For example it is nonsense that Career Development Loans can be used for everything except career planning. Surely this should be a compulsory foundation for any training programme.

“If all the mismatched members of the work force had exposure to proper career planning; getting into careers that they valued, enjoyed and that allowed them to make the most of their talents, we'd have a happier more productive workforce, a better economy, the vacancies would be filled, the unemployment numbers would drop and the so-called skills gap would be plugged.

"Of course governments have to deal with mass populations and look for an easy to adopt one-size-fits-all solutions. But it is time for a more personalised approach. It will cost more, but the benefits to the economy will far exceed the costs."

To speak to Harry or arrange an interview, please contact cath@careerenergy.co.uk.

Harry Freedman is Founder of Career Energy, the leading provider of career change advice and job search assistance to individuals. Harry has worked as CEO in a variety of SMEs, and in the voluntary sector. He moved into Career Management by applying the techniques promoted by Career Energy, namely identifying dominant skills and experiences and transferring them into relevant new contexts. His formal Career Management experience was gained with leading providers of corporate career services, and informally as an employer and as a coach in the voluntary sector. He has a degree in Psychology.

www.careerenergy.co.uk.

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