

Support to Help Your Organisation Succeed

Your guide to business development, skills, training and recruitment support in Devon.



What's inside

01 Why work with us?

Discover how Devon County Council can help you save time, reduce costs and build a stronger workforce.

02-03 Your workforce journey

See how our services connect across every stage from inspiring future talent and filling vacancies to developing your existing workforce and supporting business growth.

04-05 What's in it for you

Explore the benefits of working with us and the support available throughout your workforce journey.

06-17 Our services

Explore the organisations and programmes available to support your business, including the Careers Hub, Connect to Work, Learn Devon, Train4Tomorrow Skills Bootcamps and the Growth Hub.

A decorative graphic in the bottom left corner consisting of several thin, teal-colored wavy lines that curve upwards and to the right.

Why work with us

Running a business in Devon is not easy

Recruitment, rising costs and skills shortages continue to put pressure on employers across many sectors.

At the same time, there are people across Devon who are ready to work and develop their skills but are not always reached through traditional recruitment routes.

That's where we can help

Devon County Council brings together recruitment, workforce development and employer engagement services in one place, making it easier to access the right support when you need it.

Whether you're looking to recruit today, develop your existing workforce or inspire the next generation of employees, we'll work alongside you to build a stronger workforce for the future.



Save Time

Access the right support without navigating multiple organisations.



Save Money

Take advantage of funded recruitment, business support and training opportunities.



Build your workforce

Develop a long term candidate pipeline and retain skilled employees.

One conversation can connect you with recruitment, training and workforce development support.

Your workforce journey

Your workforce needs do not stand still and neither does our support.

We work with you to attract new talent, fill vacancies and develop your team, bringing the right support together at each stage.

Inspire future workforce



Recruit with confidence



We can help you to:

- Give young people and jobseekers insight into your sector
- Increase awareness of the opportunities in your industry
- Build interest in careers like yours
- Share your experience through workplace visits, careers events and more

We can help you to:

- Promote your vacancies and reach more candidates
- Connect with people who are ready to work
- In work support for employees at risk of losing their job
- Support to help new employees settle and succeed

Inspire and shape the future workforce

Find the right people for your business



Wherever you are on your workforce journey, we're here to help

Let's build a stronger workforce - together.



Develop your team



We can help you to:

- Upskill staff and strengthen performance
- Plan for future workforce needs
- Develop leadership and management
- Support progression and career pathways
- Promote inclusive employment

Build a stronger business



We can help you to:

- Take a joined up approach that works for your business
- Keep your workforce growing and developing
- Access free business support
- Make a positive difference within your community

**Strengthen your
business**

**All services working
together**



What's in it for you?

Our offer is designed to support your business at every stage, from attracting future talent through to developing and retaining your workforce.

Building your future workforce



You can strengthen your talent pipeline by raising awareness of your business and sector.

By engaging with schools, colleges and jobseekers, you can help shape the skills and experience people develop. This helps you build a stronger pipeline of future employees.

Filling vacancies with confidence



When you are ready to recruit, you can access candidates who are matched to your roles and ready to work.

Support is available throughout the recruitment process, helping you reduce the time and cost involved. You are also supported once someone starts. This reduces risk and improves retention.

Developing the skills you need



Training can be shaped around your business to ensure your workforce has the skills you need now and in the future.

You can upskill existing staff, bring in new talent with relevant training, and access funded opportunities that make development more accessible.

Delivering social value



Alongside the direct benefits to your business, you can also make a positive difference within your community.

By creating opportunities and supporting people into work, you contribute to a stronger local economy while meeting your social value commitments.

Growing your business



Free business support tailored to help your business grow, improve performance and unlock new opportunities.

Our Services

Devon, Plymouth and Torbay Careers Hub

Inspire

Recruit

Develop

The Devon, Plymouth and Torbay Careers Hub work with employers to connect them with local secondary schools and colleges.

We support you to engage with young people, helping raise awareness of careers in your sector and build interest in future opportunities within your business.

Our approach is flexible and designed to fit around your organisation, whether you want to support one activity or take a more strategic role.

Help inspire Devon's future workforce

Whether you can offer an hour, a workplace visit or a longer term partnership, we'll help you find an opportunity that works for your business.

Our Offer

We will support you to plan and deliver activities that are straightforward to organise and relevant to your business.

We can help you:

- **Raise awareness of your business** among young people and future employees.
- **Showcase careers in your sector** through talks, events and classroom activities.
- **Offer meaningful workplace experiences**, including visits, virtual activities and work experience.
- **Prepare young people for employment** through mock interviews, CV support and employability activities.
- **Promote apprenticeships and technical pathways** available within your organisation.
- **Build lasting partnerships with local schools and colleges.**

Location:

Across Devon, Plymouth and Torbay.

Find out how to get involved:

Visit: www.dptcareershubs.co.uk

Email: careershubs@devon.gov.uk

Connect to Work

Connect to Work helps employers fill vacancies, recruit inclusively and reach motivated candidates, including people who may need some extra support to get into or stay in work.

