

LMI Bulletin

March 2023



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National news

New research finds young women achieve highest HGV pass rate

Research from Pallet-Track has found that female drivers aged 20–29 are gaining the highest HGV pass rates in Britain every year between 2010 and 2022.



“UK phone repair apprenticeship needed”, says firm

Smartphone repair firm TMT First is asking for an official device repair apprenticeship to be introduced. There is currently no industry training standard for this type of apprenticeship. In 2022, there were almost 72m mobile phone connections in the UK.

Digital skills benefit individuals, organisations and the UK economy

A new study from Gallop and Amazon Web Services says that advanced digital skills, such as cloud architecture and software development, could raise GDP in the UK by £67.8m each year. There is a real skills gap in the UK digital economy. More than two-thirds of UK businesses find it difficult to hire the digital workers they need, and 45% say this is because there are not enough qualified applicants.

Is there enough tech integrated into our children’s curriculum?

The Future of Education Report 2023, by online tutoring provider GoStudent, suggests that the education system is not preparing children enough with certain skills such as artificial intelligence (AI). The report says that children in the UK are already behind the rest of Europe in using the technology with just a third (32%) of them using AI to learn in school or at home.

Salary and flexible working hours are top benefits for those looking for new job

When looking for a job, salary and flexible working hours are the most important benefits to employees. Other important factors are a minimum of five weeks’ annual leave, the ability to work anywhere you want and good sick pay.

The benefits of revealing neurodiversity in the workplace

The Financial Times looks at how a neurodiverse diagnosis can lead to a better working environment. There has been a big rise in diagnoses of neurodiversity among adults – meaning more workplaces may have to adapt. The article explains that The National Autistic Society estimates at least 1% of people in the UK are autistic. The true figure could possibly be higher as many adults, particularly women, have not been tested. A



2021 study by Newcastle University found about one in 57 children in the UK was on the autistic spectrum.

Six jobs that are in high demand in the UK 2023

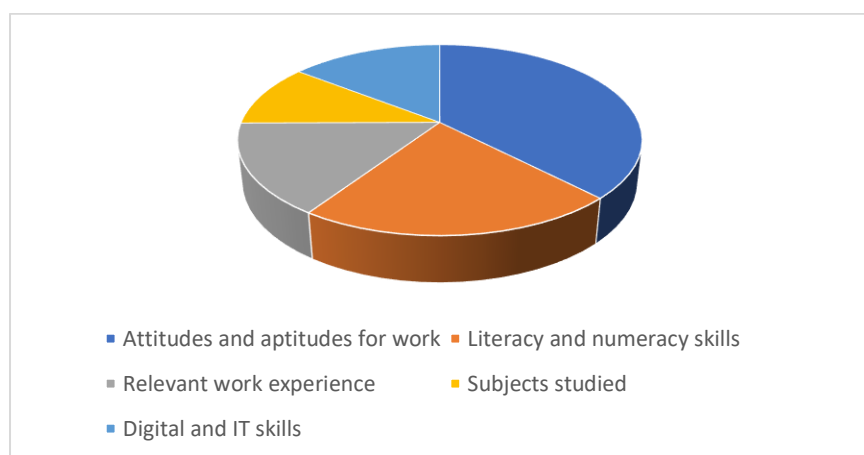
High demand jobs in the UK include:

- Programmers and software developers – starting salaries around £26k;
- Cyber security specialists – starting salaries around £25k;
- Health services and residential care – health service roles average around £30k. Jobs in care start at £21k;
- Architects – starting salaries around £28k;
- Graphic designers – starting salaries can be around £18k but can quickly rise;
- Physical scientists – starting salaries at around £29k.

