

# LMI Bulletin

North East and Cumbria



Issue No: 486

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## NATIONAL AND REGIONAL NEWS

### [North East digital bootcamps launched to tackle skills shortage and boost job creation](#)

A £1m-backed digital bootcamps programme has been launched to help people across the North East develop specialist skills to work in the digital sector.

The bootcamps will be short, intensive courses in subjects such as data analysis, digital marketing, web development and cyber security and are part of the Government's Lifetime Skills Guarantee and Plan for Jobs initiatives.



The programme will be running until the end of March 2022 and it will guarantee a job interview with a local employer to anyone who successfully completes a course.

(www.gazettelive.co.uk, 04/08/2021)

### **New jobs platform to support North East residents into hospitality careers**

With hundreds of jobs remaining unfilled in hospitality and tourism, [Skills Hub](#) helps Newcastle residents access local job and training opportunities in these sectors, through its new online vacancy portal, Jobs@SkillsHub.

The platform offers a range of vacancies including front of house, waiting and receptionist roles, as well as chef and kitchen assistant opportunities at well-established accommodation companies in the city.

Considering the key role of hospitality for the region's economy this is an ideal time for local unemployed people to consider finding work in the sector, which is currently offering an increasing number of opportunities.

To view the current opportunities, you can register online at

<https://www.skillshubnewcastle.co.uk/>

(skillshubnewcastle.co.uk, 18/08/2021)

### **Cash boost to create new flexible approach to apprenticeships**

A £7 million government fund is bringing a new approach to the apprenticeships landscape, as it enables apprentices to get the experience, skills and knowledge they need by working with different employers and across multiple projects within the duration of 12 months.

The creative industries as well as sectors such as construction, digital, adult social care, transport and manufacturing, are expected to benefit the most by the new scheme, where employers tend to offer short-term roles, project-based or freelancing work and therefore haven't been able to employ an apprentice for the minimum duration of 12 months.

(www.gov.uk, 03/08/2021)



## **Tesco offers £1,000 starting bonus for specific job amid staff shortages**

Tesco will be offering £1,000 bonus to new starters for HGV driver roles until September 30, to tackle the increasing staff shortages, caused by large numbers of workers self-isolating amid the so-called 'pingdemic'.

The Road Haulage Association (RHA) estimates a shortage of about 60,000 haulage drivers in the UK.

([www.thenorthernecho.co.uk](http://www.thenorthernecho.co.uk), 29/07/2021)

## **Greggs to open 100 stores - and aims for 3,000**

The North East based bakery chain has announced its plans to create 100 new stores by the end of the year, which are expected to bring around 500 new jobs. Greggs is now planning to further boost its continuous growth through the areas of delivery and drive-thru sales.

([www.thenorthernecho.co.uk](http://www.thenorthernecho.co.uk), 03/08/2021)

## **Iceland confirms plans to recruit 2,000 extra staff to tackle 'pingdemic'**

Amid the increasing number of workers who had to self-isolate, leading to unprecedented staff shortages, the retailer has confirmed its plans to hire 2,000 new staff. All the roles will be temporary, aimed to cover the absences.

([www.retailgazette.co.uk](http://www.retailgazette.co.uk), 22/07/2021)

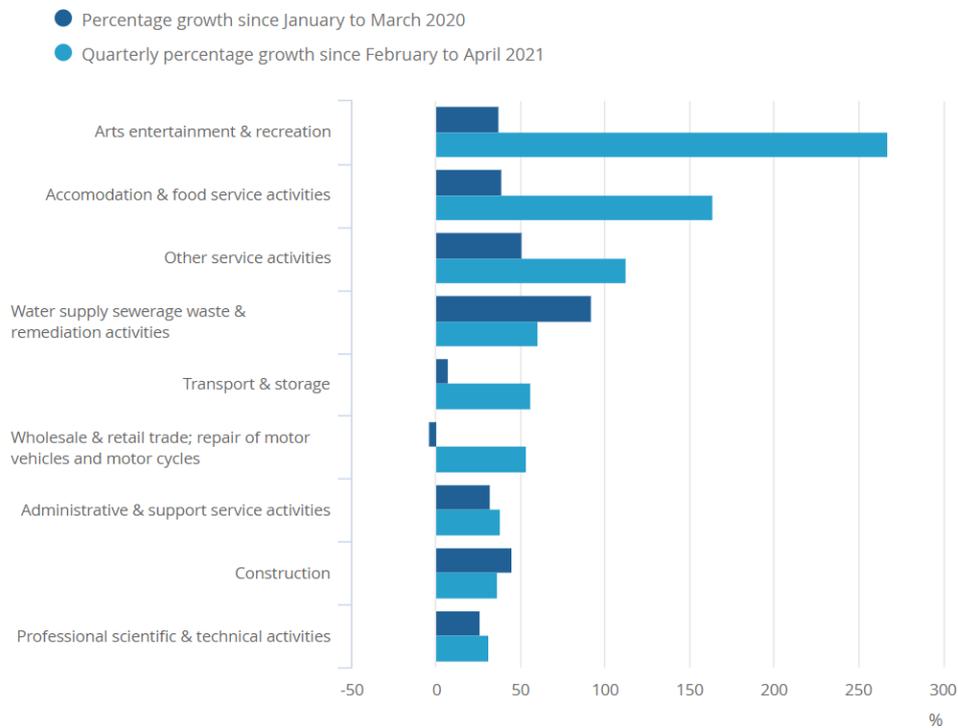
## **Labour market overview, UK: August 2021**

