

Careers Management

Kent & Medway

SKILLS – some facts & figures:

In comparison to the SE of England, Kent and Medway has a lower proportion of residents qualified to level 3 or higher, potentially limiting capacity to benefit from the knowledge economy and compete in the global market.

22% of employers surveyed in the 2003 National Employer Skills Survey identified a skills gap in their workforce.

15% of businesses felt that they would not know how to access external training for new skills.

Employers in Kent and Medway have particular concerns about the level of skill in their workforce in:

- *Management skills*
- *ICT, professional, technician and user level skills*
- *Key skills such as communication*
- *Customer service and sales*

Workers holding level 3 qualifications are up to 50% more productive than unqualified individuals (HM Treasury Report 2002).

Contact us for further information, or to arrange for one of our Progression Advisers to visit you to discuss your needs.

Our team is based at:

22 High Street
Ashford
Kent
TN24 8SL

but works throughout the whole of Kent and Medway.

Telephone Kate Copland, Juliet Platt or Pam Robinson on 01233 640214

Or **email** gareth.harris@vtplc.com

LINKING TO GROWTH



Supporting Employers towards a better qualified workforce



EUROPEAN COMMUNITY
European Social Fund

The Project

Linking To Growth is funded by the Learning and Skills Council and the European Social Fund to help address the skills gaps in Kent and Medway.

Our Aim

- To support you and your employees in progression to level 3 or 4 qualifications.

How We Work

- Our professionally qualified Progression Advisers offer a **free** consultancy service, including:
 - Individual progression interviews.
 - Information and advice on how to access appropriate training.
 - Access to a range of guidance resources.
 - Support through progress checks.

THE CASE FOR TRAINING:

- Increased demand for high levels of skills in key growth industries.
- Enables career progression for individual employees to increase job satisfaction, motivation and retention.
- Potentially improved productivity and higher profits.
- Attracting new staff – training and development are the most important considerations when looking for a new job, after basic salary.
- There are statutory requirements for qualifications in particular industries.

BUT WHAT IF I TRAIN THEM

AND THEY LEAVE ??

BUT WHAT IF YOU DON'T TRAIN THEM ...

AND THEY STAY!?