

A quick guide to...

# Workforce Support Programmes

A round up of skills support for employers across Leicestershire, including: ESF Workforce Skills Support\*, apprenticeships and furlough support.

Outline of programme	 <b>European Union</b> European Social Fund	Contact
<b>ESF funded workforce support</b>	<p><b>Skills Support for the Workforce (SSW)*</b></p> <p>This offer helps small and medium sized businesses (less than 250 employees) based in Leicester and Leicestershire with the skills that their employees need. What's on offer?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A training needs analysis, identifying the skills you need to support your business ambitions</li> <li>• Flexible training – pick full qualifications or mix and match individual units to suit your business</li> <li>• Taught learning, distance learning and online learning</li> <li>• Learning pathways to enabling progress within your organisation</li> <li>• Recognised accredited qualifications and training courses</li> </ul> <p>Previous SSW programme participants have benefited from <b>increased employee confidence, motivation, productivity and improved employee loyalty and retention.</b></p>	<p>Managed by <b>Serco</b>  <a href="mailto:skillssupport@serco.com">skillssupport@serco.com</a></p> <p><a href="http://www.serco-ssw.com">www.serco-ssw.com</a> or email:          Howard Cordingley,  <a href="mailto:Howard.Cordingley@serco.com">Howard.Cordingley@serco.com</a></p> <p><b>COVID 19 support:</b> SERCO are open for referrals from businesses and much of the training on offer is being adapted to be delivered online.</p> <p>SSW ends for referrals on March 31 2023</p>
<b>Furlough or redundancy support</b>	<p><b>Furlough and redundancy support</b></p> <p><b>Furloughed staff:</b>          Employers can refer staff who are <b>furloughed</b> to <b>Futures</b> for support, advice and training options during their period of furlough.</p> <p><b>Redundancies:</b>          If you are having to make <b>redundancies</b>, Futures can support your staff to explore new options, with free training, CV and job application support.          Contact Futures with information on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Notification of redundancies and scale</b></li> <li>• <b>Number and job roles affected</b></li> <li>• <b>Last day of work for affected individuals (if known).</b></li> </ul>	<p><b>Futures</b> manage the area National Careers Service offer; all support is FREE and done virtually/online during the <b>COVID 19</b> period.</p> <p><b>Furlough:</b>          Call 0116 2615 907 or email  <a href="mailto:NationalCareersServiceNCC@futuresforyou.com">NationalCareersServiceNCC@futuresforyou.com</a></p> <p><b>Redundancies (Futures):</b>          Email: <a href="mailto:leicestershire@futuresforyou.com">leicestershire@futuresforyou.com</a>          Phone Sarah Baranyai on 07570 671594</p>
<b>ESF recruitment support</b>	<p><b>Leicester Employment Hub*</b></p> <p>Great for SME employers who wish to <b>'grow' their own talent</b>          You will be guided through the 'red tape' often associated with training schemes and get you to where you want to be. Impartial support and advice are on offer on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Apprenticeships and Traineeships</li> <li>• Work experience and Internships</li> <li>• Volunteering</li> <li>• Bulk vacancies</li> </ul> <p>The offer includes <b>expert advice</b> on any government or council grants available. On the job training and recruitment support will be provided by an appointed training provider. We can also help to <b>promote your vacancies to job ready clients.</b></p>	<p>Managed by <b>Leicester City Council</b>          Contact: <b>Tracey Waterfield</b>  <a href="mailto:Tracey.Waterfield@leicester.gov.uk">Tracey.Waterfield@leicester.gov.uk</a>          0116 454 2945  <a href="http://www.leicesteremploymenthub.co.uk">www.leicesteremploymenthub.co.uk</a>          Email: <a href="mailto:employmenthub@leicester.gov.uk">employmenthub@leicester.gov.uk</a></p> <p><b>COVID 19 support:</b> The Employment Hub is now operating an online service with information on our website and promotion taking place on Facebook and twitter.</p> <p>Ends for referrals on Sept 30 2023</p>