The monthly labour market statistics, published by the Office for National Statistics (ONS) appear to be encouraging, as they show that the labour market is continuing to recover.

The last three months to July saw the vacancies rising to 953,000, having grown by 290,000 compared to the previous quarter. According to the early survey figures, the job vacancies passed one million in July, for the first time.



The arts, entertainment and recreation sector saw the biggest growth in vacancies between May and July. In contrast, only one industry - wholesale and retail trade and repair of motor vehicles - remains below its pre-pandemic levels.



(www.ons.gov.uk, 17/08/2021)

### Indeed Job Search Survey July 2021: Few Are in a Hurry to Find a New Job

According to an [Indeed Hiring Lab](#) recent survey, despite the increasing labour demand, only a small proportion of unemployed people are actively seeking a job, with almost two-thirds of those on furlough not searching at all or searching passively.

At the same time, we know that employers across a range of sectors are facing difficulties filling their vacancies.

As the analysis reveals, most people on furlough are not looking for a job because they are expecting to return to their jobs, while 12% of them report feeling uncomfortable returning to a physical work environment, due to Covid-19.



The survey has also reported that among the unemployed people, the main reasons for not seeking work were related to their sense of financial security, Covid-19 concerns and caring responsibilities.

(www.hiringlab.org, 19/08/2021)

## ESFA: hospitality and catering qualifications for the Lifetime Skills

### Guarantee Level 3 offer

In response to the increasing skills and staff shortages in the hospitality industry, the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) has included hospitality and catering qualifications to the Free Courses for Jobs as part of the government's Lifetime Skills Guarantee.

Learners who are 19 years old or over who do not already have a level 3 qualification or higher, can access a level 3 course for free. They can also study some of those qualifications online or part-time. There will also be assistance with childcare, travel and other costs provided to eligible learners.

You can find more information about the free Level 3 qualifications [here](#) and on the Plan for Jobs [here](#).

(www.nelp.co.uk, 05/08/2021)

## NORTHUMBERLAND, TYNE & WEAR AND COUNTY DURHAM

According to the latest Business Register and Employment Survey published by the Office for National Statistics (ONS) around 10% of jobs in Northumberland are in hospitality.

However, the below stories appear to be encouraging, as the creation of new jobs across the area is expected to increase the number of people who work in the industry and boost the local economy.



## **Construction set to start on new Premier Inn in Alwick - bringing 30 jobs to the town**

A new 80-bedroom Premier Inn which is being built in Alwick and is due to open in June 2022, is expected to bring 30 new jobs to the Northumberland town.

([www.chroniclelive.co.uk](http://www.chroniclelive.co.uk), 30/07/2021)

## **Hotel expansion plans on the Northumberland coast poised for approval**

The 18-room expansion of the Bamburgh Castle Inn in Seahouses will create 20 new jobs to Northumberland's coastal area, as the plans are anticipated to be approved.

([www.northumberlandgazette.co.uk](http://www.northumberlandgazette.co.uk), 18/08/2021)

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There has been an increasing number of green investments in the North East recently, which demonstrates the region's opportunities for economic growth. The shift to renewable energy activities, as well as other environmental developments is expected to create a significant number of job opportunities across the region.

Below are some of the most recent examples which paint a promising picture for the North East's labour market, as part of its decarbonisation efforts mainly in the energy and automotive sector.