CBI Education and Skills Survey 2022

Highlights of the latest Education and Skills Survey by the CBI:

- Businesses were finding skills gaps in a lack of candidates with appropriate, industry relevant qualifications (58%), strong competition for candidates with appropriate qualifications (47%), poor careers advice aligned to sectors (34%) and a lack of awareness among learners about different routes to work e.g. apprenticeships (34%).
- The top five most important factors when recruiting school leavers are:



London news

Bird & Bird starts new solicitor apprenticeship programme at London office

International law firm Bird & Bird has introduced a solicitor apprenticeship programme at its London office. It is aimed at sixth formers who have completed A Levels or equivalent but do not want to go to university. Candidates can apply now if they are currently in Year 13 or have recently left school.

London's first data campus to support creation of over 5,500 new jobs in sector

Newham Council has announced plans for London's first Data Campus at East Ham Town Hall. It will become a "leading destination" for digital and data innovation. The campus could create more than 5,500 new jobs in the data sector.

Request for salary increase as Enfield records most vacancies in London

Charity Skills for Care estimates that Enfield has the highest number of adult social care jobs vacancies in London, and struggles to recruit and retain staff. During 2021/22 there were 1,219 vacancies with almost 14% of posts not filled.

London's apprenticeship challenges

Some interesting facts about apprenticeships in London, written by Mayor Rokhsana Fiaz, London Councils' Executive Member for Employment and Skills.

- Between 2018/19 and 2020/21, the number of apprenticeships started by learners aged under 19 decreased from 6,580 to 3,880.
- The number of higher-level (level 4+) apprenticeships started by Londoners has increased since 2016/17 (+242%). On the other hand, the number of intermediate level (level 2) apprenticeships has more than halved (-66%).

The Mayor writes: "Too many Londoners are missing out on vital opportunities to gain skills and experience – skills that are essential in maintaining London's vibrancy, making the most of our talent, and delivering inclusive economic growth."



South news

12 companies sign up to Removing Barriers project

Removing Barriers is a one-year programme that tries to raise the number of local employers who recruit and support young people with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) across Dorset.

Twelve employers have already signed up to the programme after its first training session. With an initial goal of 10 registered companies, the project has already been successful. The programme is run by Dorset Careers Hub. Find out more about it here: www.dorsetlep.co.uk/removing-barriers--send-

Launch of Dorset's Green Skills Hub

The project will deliver green technology courses across Dorset. The training will be provided by Bournemouth & Poole College, Weymouth College and Skills & Learning Adult Community Education.

Bournemouth & Poole College will deliver short marine and automotive training courses using advanced equipment. Weymouth College's courses will be focusing on construction. Skills & Learning Adult Community Education will provide Sustainability awareness training.

South West's sole Environmental Practitioner Degree Apprenticeship

Newquay University Centre Cornwall College is delivering the new Level 6 apprenticeship; the only one of its kind in the region.

The college also offers a Level 7 Ecologist Degree Apprenticeship. For more information on their Marine and Natural Environment courses visit: www.cornwall.ac.uk/subject-areas/marine-natural-environment



Heart of the South West region receives £64.5m to level up transport, green technology and health care

The projects, supported by the Levelling Up funding, include a new health and social care training academy in Somerset and research into green technologies.

Gatwick Airport apprentice programme

Gatwick Airport is currently recruiting for six apprentices across four different engineering and IT roles. Applications are open until Sunday 12th March. For more details about the roles and to apply, visit: www.gatwickairport.com/business-community/careers/apprentices

Gatwick's apprenticeship programme, which previously focused on engineering, will now also include IT, cyber security, corporate responsibility and sustainability.

You can find out more about the programme through a Q&A with their Apprentice Development Lead [here](#).

Crawley Innovation Centre to provide welcome economic boost to Crawley

The centre is expected to bring major manufacturing business investment and jobs into Crawley, as well as drive growth in sectors such as green energy, quantum and transportation technologies.

Crawley Innovation Centre will also work with Crawley College and the Universities of Brighton, Chichester and Sussex on opportunities for tech apprenticeships and skills. The project is a big priority in Crawley's Economic Recovery Plan, set to open by the end of 2023.



