



# Kickstart Scheme

Essex County Council has developed a number of programmes to promote entry level and local employment opportunities to Essex Residents. The Kickstart Scheme is one of the entry routes you can offer as employer and funding is available to you to help create these opportunities for 16-24 year olds.

## What is a Kickstart job?

Kickstart jobs are new job placements for 16 to 24-year olds on Universal Credit who are at risk of long-term unemployment.

## Funding opportunity for employers

If you can offer to young people eligible for the scheme a role with a minimum of 25 hours per week (National Minimum Wage) for six months, the government will pay for the first 6 months' salary.

The wage costs, National Insurance contributions and minimum employer auto enrolment pension contributions also will be funded by Central Government.

In addition, £1500 grant is available to support the young adults and help them move into sustained employment after they have completed their Kickstart funded job.

You can find out more about the [Kickstart Scheme on GOV.UK](#).

## Kickstart Essex assistance to employers

Essex County Council are now an approved Kickstart Essex Gateway. Kickstart Essex is a free service for local employers to help them access the Kickstart scheme and provide a wraparound service to support those on the scheme throughout the duration.

Specialist Youth Caseworkers will work closely with employers, facilitating access to Kickstart candidates via DWP and appropriate training opportunities. Kickstart Essex caseworkers will support both

employers and successful candidates throughout the six months and provide information, advice, and guidance.

The service capacity is limited. For more information look the [overview of the Kickstart Essex program](#) or contact the Kickstart Essex Team at [kickstartessex@essex.gov.uk](mailto:kickstartessex@essex.gov.uk)

## Kickstart jobs and Social Value

As an employer your organisation can create social value when you implement a Kickstart Programme. Vendors can include Kickstart placements as the social value offer they make when bidding for ECC contracts.



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