Future work force	<p><b>Schools and colleges</b></p> <p>A great way to raise awareness of your organisation or industry to the workforce of tomorrow is to engage with local schools and colleges. The <b>Careers and Enterprise Company Enterprise Adviser</b> programme coordinates businesses in engaging with the senior leads of a school or college to enhance careers and enterprise planning.</p>	<p>Contact: <a href="mailto:EAN@llep.org.uk">EAN@llep.org.uk</a>          0116 454 2910  <a href="http://www.llep.org.uk/investing-in-our-people/the-enterprise-adviser-network/">www.llep.org.uk/investing-in-our-people/the-enterprise-adviser-network/</a>  <b>COVID 19:</b> The EAN team are working and are happy to take referrals.</p>
	<p><b>Building the Workforce of the Future</b></p> <p>The LLEP worked with <b>local colleges, universities and skills provider partners</b> to create a FREE snapshot guide for employers about <b>support for a range of common employer skills challenges</b>.</p> <p>The guide has all the information you need to offer employer encounters, experience of the workplace, work placements and internships, and the new T Level industry placements, and how these programmes can <b>benefit you in the long term</b>.</p>	<p>See our <b>Building the Workforce of the Future</b> FREE guide on:  <a href="https://www.llep.org.uk/investing-in-our-people/skills-guide-building-the-workforce-of-the-future/">https://www.llep.org.uk/investing-in-our-people/skills-guide-building-the-workforce-of-the-future/</a></p> <p>Or call/email Anna Cyhan on 0116 454 2919 for a printed copy.  <a href="mailto:Anna.Cyhan@llep.org.uk">Anna.Cyhan@llep.org.uk</a></p>
Recruitment support	<p><b>Sector based work academies and job fairs</b></p> <p>Beneficial for employers who may have bulk vacancies, and who need tailored pre-work training, relevant to the business for new employees. A sector-based work academy can last up to 6 weeks and has 3 main components for potential employees:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• pre-employment training – relevant to the needs of the business and sector</li> <li>• a work experience placement</li> <li>• a guaranteed job interview</li> </ul> <p><b>Job Centre Plus</b> will also advertise your vacancies <b>free of charge</b> and offer a range of free initiatives such as <b>Work Trials</b> and a <b>Small Business Recruitment Service</b>.</p>	<p>Email: <b>Keshwala Bharat</b>          JCP LEICESTER NEW WALK  <a href="mailto:BHARAT.KESHWALA@DWP.GOV.UK">BHARAT.KESHWALA@DWP.GOV.UK</a></p>
	<p><b>Local training providers, colleges and universities</b> work with local people and students to move them into opportunities and can also help.</p>	<p>Training providers, colleges, universities.</p>
Plan for Jobs 2020 incentives	<p><b>New plan for jobs incentives 2020</b></p> <p>The Government has introduced the following <b>employer incentives</b> linked to recruitment (<b>'Plan for Jobs'</b>)</p> <p><b>Apprenticeships:</b> Available until 31 January          £3,000* - 16-18          £2,000 - 19-24          £1,500 - 25+</p> <p><b>Traineeships (16-24-year olds)</b>          £1,000 (limit of 10 Traineeships per employer)</p> <p><b>Kickstart</b>          Funding to create new placements, 100% of wages are subsidised at NMW for up to 25 hours, must recruit ages 16-24 on Universal Credit</p> <p><b>Job retention bonus</b>          Employers will receive a one-off bonus of £1,000 for each furloughed employee who is still employed as of 31<sup>st</sup> January 2021.</p>	<p>Contact:  <b>Apprenticeships and traineeships</b>          Leicester Employment Hub (see overleaf), local colleges and training providers, or call the National Apprenticeship Service on 0800 015 0600</p> <p><b>Kickstart</b>  <a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/kickstart-scheme">https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/kickstart-scheme</a>  <a href="http://www.fsb.org.uk/kickstart">www.fsb.org.uk/kickstart</a>          A local list of representatives will be available late September 2020</p>

See also the one stop shop for business advice and support, the **LLEP Business Gateway Growth Hub**

[www.llepbizgateway.co.uk](http://www.llepbizgateway.co.uk)