## **Britishvolt gigafactory could be North East 'honey pot'**

Britishvolt's new battery gigaplant in Blyth is expected to create up to 8,000 jobs. The new investment is anticipated to contribute to the region's automotive and energy industry which are both very important parts of the local economic development.

([www.northumberlandgazette.co.uk](http://www.northumberlandgazette.co.uk), 10/08/2021)

## **Tyneside offshore wind specialist Kinewell Energy creates new green jobs**

North Shields based offshore wind specialist, Kinewell Energy is creating eight new green jobs, after securing funding through the TIGGOR programme. Some of the new jobs include



Kickstart placements are aimed at 16 to 24-year-olds at risk of long-term unemployment.  
(www.business-live.co.uk, 23/07/2021)

### **Energy firm to create jobs with £370k investment in “first of its kind”**

#### **North East facility**

Solar firm, Power Roll is bringing 31 jobs to the region as it is establishing a new headquarters and manufacturing plant at the Jade Business Park in County Durham.

The cleantech company's expansion is being viewed as another example of how the green energy sector can transform the region's economy.

(bdaily.co.uk, 29/07/2021)

### **Recycling specialist Gap Ice creates 20 jobs after securing £250,000 investment**

The Gateshead-based recycling company, Gap Ice is creating up to 20 new jobs at its headquarter office in Felling, in its aim to minimise the amount of waste that ends up in landfill.

The £250,000 grant was provided by the North East Growth Capital Fund, which is anticipated to create around 790 jobs in total, in more than 70 regional businesses over the course of the programme.

(www.business-live.co.uk, 23/08/2021)

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### **Environment charity's £800,000 project to protect river wildlife which will create and secure 30 jobs**

The environmental charity Groundwork North East and Cumbria is expected to create and secure over 30 new jobs including Kickstart placements, after receiving a £800,000 grant to protect endangered wildlife across the region's riverbanks. Some of the sites that Groundwork manages in the North East include Sunderland's wildlife haven Elba Park and



the Anglo-Saxon farm at Jarrow Hall.  
(www.shieldsgazette.com, 07/08/2021)

### **Car parts maker Gestamp creates 130 new jobs amid major motor contracts boom**

The Newton Aycliffe-based car parts manufacturer, Gestamp is bringing 130 new roles to the area, after securing new contracts with the major automotive firms Nissan, BMW and Jaguar Land Rover. These developments bring significant news for the region's economy, as the new projects will be exporting across the UK, as well as Europe. They also demonstrate the continuous growth of the automotive sector, within the North East.  
(www.business-live.co.uk, 19/08/2021)

### **Jobs and travel boost for region as Ryanair to launch \$200m base at Newcastle Airport**

Ryanair airline will create 60 new jobs, including pilots, cabin crew and engineering alongside support services roles, as it opens its new base at Newcastle International Airport in 2022. The creation of the new base for what is considered to be a 'major' European airline, is viewed as a very positive development for the area's economy.  
(bdaily.co.uk, 05/08/2021)

### **New jobs as workwear firm invests £500,000**

UK's workwear supplier Industrial Workwear has announced the creation of a new headquarter factory at Bradley Workshops in Consett, County Durham, which will bring 29 new jobs to the area.  
(www.thenorthernecho.co.uk, 04/08/2021)



## **Outsourcing firm creates 100 new Sunderland jobs with latest recruitment drive**

The customer service outsourcing firm, Kura has created 100 new roles at its Sunderland headquarter in a recent recruitment drive. The Glasgow-based company specialises in providing outsourcing solutions to companies operating in the tech, financial services, insurance and public sectors.

(bdaily.co.uk, 04/08/2021)

## **Restaurant chain Turtle Bay to create 50 jobs with third new North East venue**

Turtle Bay is opening a new restaurant in Durham which will create 50 front and back of house roles and is expected to open in October.

(www.business-live.co.uk, 16/08/2021)

## **Fun Shack Invests in new Gateshead site**

Soft play business Fun Shack is opening a new centre in Gateshead, which will bring 30 new jobs to the Team Valley area.

(www.insidermedia.com, 16/08/2021)

## **US chicken chain creates 50 jobs as first North East branch 'chicks-in' to Metrocentre**

Slim Chickens has opened a new restaurant in Durham on Thursday 19th August, creating 50 new kitchen and front of house jobs in the area.

(bdaily.co.uk, 09/08/2021)

## **Vertu Motors creates 50 new head office jobs after making senior appointment**

Vertu is bringing 50 new jobs with a customer service focus to its Gateshead head office.