By working with Connect to Work, employers can build a workforce with a broader range of skills and experience, while reducing the time, cost and risk associated with recruitment.

The service also helps improve retention by supporting employees to succeed in their roles, with practical, local support that fits around the needs of the business.

The service is free to employers, government funded and delivered locally.

Looking to recruit? Let's talk.

Tell us about your vacancies and we'll connect you to suitable candidates and practical recruitment support.

Our offer

We can help you:

- **Reach suitable candidates** matched to your roles, workplace and recruitment needs.
- **Reduce recruitment risk** with support during interviews, onboarding and workplace adjustments.
- **Recruit more inclusively** and connect with people who may be missed by traditional recruitment.
- **Help new employees succeed** through free ongoing support for up to 12 months.
- **Improve retention** by supporting employees who may be at risk of leaving work.
- **Strengthen your recruitment practices** through free advice and workplace inclusion training.

Location:

Connect to Work is delivered countywide across Devon, excluding Plymouth and Torbay, where delivery is led through local councils.

To discuss your recruitment needs:

Visit: www.devon.cc/ctw

Email: employersctw@devon.gov.uk

Learn Devon

Learn Devon is Devon County Council's adult and community learning service, supporting individuals, communities and employers across the county.

Our courses help people build essential workplace skills, improve confidence, gain recognised qualifications and progress into or within employment.

We work with employers to understand their workforce needs and provide flexible, locally delivered training that fits around their organisation and employees.

Develop the skills within your team

Talk to us about your workforce needs and explore flexible training that can be shaped around your organisation.

Our offer

We can help you:

- **Develop the skills** of new and existing employees through flexible, locally delivered training.
- **Shape training around your business needs**, workforce priorities and working patterns.
- **Prepare people for your vacancies** through pre-employment training.
- **Build essential workplace skills**, including English, maths, digital skills and ESOL.
- **Access funded courses and recognised qualifications** that support development and progression.
- **Create a more confident and inclusive workforce** through accessible learning opportunities.

Location:

Countywide, delivered locally in your workplace or through community settings, using delivery models that suit you and your teams, including face-to-face, remote and hybrid learning.

To explore training for your workforce:

Visit: www.learndevon.co.uk

Email: learndevon@devon.gov.uk

Or contact our Community and Engagement Officer:
cate.blatherwick@devon.gov.uk

Train4Tomorrow

Train4Tomorrow helps employers build the skills people need to start work quickly and reduce training costs.

Through short, flexible Skills Bootcamps, employers can upskill existing staff to meet the skills your business needs now and in the future, or recruit candidates trained in relevant skills.

Skills Bootcamps are funded training courses that have been developed with employers to ensure that the skills gained meet existing industry needs.

Eligibility

- Aged 19 or over the August before training starts
- Live within Devon, Plymouth or Torbay
- Have the right to work in the UK

Build the skills your business needs

Explore funded Skills Bootcamps to upskill your workforce or connect with people trained in relevant industry skills.

Our offer

We can help you:

- **Reduce training costs** with funded support covering up to 90% of eligible training.
- **Upskill your existing workforce** through intensive, flexible training lasting between 2 and 16 weeks.
- **Address current skills gaps** with training shaped around industry and employer needs.
- **Support staff progression and retention** by investing in relevant workplace skills.
- **Recruit candidates trained in skills your business needs.**
- **Explore bespoke training solutions** developed around your sector and workforce priorities.

Location:

Train4Tomorrow Skills Bootcamps are delivered across Devon, Plymouth and Torbay through a network of local training providers, with in-person, online and blended training available.

To find the right Skills Bootcamps:

Visit: www.train4tomorrow.org.uk

Email: train4tomorrow@devon.gov.uk

Growth Hub

The **Growth Hub** provides free business advice and support services to businesses in Devon, Plymouth and Torbay.

Whether you need advice on how to access funding, guidance with employment and HR matters, or assistance with a specific business challenge, we can help.

At the **Growth Hub**, we have business advisers who are experienced in helping businesses at all stages of development.

We offer access to extensive business guides and other useful resources and can connect you with the most appropriate support to help your business grow and develop.

Start, run and grow your business

Explore available support, funding and guidance today to help you on your way.

Our offer

We can help you:

- With **practical guides** on employing staff and access to other **tools and resources** covering a wide range of business-related topics.
- With **free searches** to help identify **funding options** to meet your business needs.
- With our in-house advisers, we can **connect you with advice, workshops**, and other **support** to help you wherever you are on your business journey.

Location:

The Growth Hub is free to access for any business across Devon, Plymouth, and Torbay.

To find out more:

Visit: www.growthhubinfo.co.uk

Email: hello@growthhubinfo.co.uk

Devon Business Support Programme

Develop your workforce. Strengthen your business.

Recruiting and retaining staff is only part of building a successful business. Many employers also face wider challenges around business growth, leadership, productivity, digital adoption, workforce planning, and adapting to change.

The Devon Business Support Programme provides free, tailored advice shaped around your business needs and goals.

From September 2026 to March 2027, businesses can access up to six hours of fully funded support through one-to-one advice and a programme of specialist workshops.

