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NATIONAL NEWS

[National Labour Market Information March 2018](#)

Please see the latest national labour market information published by the Office of National Statistics. Unemployment is currently 75.6% for those aged 16 – 64.

Table 1: Summary of labour market statistics for January to March 2018, seasonally adjusted

	Number (thousands)	Change on Oct to Dec 2017	Change on Jan to Mar 2017	Headline Rate (%)	Change on Oct to Dec 2017	Change on Jan to Mar 2017
Employed	32,344	197	396			
Aged 16 to 64	31,148	185	401	75.6	0.4	0.8
Aged 65 and over	1,196	13	-5			
Unemployed	1,425	-46	-116	4.2	-0.2	-0.4
Aged 16 to 64	1,402	-46	-125			
Aged 65 and over	22	1	9			
Inactive	19,199	-76	29			
Aged 16 to 64	8,658	-115	-171	21.0	-0.3	-0.5
Aged 65 and over	10,541	39	200			

Source: Office for National Statistics

Growing A1 intelligence in the UK

The UK's artificial intelligence is growing rapidly and a report has been published outlining recommendations to take A1 forward including the recognition that skilled experts will be needed to develop A1, currently in short supply.

Other recommendations include that Industry sponsorship of Masters level courses in AI, with an initial cohort of 300 students, universities exploring the potential demand for one-year conversion Masters degrees in AI for graduates in subjects other than computing and data science and Government and universities creating, at least 200 PhD additional places dedicated to AI at leading universities. It is also recommended that a UK A1 Council should be established.

Apprenticeship Report

Reform, the public sector think tank, has turned its attention to apprenticeships. It is critical of how apprenticeships are going, with the focus moving towards older employees doing higher level apprenticeships -

...which suggests that more experienced and older workers are increasingly becoming the focus of the apprenticeship programme, at the expense of less experienced and younger employees

They are also concerned that the quality has diminished with (particularly) customer service jobs in food and hospitality being offered as apprenticeships

Such training courses do not meet the historical or international definition of an apprenticeship because they typically offer minimal training, represent low-wage jobs and do not constitute skilled occupations.

They say that

Almost 40 per cent of the 'apprenticeship standards' approved by the Government since 2012 fail to reach the international or historical definition of an apprenticeship.

Apprenticeships were on the agenda at a Commons Education Select Committee meeting last month at which Skills Minister Anne Milton, Ofsted, the Institute for Apprenticeships and the ESFA were present. [TES](#) have summarised the key points which emerged.

Graduate loan repayment threshold

With effect from 6th April, the income at which graduates need to start repaying their student loan, has been increased from £21,000 to incomes over £25,000. Typical monthly repayments are now:

- £25,000 per year repays £0 per month instead of £30
- £27,000 per year repays £15 per month instead of £45
- £30,000 per year repays £37 per month instead of £67
- £33,000 per year repays £60 per month instead of £90

- £35,000 per year repays £75 per month instead of £105
- £40,000 per year repays £112 per month instead of £142

More information on student finance is available here www.gov.uk/student-finance

[Working in Adult Social Care](#)

Skills for Care have produced a new poster depicting routes into working in Adult Social Care.

[Care Workers Pay](#)

Skills for care has published a report on the pay trends in the care sector since 2011/12/. The key finding is that reassuringly, the average care worker was better off, in real terms, by 45p per hour in February 2018 than they were in September 2012.

[Zero-hours contracts](#)

Zero-hours contracts increased dramatically in 2017 to 1.8 million to November. The Taylor Review, commissioned by the government last year recommended an increase in the minimum wage for zero-contract workers - the publicity around this may account for the increase, i.e. people realising that such contracts exist. Around 900,000 workers are currently working on zero-contract hours, including one in twelve young people, the appeal being the flexibility which comes with it.

[UK Artificial Intelligence investment](#)

A new deal between government and industry has been agreed to put the UK at the forefront of the artificial intelligence industry (AI). The UK will be established as a research hot spot which will include investment into the training of 8,000 specialist computer science teachers and 1,000 government funded AI PhDs by 2025. Accountancy firm Sage will also deliver an AI pilot programme for 150 young people across the UK. In addition, high growth regional tech hubs will be created to support the uptake of AI via UK businesses. The article makes an interesting read.