(www.business-live.co.uk, 11/08/2021)



### [New business academy in Darlington launches to close skills gaps](#)

The National training provider, Learning Curve Group (LCG) is opening a new Business Academy in Darlington to fill the digital and business skills gap across the Tees Valley region.

The Academy will open in September and will be delivering a range of digital and technical courses for school and college leavers. The subject areas will include digital marketing, accounting, business administration and software development and more.

The new Academy will support learners across the region with training programmes and apprenticeships to equip them with digital knowledge, skills and qualifications.

([www.gazettelive.co.uk](http://www.gazettelive.co.uk). 04/08/2021)

### [New jobs as North East Covid vaccine manufacturer opens new Billingham base](#)

North East manufacturer FUJIFILM Diosynth Biotechnologies, which is currently producing a Teesside-made vaccine, has created 22 new roles after officially opening its new site at Billingham.

([www.thenorthernecho.co.uk](http://www.thenorthernecho.co.uk), 29/07/2021)

### [Teesside equipment hire company to create new jobs with £48k funding](#)

A Teesside equipment hire firm, based in Redcar, has announced its plans to create five new jobs, after securing £48k of funding. The company will be recruiting three plant operators, a yard worker and an apprentice.

([bdaily.co.uk](http://bdaily.co.uk), 03/08/2021)

### **Careers Fair in Darlington**

Darlington College is hosting a Training, Apprenticeship and Jobs Fair, where local companies will be offering part time, full time, apprenticeships, as well as training and volunteering opportunities in the area.



The event is taking place on **24<sup>th</sup> September** at 10am - 3pm. You can register here <https://tinyurl.com/2d6m2825>

## CUMBRIA

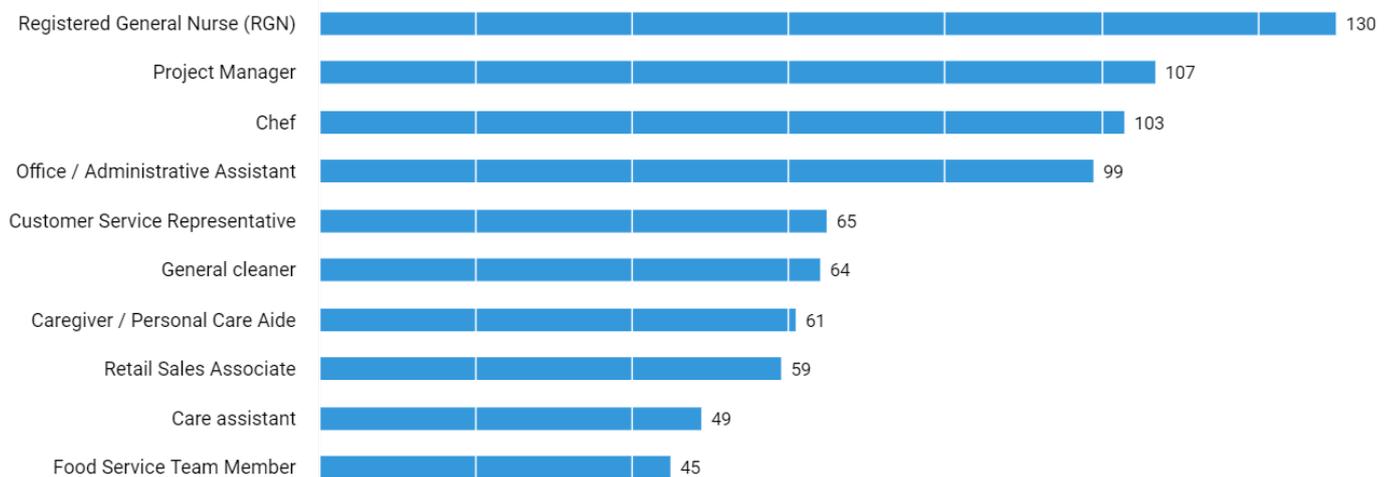
### Aldi hiring 150 jobs across Cumbria with salaries up to £47k

Aldi is hiring 150 new staff in Cumbria between now and Christmas. The Aldi stores in Cumbria which are looking to fill vacancies include Barrow, Penrith and Workington. The new vacancies include apprenticeships and part-time positions, such as Store Assistant and Caretaker roles as well as Store Apprentices.