Build strong foundations and grow your business

Expert support is available to help you achieve your business goals with confidence.

Our offer

We can help you:

- **Develop a stronger workforce** by aligning your people, skills, and business goals.
- **Address recruitment and retention challenges** through practical advice and workforce planning support.
- **Improve leadership and management capabilities** to support business growth.
- **Explore digital tools**, AI and automation to improve productivity and efficiency.
- **Access specialist business expertise** in areas including business growth, marketing, finance, and operations.
- **Build resilience and plan for the future** by identifying opportunities, overcoming challenges, and creating clear next steps.
- **Access tailored support for farming and agricultural businesses**, including diversification and business planning advice.

Location:

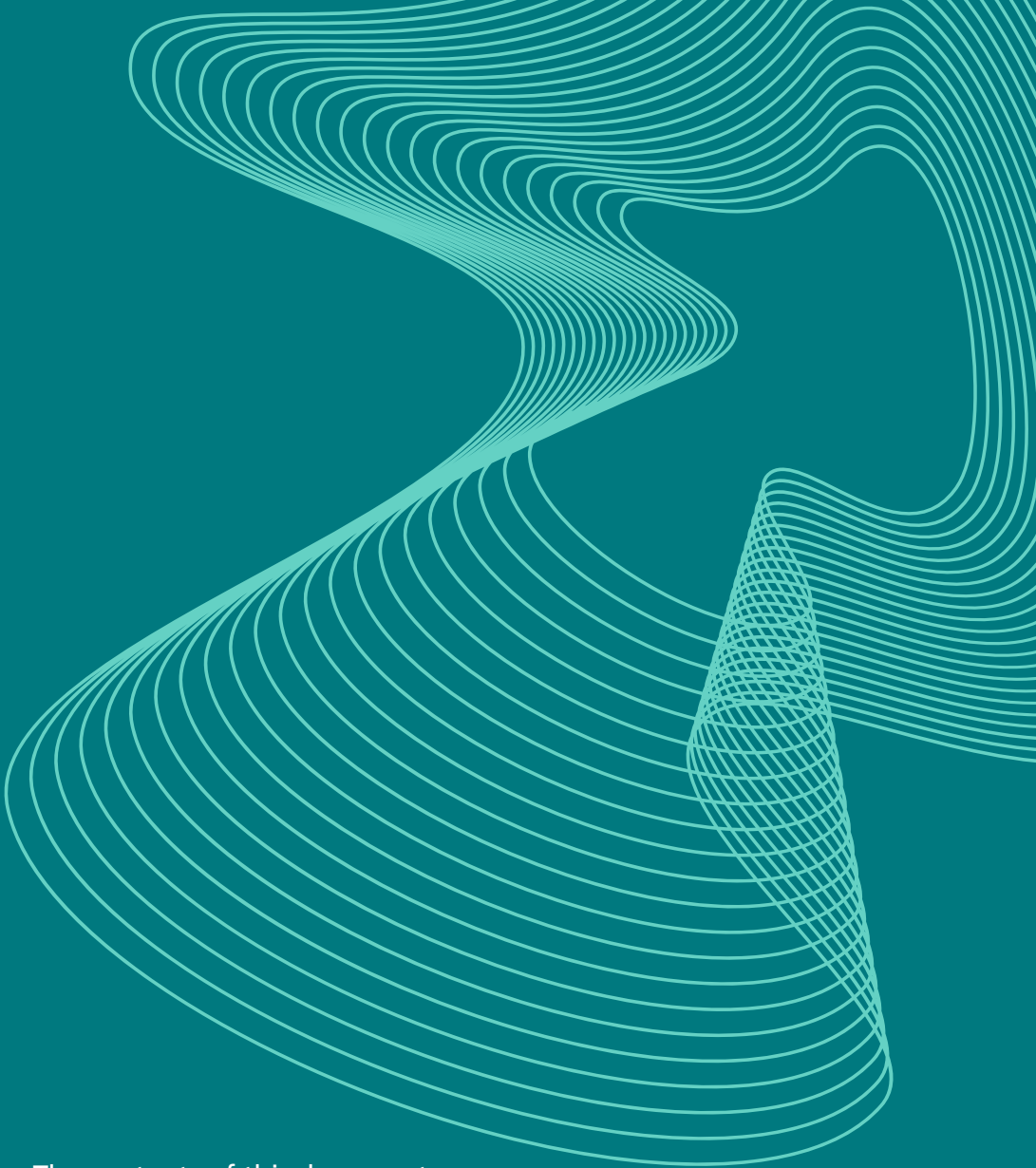
The programme is available to businesses based in East Devon, Exeter, Mid Devon, Teignbridge, South Hams, and West Devon.

Support for businesses in **North Devon and Torridge** is being delivered by North Devon+, please visit:

www.northdevonplus.co.uk/business-support/

To find out more:

Visit: www.growthhubinfo.co.uk/devon-business-support-programme



The contents of this document are accurate as of September 2026.

Please contact services directly for further information.

Alternative formats available on request: employersctw@devon.gov.uk



Version 1.1