[Access to work grants increase](#)

People at work who are disabled or have a physical or mental health condition can now claim up to £57,200 a year via DWP's Access to Work grants. The grants can pay for additional support that people may need in the workplace beyond reasonable adjustments.

The grants can cover things such as:

- workplace adaptations
- assistive technology
- transport
- Interpreters

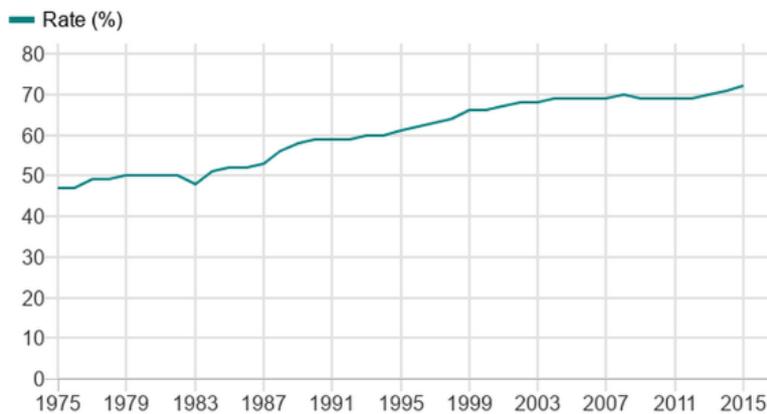
How much a person receives depends on their circumstances. The money doesn't have to be paid back and will not affect any other benefits.

[More mothers are not giving up work to have children](#)

The Institute of Fiscal Studies (IFS) have found that the number of mothers not giving up work after childbirth rose to 78% in 2017 compared with 50% in 1975 for the 25-54 age group. They found that the trend is increasing where women are more likely to stay in work as the graph below indicates.

Employment rate of working-aged mothers

Women aged 25-54



Source: Institute for Fiscal Studies

BBC

The exception appears to be in London which has fallen back compared to the rest of the UK, possibly due to childcare costs being more expensive. London's figure was 4% lower at 74% in 2017.

[Argos to expand their digital and tech team by 25%](#)

Some 150 roles have been added to support Argos' growing digital business. See link for more details.

[Apprenticeship poster - Music and Drama](#)

The Amazing Apprenticeships website has [resources](#) to help individuals learn more about apprenticeships. One of the latest resources on the website is a poster which links the subject areas of music and drama to careers and apprenticeships using these subjects.

[An Insider's Guide to Automotive apprenticeships](#)

A useful guide has been published by The Institute of the Motor Industry (IMI) on the different apprenticeships available within the motor industry. It has sections on the different job roles within the industry, the benefits of choosing an apprenticeship route, the top five apprenticeship myths, all about apprenticeships and how to find one. It also includes some interview advice, some information on where to go next, career progression and some case studies.

[Graduate Labour Market statistics](#)

DfE has published its annual statistics on employment and earnings of English-domiciled graduates and postgraduates compared to English domiciled non-graduates. The report uses data from the Labour Force Survey and covers the period 2017. The headlines for graduates (not including postgraduates) are:

- Graduates had higher employment rates (87.5%) than non-graduates (71.1%)
- The rate of high skilled employment was 65.5% for graduates compared to 22.2% for non-graduates (high skilled are occupations in SOC groups 1-3. Medium and low skilled are in SOC groups 4-9)
- In 2017 the average, working age graduate earned £10,000 more than the average non-graduate

[British Rail Apprenticeships](#)

Network Rail's Advanced Apprenticeship scheme is open with 150 apprenticeship opportunities available. The scheme is open to anyone who will be aged 18 and over before 29th September. There is no upper age limit. Candidates will need four GCSEs at grade A - C including English, maths and a science or engineering subject and be available to start on 29th September.

REGIONAL NEWS

[Regional Labour Market Information](#)

The Office of National Statistics have published their latest regional figures. As you can see from the table below, employment in South East and South West is higher than the national average for 16 – 64-year olds, and, although the South East has decreased since the previous quarter, it still has the second highest employment rate in the country at 78.7% after the South West with 79.3%.