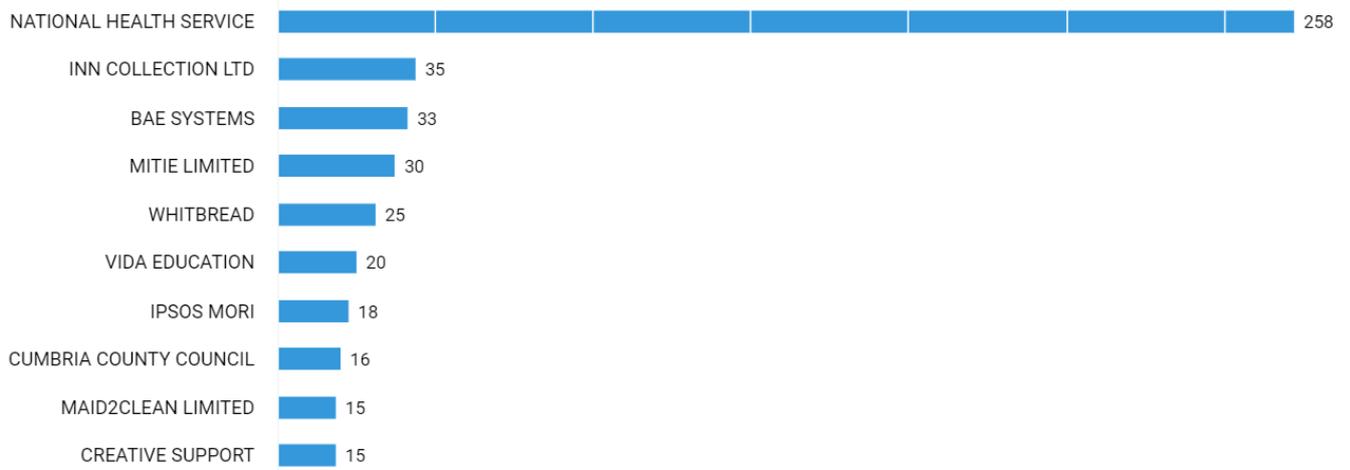
([www.in-cumbria.com](http://www.in-cumbria.com), 10/08/2021)

### There were 3,215 online vacancies across Cumbria in July

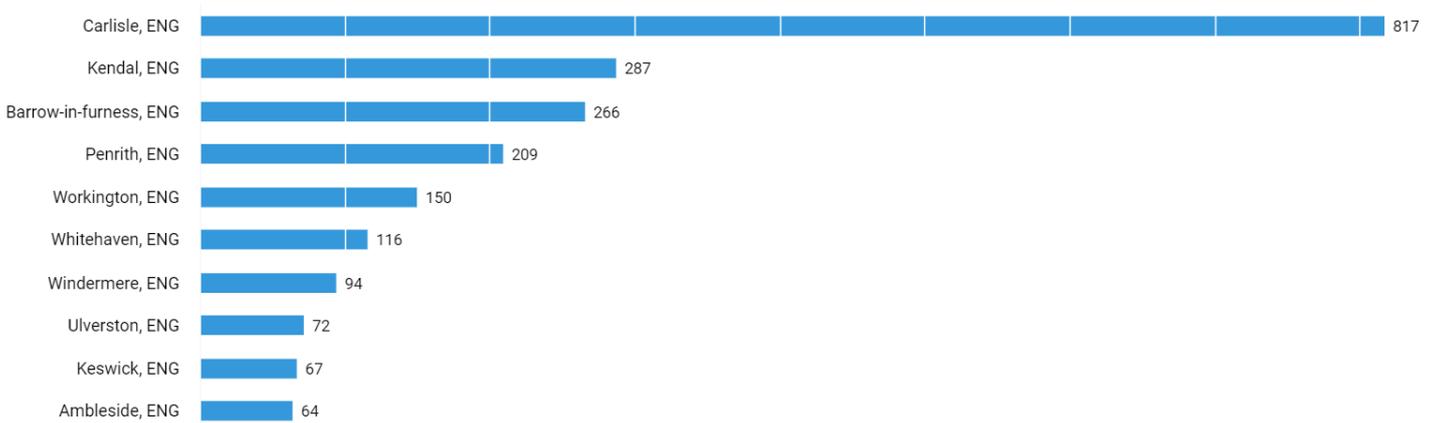
#### Top 10 occupations most frequently advertised online



## Top 10 employers who advertised the most vacancies online



## Top 10 areas with the most online job openings



Source: Labour Insight (Burning Glass Technologies) – Data for July 2021



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