

Crawley A PLACE TO INSPIRE



**Employment & Skills Programme
2019 - 2024**

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Launched in February 2016 - a programme of employment and skills related projects and initiatives

Underpinned by extensive collaboration with local employers, businesses and training providers

Aims:

- Providing local residents with access to better jobs
- Enabling businesses to grow by recruiting the right skills from the local workforce
- Creating the right conditions for career opportunities and economic growth in Crawley

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Achievements

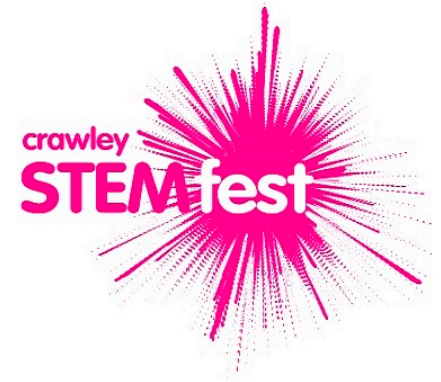
- 'Employ Crawley' launched October 2017 – over 300 customer interventions, 25 workshops, Jobs Fair and 30 local residents helped into employment
- Town Centre Skills Academy launching February 2019
- Seven new signatories to the Crawley Developer & Partner Charter
- Nine apprenticeships in post at Crawley Borough Council
- Annual apprenticeship fair hosted in partnership with WSCC - over 300 attendees



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Achievements

- Crawley STEMfest programme expanded – total reach of 20,000 people
- Development of 'Be The Change' programme – working with local schools to raise aspirations
- Early Career Network introduced by Crawley Borough Council
- Crawley Secondary School IAG group – bi-monthly meetings and events
- Detailed research carried out on local business skills gaps to support design of new training interventions, through Crawley College.



Since 2016, there have been a number of related policy changes and partnership updates including:

- State of the Nation – ranking Crawley 304 out of 324 local authorities for social mobility
- Further Education review that led to formation of Crawley College
- Universal Credit roll out
- Launch of Enterprise Advisor Network
- Introduction of Apprenticeship Levy
- Launch of Coast to Capital LEP Strategic Economic Plan ‘Gatwick 360°’
- West Sussex Economic Growth Plan
- National Careers Strategy
- Industrial Strategy

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In 2018, Crawley BC in partnership with Crawley College and Manor Royal BID commissioned The Means to carry out a study into:

‘How to overcome local skills gaps and meet local skills needs in Crawley’

Findings and recommendations used to shape and inform development of the new Programme

The means: to change places for the better.

Crawley Skills and Employment
Needs Study

Final Report

The Employment & Skills Programme has been updated to reflect the following ambition:

“To improve career opportunities for Crawley residents, creating pathways to enable them to access high value jobs and ensure that employers are able to recruit the staff they need, when they need them”

The Programme will:

- Celebrate our achievements and promote future plans
- Reflect new partnership bodies and reforms
- Respond to policy changes
- Reflect and respond to new research

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Flagship themes:

- Development and Infrastructure
- Business and Employers
- Education and Schools
- Social Mobility, Inclusion and Employability

Each theme is underpinned by a number of projects; continuing, upcoming and future.

- Further consultation during February
- Cabinet 13 March 2019
- Launch of the New Employment & Skills Programme w/c 18 March 2019