Summary of latest headline estimates for regions of the UK, seasonally adjusted, January to March 2018

UK regions

	Employment rate ¹ (%) aged 16 to 64 years	Change on October to December 2017	Unemployment rate ² (%) aged 16 years and over	Change on October to December 2017	Inactivity rate ³ (%) aged 16 to 64 years	Change on October to December 2017
UK	75.6	0.4	4.2	-0.2	21.0	-0.3
Great Britain	75.8	0.4	4.2	-0.1	20.8	-0.3
London	75.2	0.7	4.9	-0.1	20.8	-0.7
South East	78.7	-1.1	3.4	0.3	18.4	0.9
South West	79.3	0.7	3.5	-0.2	17.7	-0.5

Source: Office for National Statistics

1. Calculation of headline employment rate: Number of employed people aged from 16 to 64 years divided by the population aged from 16 to 64 years. Population is the sum of employed plus unemployed plus inactive.

2. Calculation of headline unemployment rate: Number of unemployed people aged 16 years and over divided by the sum of employed people aged 16 years and over plus unemployed people aged 16 years and over.

3. Calculation of headline economic inactivity rate: Number of economically inactive people aged from 16 to 64 years divided by the population aged from 16 to 64 years. Population is the sum of employed plus unemployed plus inactive.

[Best companies to work for in the South West](#)

Best Companies have compiled a list of the top 75 companies to work for in the South West. This has been published by insider media and covers companies across a number of different sectors.

[The Marine and Maritime Industry in the South West](#)

Insider Media have published an article on the South West's Marine and Maritime industry. The South West, according to British Marine have the highest number of marine jobs in the UK and, interestingly for those wishing to take up employment in the sector, Plymouth is forecast to have the most job openings up to 2021.

[Landscape Sector Maps](#)

Innovate UK have published a visual outlook at the UK landscape via their UK Landscape Sector Maps. These cover Agri-Food, Photonics, Space and Satellite Applications, Process Manufacturing, Synthetic Biology and Compound Semiconductors Supply Chain as well as the world of Medicine and provide a very useful insight into these industries including those companies who specialise in the industries.

[Taco Bell to expand](#)

Chain restaurant Taco Bell, run by franchiser Cascade Caterers plan to roll out three to five more restaurants across London and the South West, starting with one in the capital this summer.

[Sector Skills Demand](#)

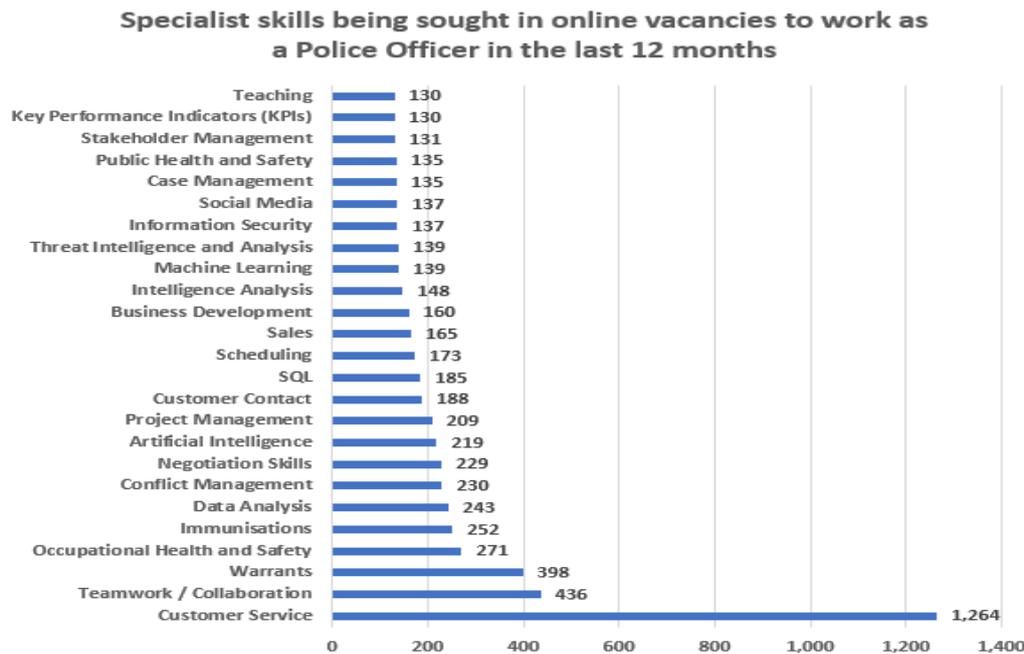
Small Business Prices have produced an infographic depicting the job demand and skills shortages by 12 regions in the UK by key sectors. Out of the 12 regions

compared with overall national demand London is top with a 30.60% above average demand. South East is fifth with 3.77% and South West 6th with 2.32%.

