

Quarterly Apprenticeship Vacancies – January- March 2016

This information relates to apprenticeship vacancies advertised by the National Apprenticeship Service only, **apprenticeships advertised elsewhere are not included** therefore levels may be higher than indicated¹.

Vacancies by Key Sector – Tees Valley

Sector	Vacancies	Applications	Ratio of applications per vacancy ²
Health and Public Services	37	1,128	30
Education	2	58	29
Engineering and Manufacturing	34	810	24
Logistics	10	236	24
Agriculture, Horticulture and Animal Care	2	36	18
Retail and Commercial Enterprise	49	882	18
Business, Administration and Law	203	2,071	10
Digital and Creative	34	291	9
Culture and Leisure	73	589	8
Construction	4	29	7
Total	448	6,130	14

Table 1: Tees Valley apprenticeship vacancies by key sector

- There were **448 apprenticeship vacancies** advertised in the Tees Valley between January and March 2016, a fall of 118 vacancies compared to January to March 2015.
- Demand for vacancies is high with **6,130 applications** received for these 448 vacancies, a ratio of 14 applications per vacancy; up slightly from the 13 applications per vacancy seen in the same period last year.
- The sector with the largest number of vacancies was **Business, Administration and Law** with 2,071 vacancies. However the **Health and Public Services** sector had the highest ratio of applications per vacancy, with an average of 30 applications for each vacancy.

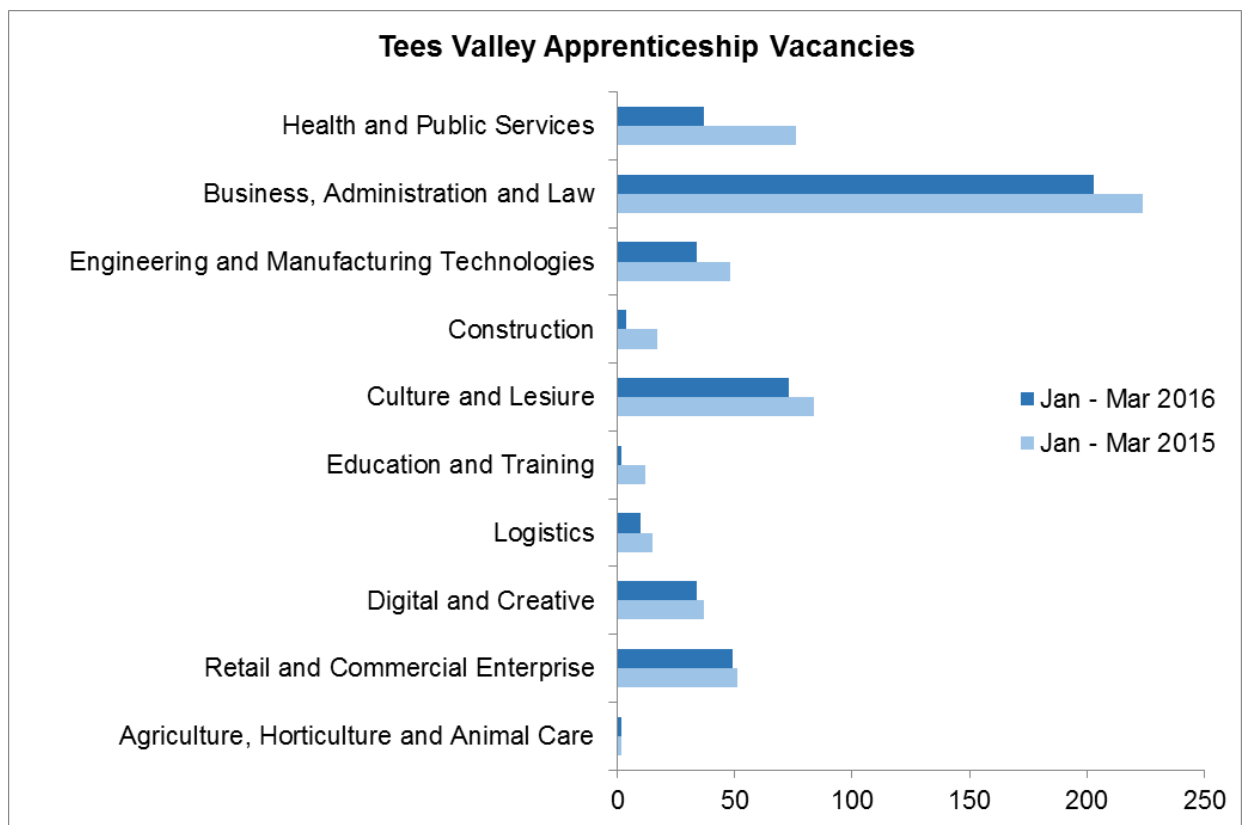
¹ Levels of apprenticeships include: Intermediate Level (Level 2 – e.g. GCSE level), Advanced Level (Level 3 – e.g. A Level) and Higher and Degree Level (Level 4-7). Location is the local authority in which the vacancy is based.

