

Britain's General Union

A Language for Life
A Better Future



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Involving Trade Unions

Opening centre for migrant workers

'One-stop shop' for migrants

Language courses on offer

MIGRANT workers have been put on the path to overcoming language barriers with the opening of a new education facility in Thetford. Nearly 100 Portuguese and Eastern Europeans have benefited from the Timmy McLean Community Learning Centre, on courses run by the GMB Union.

The community facility at Thetford fire station, off Norwich Road, was opened in August in

memory of the five-year-old boy who died in a house blaze.

Steve Walker, regional co-ordinator of the GMB, said the centre had enabled the union and its learning representatives to run English Speakers of Other Languages courses for migrants.

There were plans to expand the courses, which have been well received by learners and been met with a 100pc completion rate.

New education facility helping with English

Dozens of migrant workers have been put on the path to overcoming the language barrier after the opening of a new education facility in Thetford. Nearly 100 Portuguese and Eastern Europeans have so far benefited from the Timmy McLean Community Learning Centre, thanks to courses run by the GMB Union.

The community facility at Thetford fire station, off Norwich Road, was opened in August in memory of a five-year-old boy, who tragically died in a house blaze in the town.

Steve Walker, regional co-ordinator of the GMB, said the centre had enabled the union and its learning representatives to run English Speakers of Other Languages (Esol) courses for migrants to help them overcome exploitation within the workplace and marginalisation.

He added that there were plans to expand the courses.

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ESOL Classes



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Vital Support to Learners



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Working in Partnership

- Learning Providers
- Norfolk Fire Service
- Norfolk Police
- GMB Union



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Successes



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Know Your Rights Courses

- Improves knowledge and confidence of working with Trade Unions
- Informs migrants of their employment rights
- Problem solving of issues at the workplace
- Raising grievances
- ESOL embedded
- Progression onto ESOL classes
- Organise and recruitment of new members and reps

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- **Communicating**
- Polish Radio



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Communicating



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Why the GMB model works



Great fun, meets the learners needs, own language support, flexible, social and friendly, platform for progression.

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Rimma's story



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Thanks for Listening

Any Questions?

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