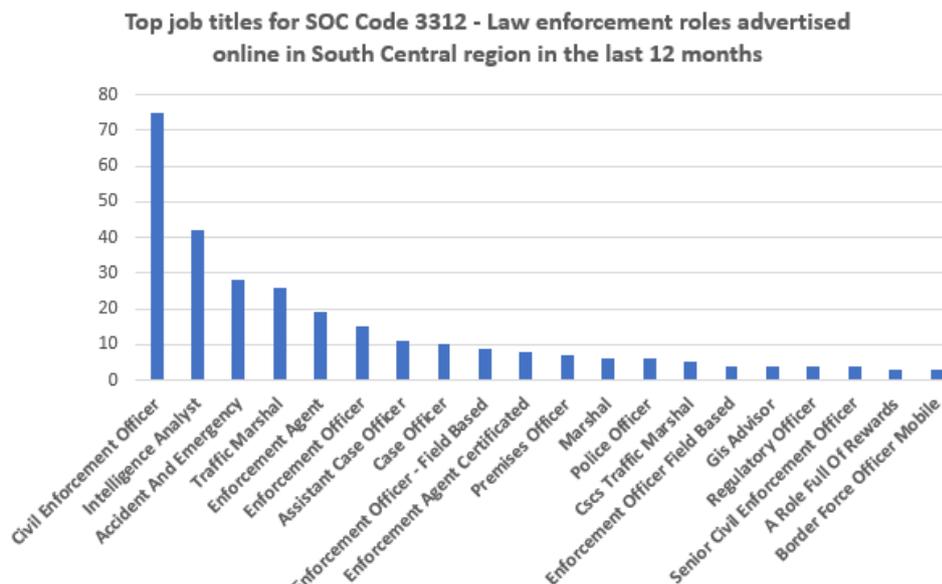
Focus on report – Police Officers (Sergeant and below) – no link

There are 1,486 police officers in Dorset, 3,748 in Hampshire, 1,890 in Surrey and 3,213 in Sussex¹

Top skills required to work as a Police Officer²



Top job titles within law enforcement in the last 12 months within the South Central region for SOC Code 3312¹



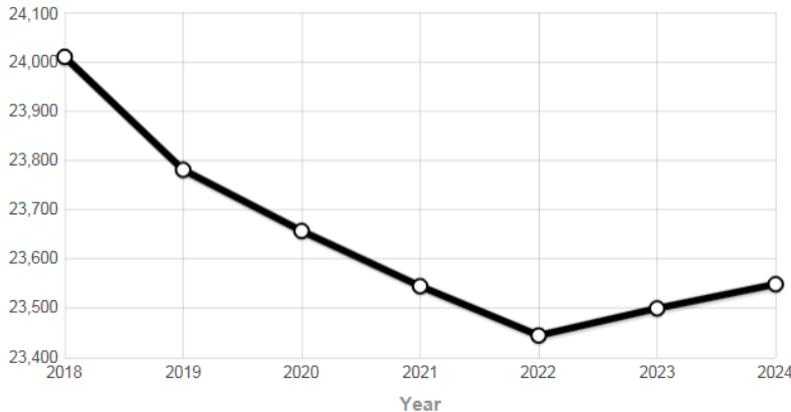
¹ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_police_forces_of_the_United_Kingdom

² Labour Insight (Burning Glass)

More labour market information on Police Officers³

Forecast to 2024

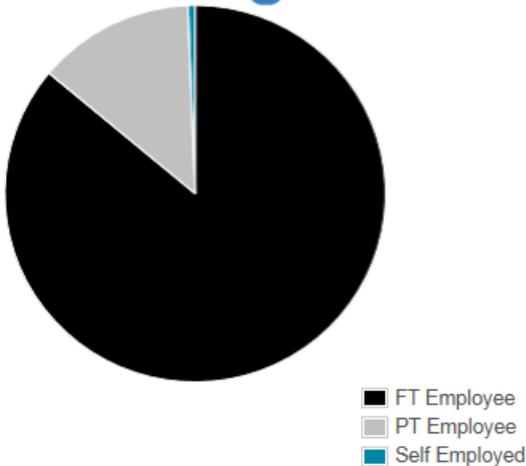
The need for Police Officers in the South East is set to drop slightly to 2022 before rising again to 2024.