² Applications sent directly to the employer are not included; therefore the ratio of applications per vacancy may be higher.

- **275 employers** advertised apprenticeship vacancies, a decrease of 92 employers when compared to the same period last year.
- The apprenticeship vacancies were supported by **70 learning providers**, 13 of whom have head offices in the Tees Valley.
- There were 45 **Traineeship** vacancies advertised between January and March 2016. Traineeships have increased by 60% (27 extra vacancies) compared to January – March 2015. However demand is low for these vacancies with only 33 applications for the 45 vacancies advertised.

Change in Sector

- There has been a drop of 118 vacancies when compared to the same period in 2015. The graph below illustrates the change in vacancy numbers by sector:



Graph 1: Change in vacancies by key sector

- Numbers of vacancies in **Retail and Commercial Enterprise** remained around the same with 49 vacancies in 2016 compared to 51 in 2015.
- Numbers of vacancies in **Digital and Creative** also remained around the same with 34 vacancies in 2016 compared to 37 vacancies in 2015.
- **Health and Public Service** saw a drop of 39 vacancies, from 76 in 2015 to 37 in 2016. The majority of the fall was within the Health and Social Care framework with 26 fewer vacancies.

- **Business, Administration and Law** saw a fall of 21 vacancies, from 224 in 2015 to 203 in 2016. The majority of the fall was within the Business and Administration and Customer Service frameworks with 19 and 12 fewer vacancies respectively. However there has also been a rise of 15 vacancies in the Contact Centre Operations framework.
- **Engineering and Manufacturing Technologies** saw a drop of 14 vacancies, from 48 vacancies in 2015 to 34 in 2016, across a range of frameworks.
- **Construction** saw a fall of 13 vacancies, from 17 vacancies in 2015 to 4 vacancies in 2016, with the majority of the fall in the Construction Building framework.

Level of Apprenticeship

	Intermediate	Advanced	Higher
Darlington	80	21	1
Hartlepool	68	11	2
Middlesbrough	58	9	0
Redcar & Cleveland	42	3	0
Stockton-on-Tees	114	38	1
Tees Valley	362	82	4
Tees Valley (%)	81%	18%	1%

Table 2: Level of Apprenticeship

- 81% of vacancies were for **intermediate apprenticeships**, with 18% advanced apprenticeships and 1% higher apprenticeships. However the low incidence of higher apprenticeships may be attributed to under-reporting, as they are more likely to be advertised directly through employers.
- Compared to January – March 2015 the number of intermediate level vacancies have decreased by 104, advanced level vacancies have decreased by 18, and higher level vacancies have increased by 4.

Apprenticeship Vacancies by Local Authority

	January - March 2015		January - March 2016		Change	% Change
	Vacancies	Ratio of applications per vacancy	Vacancies	Ratio of applications per vacancy		
Darlington	115	9	102	8	-13	-13%
Hartlepool	62	15	79	20	17	22%
Middlesbrough	93	13	69	20	-24	-35%
Redcar & Cleveland	59	15	45	12	-14	-31%
Stockton-on-Tees	237	13	153	12	-84	-55%
TEES VALLEY	566	13	448	14	-118	-26%

Table 3: Apprenticeship vacancies by local authority

- **Hartlepool** is the only Tees Valley district to show an increase in apprenticeship vacancies when compared to the same period in 2015.
- **Stockton-on-Tees** has seen the largest percentage decrease with a fall of 55% compared to the same period in 2015 (84 fewer vacancies).

Summary

- The Tees Valley has seen a **26% drop** in apprenticeship vacancies (118 fewer vacancies) advertised between January – March 2016 compared to January – March 2015. Nationally vacancies have remained around the same with a 1% rise.
- **Hartlepool** is the only Tees Valley district to show a **rise in vacancies** compared to the same period last year with 17 extra vacancies.
- The **majority of the fall** in vacancies (88%) has been for **intermediate** apprenticeships.
- Almost a third of the drop (29%) has been for **Health, Public Services and Care** apprenticeship vacancies.
- Apprenticeship vacancies numbers in the **Retail and Commercial Enterprise** and **Digital and Creative** sectors have remained steady.