South East employers turn to school leaver apprenticeships to attract diverse talent

Every South East business involved in a recent survey said that they currently employ school leavers as apprentices.

Three quarters (75%) said they currently hire more school leavers than before the pandemic. 71% believed that school leavers perform just as well as university graduates.

The increasing demand for apprentices coincides with the raised concerns about higher education fees among young people. According to ONS, in February 2022, most university students (77%) in England were worried that the rising cost of living may affect their studies.

West Sussex gets £1.8m of funding for chargepoint plans

The grant is part of a £56m of government and industry funding to expand electric vehicle (EV) chargepoints across the country. As a result, we should expect to see an increased need for people who can do the relevant installation and maintenance work.

Hydrogen revolution sparks into action

Launched at the end of February, Hydrogen Sussex is a new group aimed at developing the region's hydrogen economy. The group will support the development of clean alternatives in transport, aviation and shipping.

The group is made up by various organisations from the public and private sector, including councils and universities. Find out more about Hydrogen Sussex here:

hydrogensussex.org



North East news

Nissan announces largest ever apprenticeship programme at Sunderland plant

Nissan aims to fill 140 apprenticeship roles in areas such as manufacturing, maintenance, business administration and engineering.

Since opening in 1986, the company has employed more than 2,000 apprentices. Nissan has a record of moving its apprentices to senior roles after the completion of their training. As a result, the Department for Education has recently praised the company for its commitment to apprenticeships and training.

University of Sunderland launch game changing esports degree

Esports is a fast-growing industry which is currently thriving in the North East. University of Sunderland is part of to the region's well-established Esports hub with its new **Esports Event Management Bsc (Hons)** degree.

The British Esports Federation has also chosen Sunderland for its upcoming Esports performance and education campus. The campus will give access to training, equipment, investment, and a base for the Great Britain Esports team.

The region is also home to **Hitmarker**, the largest gaming and Esports jobs platform in the world, and a new £8m high-tech Esports arena. A range of Esports courses are also available through local colleges.

A major new festival Tech NExt will promote and celebrate region's growing tech sector

Tech NExt festival will take place across the North East between June 19–23 this summer. For more information, visit: technext.co.uk



Plans for 'major' Sunderland film studio set to create over 8,000 jobs

If the project is successful, Crown Works Studios could create over 8,400 jobs in the region over the next decade. This would make Sunderland home to one of the largest filmmaking centres in Europe.

The news has been described as “the single most significant development announcement” for the region in decades. This information follows the announced plans for **Shipyard Studios**, which will bring a film studio and creative hub to the city.

These new developments could transform Sunderland’s industrial presence by turning the city into an emerging film and media hub.

North East areas identified among UK’s net-zero jobs 'hot spots'

Recent analysis found Tyneside and Teesside coast, the Scottish Borders and Northumberland as the areas that drive the region’s green economy.

Almost 20,000 low carbon jobs are in these areas, contributing more than £2bn to the local economy. The highest proportion of green jobs in the UK were found in Houghton and Sunderland South.



Useful websites and resources

National Careers Week free resources – ncw2020.co.uk

Jobs Live – jobsliveuk.com/national-careers-week-2023

Explore green careers by Start Profile – www.careershub-south.london/page/green-careers-tree

Neurodiversity Celebration Week 2023 events – www.neurodiversityweek.com/events

Dates for your diary

What University? & What Career? Live – Virtual event – 21st March
www.whatcareerlive.co.uk/access-for-all-2023

The London Jobs Show – Westfield, Shepherd's Bush – 21st and 22nd April, 11am to 4pm
www.londonjobshow.co.uk/shepherdsbush

Pilot Careers Live – London Heathrow – 22nd April, 9am to 5pm
www.pilotcareernews.com/live/london-2023

Health and Social Care Jobs Live – Westfield – 16th and 17th June
healthjobslive.org

Produced by Education Development Trust.

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