65% of Police Officers work on a full-time basis

13% work on a part-time basis and only 1% are self-employed

Status in 2024 i



69% of Police Officers are male and 31% female

Percentage in Work i

Female



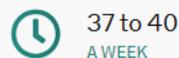
Male



Average salary (a year)



Typical hours (a week)



You could work



Further information:

A short video on becoming a Police Officer
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NnPobSrR3zM>
<https://www.sussex.police.uk/>
www.policecouldyou.co.uk
www.police.uk/contact/force-websites

<http://www.hampshire.police.uk/internet/about-us/join-us>
<http://www.surrey.police.uk/careers>
<http://www.dorset.police.uk/>

³ Careers Explorer and National Careers Service job profile – Police Officer

DORSET, BOURNEMOUTH AND POOLE

[Dorset's ageing population](#)

The Bournemouth Echo highlight a new report on Dorset's ageing population. Christchurch has the highest population of over 85-year olds in the UK according to this report and Dorset has almost a third who are over 65. Overall the South of England has the highest proportion of over 85s and this is growing. These figures demonstrate the growing need for care workers in the county and beyond.

[Winter Gardens site](#)

The old Winter Gardens site in Bournemouth is likely to include a supermarket, restaurants and bars as well as five units for 'leisure' use. The plans, which will also include residential accommodation, are up for council approval in June or July.

HAMPSHIRE AND THE ISLE OF WIGHT

[Portsmouth Food Manufacturer creates 20 new jobs](#)

Quattro Foods, who manufacture sauces and soups is expanding their business. The new premises, based in Portsmouth, will create 20 new jobs.

[Equipment hiring company expands into Fareham](#)

Nationwide Hire, an equipment hiring company, has moved into Fareham due to a 'growing team' which has now reached 70.

[Tech She Can](#)

It is a well-known fact that women are being encouraged to take up employment in STEM jobs with only 23% of those working in these industries being women. Onecom in Whiteley have signed the '[Tech She Can Charter](#)' which hopes to encourage more women to take up a STEM career. Other big names to sign the charter are PwC, J P Morgan, Tesco, Nat West Markets, to name but a few and more are expected to join. To find out more about the actions of the charter see the link.

[Merlin Park development nearly ready for occupation](#)

Portsmouth's Merlin Park development will be completed by early July. This development is set to create many jobs and will be the largest industrial development

within Portsmouth for over 10 years. Scott Cables have already taken one unit with employment for 50 people.

Cowes development could create many jobs

Many marine jobs are likely to be created in Cowes on the Isle of Wight with the construction of Kingston Marine Park. It is said that the development could create 550 jobs with a further 20 during the construction phase.

50 new jobs at Hedge End

50 new jobs are to be created in Wellington Park, Hedge End. SPI Lasers who sell Fibre lasers will move to the site in June. It currently has 300 employees.

NHS Solent (no link)

NHS Solent are offering Business and Administration Level 2 Apprenticeships and are paying £7.50 per hour. In addition, they offer Clinical healthcare, Dental care, Management, Estate roles including security and housekeeping. Nurse associate and Nurse degree courses are coming soon. To find out more about NHS Solent apprenticeships contact 0300 123 3799 or learninganddevelopment@solent.nhs.uk

Pure Gym expansion

Broadcut Retail Park in Fareham is to get a new 24-hour gym if Pure Gym has its planning application accepted. Pure Gym has a number of gyms already in Portsmouth including the one which opened last month in North Harbour.

New hotel for Sandown, Isle of Wight

Sandown on the Isle of Wight is to gain a new Premier Inn which is expected to be ready for occupation in Summer 2019 and will create around 65 jobs.

The Solent's Marine and Maritime Industry

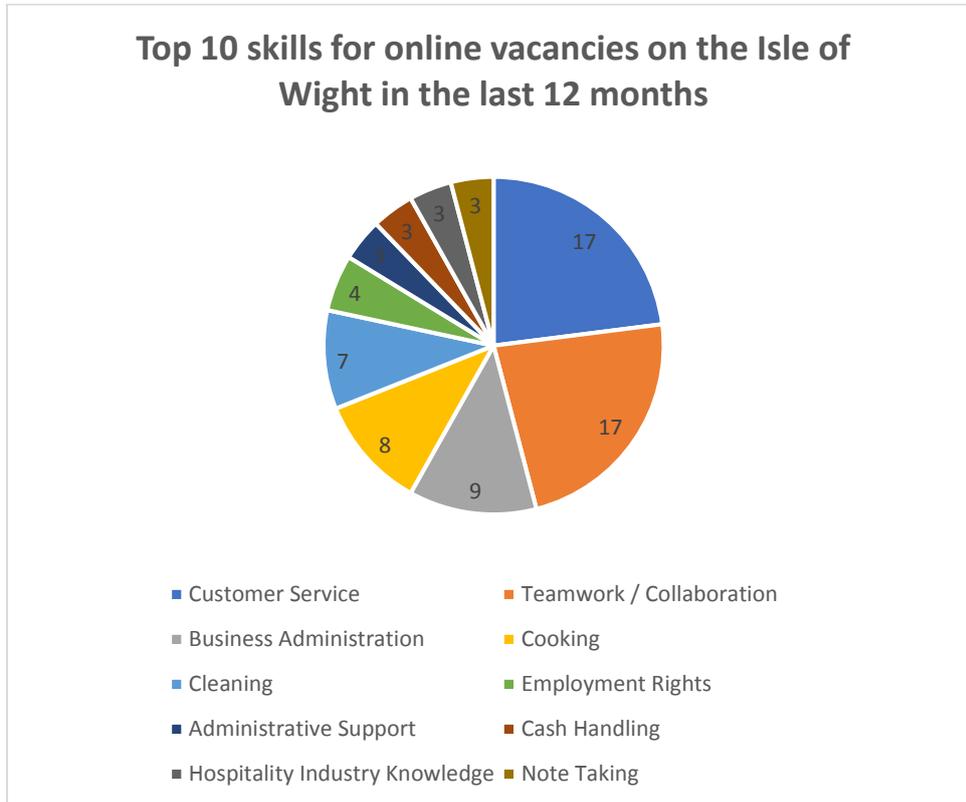
The Daily Echo have published some interesting facts and figures about the Solent Marine and Maritime Industry. The sector supports 120,000 jobs and is a crucial sector within the Solent where economic output has increased by 14% over a five-year period. The article contains more details about the industry and its vital importance to the region.

New restaurant for Portsmouth

Five Guys burger chain is to open a branch in Portsmouth at a date to be announced.

Top skills on Isle of Wight (no link)

The pie chart below denotes the top ten skill requirements in online vacancies on the Isle of Wight in the last 12 months:



Source: Labour Insight (Burning Glass)

Jobs on the horizon for Portchester

Around 500 jobs could be created for direct staff, contractors and suppliers for a new housing development in Portchester.

Hampshire County Council are recruiting

Hampshire County Council will be recruiting approximately 100 new staff in Winchester over the coming months in their Shared Services contract.

SURREY

[New supermarket for Staines](#)

Lidl will be creating jobs with the opening a store in Staines town centre. No date has been announced yet but Lidl are opening this store as part of their expansion plans to open 50 stores a year.

[Subway expansion plans](#)

Food chain Subway, who currently have 31 stores in Surrey, have revealed their plans to open a further 33 stores across Kent and Surrey by the end of 2020. This will create 350 new jobs across the two counties as well as provide franchise opportunities for those who are interested. Subway's plans also include 3,000 new jobs across the UK and Ireland which will create approximately 5,000 new jobs overall.

[Job creation for Woking](#)

150 jobs may be created in Woking with the relocation and expansion of Harvey Water Softeners to the Fair Oaks Garden Village.

[Nationwide are recruiting](#)

Nationwide Building Society have various branch opportunities in Surrey. There is a recruitment evening on 12th June for opportunities in Sutton, Mitcham, Morden, Wallington and Worcester Park

[NHS Recruitment day for East Surrey Hospital](#) (no link)



NHS
Surrey and Sussex Healthcare
NHS Trust

**Estates & Facilities
Recruitment Open Day on
11th June at
13.00 – 17.00**

In the Post Graduate Medical Education Centre Atrium
at East Surrey Hospital

Our support staff play a vital role in ensuring that patients receive a positive experience when they use the hospital. These staff may serve drinks and food to patients, clean our wards and public areas or transport patients around the hospital.

Opportunities Available:

- Ward Hosts
- Housekeepers
- Porters

Contact us
Nick Longman (Resourcing Coordinator)
East Surrey Hospital
Tel: 01737 788 511 Ext.2653
Nick.Longman1@nhs.net

Interviews on
the Day

Putting people first
Delivering excellent, accessible healthcare

WEST SUSSEX

[West Sussex is home to largest business park in the UK](#)

Manor Royal Business District is the largest business park in the UK and is located in the Gatwick Diamond area. Around 30,000 people work here in over 500 businesses, many of which are global. Virgin Atlantic, Varian Medical Systems, Grant Thornton, CGG, Thales UK, Doosan Power Systems, Pasta Reale, Vent Axia, Elekta, Siemens, Boeing Training and Flight Services are some of the bigger names you will probably recognise.

[Crawley amongst top 6 places for high earnings](#)

A report published by the BBC looks at where the highest salaries are earned across towns in the UK. In South East Crawley comes out as one of the highest earning places along with Reading.

[Plans submitted for The Range in Chichester](#)

Plans are in for the Range to open a branch on the old BHS site in Chichester. More news on this at the end of June. In addition [plans](#) are about to be submitted for a Lidl and a Range store to be built at Oldlands Farm in Bognor Regis.

[1200 jobs available at Gatwick Airport](#)

1200 jobs are available at Gatwick Airport. These include 800 jobs in retail and food and 400 for baggage handling and check-in assistants.

BRIGHTON AND HOVE

[A new way to gain a qualification](#)

[Pearson Learning](#) have joined forces with the University of Sussex to enable 1,000 online distance learners to achieve postgraduate qualifications. The first course, an MSc in International Marketing is now accepting applications for a September start. Other courses are planned.

LEP NEWS

Coast to Capital LEP

[New Engineering build for University of Brighton](#)

A new Advanced Engineering building has been launched at the University of Brighton partially financed by Coast to Capital LEP.

Solent LEP

[Redevelopment of Portsdown Technology Park](#)

Solent LEP, QinetiQ and Royal Navy are working together to redevelop Portsdown Technology Park (PTP) into a centre of excellence for the Marine and Maritime Industry which will create up to 100 jobs.

USEFUL WEBSITES

Careers in Finance and Law (no link)

- www.cisi.org.uk – Professional body for security and investments, wealth and financial planning, information on training and education up to university level
- www.cii.co.uk – Chartered insurance institute
- www.pwc.co.uk/careers - School and College leaver schemes
- www.lawcareers.net – The Beginners Guide to a Career in Law – advice on starting out
- www.thelop.org – The institute of paralegals – careers advice, training, etc.
- www.cilexcareers.org.uk – Chartered institute of legal executives
- www.allaboutlaw.co.uk – live job search, courses, information for students

FUTURE EVENTS

- 5 June - Skills Festival for the Digital Sector, Brighton Dome 11.00 am - 4.00 pm
- 22nd June – Job Fair, Jury’s Inn, Brighton – 10.00 am – 2.00 pm
- 25th July – Job Fair, Portsmouth Guildhall, 10.00 am – 2.00 pm
- 27th July – Job Fair, Reading Town Hall, 10.00 am – 2.00 pm
- 27th July – Job Fair, Civic Centre, Southampton, 10.00 am – 2.00 pm
- 22nd August – Job Fair, TBC, Bristol, 10.00 am – 2.00 pm
- 24th August – Job Fair, Mercure Hotel, Southampton, 10.00 am – 2.00 pm
- 7th September - General job fair - Premier Inn Bournemouth - 10am to 1pm
- 3rd October – Job Fair, Town Hall, Reading - 10.00 am – 2.00 pm
- 2nd November – – General job fair, Portsmouth Guildhall - 10am to 1pm