

# Leicester & Leicestershire Business and Skills Partnership

## Green Skills Update, November 2024



Following on from the release of the LLEP area Green Skills report in late 2023, this round up of local and national green skills news aims to brief area individuals and stakeholders such as area businesses, FE Colleges, universities, schools, and the voluntary and community sector.

### Business support

#### New green Skills Bootcamps opportunities

Skills Bootcamps offer free, flexible courses of up to 16 weeks. They are designed to **help employers to address skills gaps** and to **upskill individuals around skills and job vacancy needs** in high demand, across a range of sectors and roles.

Leicester City Council are working with LLBSP and Leicestershire County Council to bring a wider range of Bootcamps to the area, across a broad range of sectors. Eleven new bootcamps are now available, including four in green skills: **solar PV installation, agricultural skills, sustainable land management and sustainability and environmental management**. See more on: [Skills Bootcamps](#)



#### Local Skills Improvement Fund

Leicester College, along with partners Loughborough College, North Warwickshire & South Leicestershire College and SMB College Group, have been successful in bidding for funding through the Government's Local Skills Improvement Fund to deliver **training to meet local employers' skills needs in key industries**, including the green sector. Courses include **decarbonising transport** and **green leadership**, see what's on offer here: [Local Skills Improvement Fund - Leicester College](#)

#### Construction Net Zero skills support from CITB

**CITB have a new Net Zero** page – which outlines support for construction sector, lots of guidance and links to training that is supported. [Net zero action plan - CITB](#)

#### East Midlands Chamber

Leicester Accelerator, funded by **Leicester City Council** UKSPF, is a place-based business support project providing a range of interventions, including **Net Zero Accelerator**: events, training, consultancy, and energy audits to help businesses gain green business skills. [East Midlands Chamber \(leicester.gov.uk\)](#).

#### University support

See the link below on support **universities can give to businesses**, with a good section on carbon reduction: <https://universitiespartnership.org/responsible-business/>

#### DWP support



Area **job centres have a range of schemes to help to move job seekers into employment**, and address **employer skills needs**. Area DWP offices have a growing range of sector-based work academy programmes (SWAPS) including those linked to green skills, with a new Solar Panel Installation SWAP on offer. See how DWP can address your recruitment needs on: [Find training and employment schemes for your business - Sector-based Work Academy Programme \(SWAP\)](#)

## Business Growth Hub

There is signposting to a **variety of support** on: <https://bizgateway.org.uk/green-initiatives/>

## Midlands Net Zero Hub

The **Midlands Net Zero Hub** has some skills support programmes, see: [Skills training – Midlands Net Zero Hub](#)

## Green skills opportunity with VAL

**VAL (Voluntary Action LeicesterShire) and the National Forest Company** are working together to explore green skills and careers pathways to support people to build their skills, experience, and qualifications to help them get into green careers. VAL are keen to support younger people to develop skills and to see the potential opportunities for future work and careers in this area. VAL are currently undertaking some scoping in and around North West Leicestershire with the aim to run a pilot project around involving younger people, looking to build evidence and explore potential partnerships. To find out more, contact Dave Cliffe at VAL on [dave.c@valonline.org.uk](mailto:dave.c@valonline.org.uk)

## Area green news roundup



**Freeport investment in green skills:** A new generation of students will be skilled up for careers in advanced manufacturing and clean energy through an investment of more than £2m by East Midlands Freeport, which is supporting the Future Energy Skills Hub (FESH), a project led by the East Midlands Institute of Technology (East Midlands IoT). See:

<https://www.eastmidlandsbusinesslink.co.uk/mag/news/east-midlands-freeport-makes-2m-investment-in-green-skills/>

**New solar farms proposed:** A proposal has been submitted for two large solar farms on land near the Leicestershire villages of Saddington and Kibworth Harcourt by Starlight Energy Operations UK. Planning documents indicate that the sites could produce enough electricity to power around 8,000 homes annually for 40 years. The raised solar panels would allow for continued agricultural use, such as sheep grazing.

[Two large solar farms proposed on land near Leicestershire villages | TheBusinessDesk.com](#)

**Area hydrogen development:** The future of clean energy and the region's role in leading the development of hydrogen as an energy source will be celebrated at a high-profile summit next month.

<https://www.eastmidlandsbusinesslink.co.uk/mag/news/regions-role-in-leading-development-of-hydrogen-as-an-energy-source-to-be-celebrated-at-summit/>

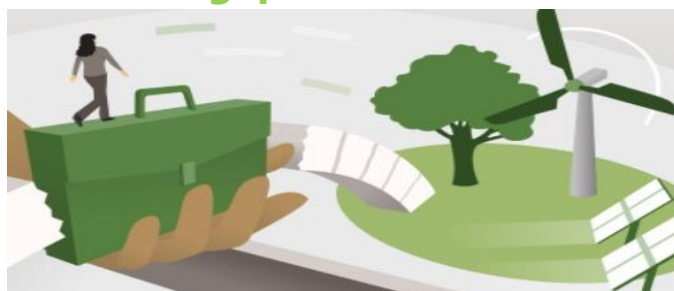
**Midlands nuclear:** Midlands Net Zero Hub has partnered with Midlands Nuclear to explore the potential of nuclear energy in the region, by appointing Cogent Skills and Equilibrion to undertake studies into the skills and siting opportunities required to develop nuclear projects in the Midlands. See more:

[Midlands nuclear energy potential to be explored through skills and siting study – Midlands Net Zero Hub](#)

## LinkedIn data highlights future green skills gaps

New **LinkedIn data** reveals that while demand for green skills is expected to double by 2050, the current supply is not keeping pace, leading to a significant skills gap. See the data here:

<https://www.edie.net/linkedin-green-skills-demand-set-to-double-by-2050-but-supply-struggles-to-keep-up/>



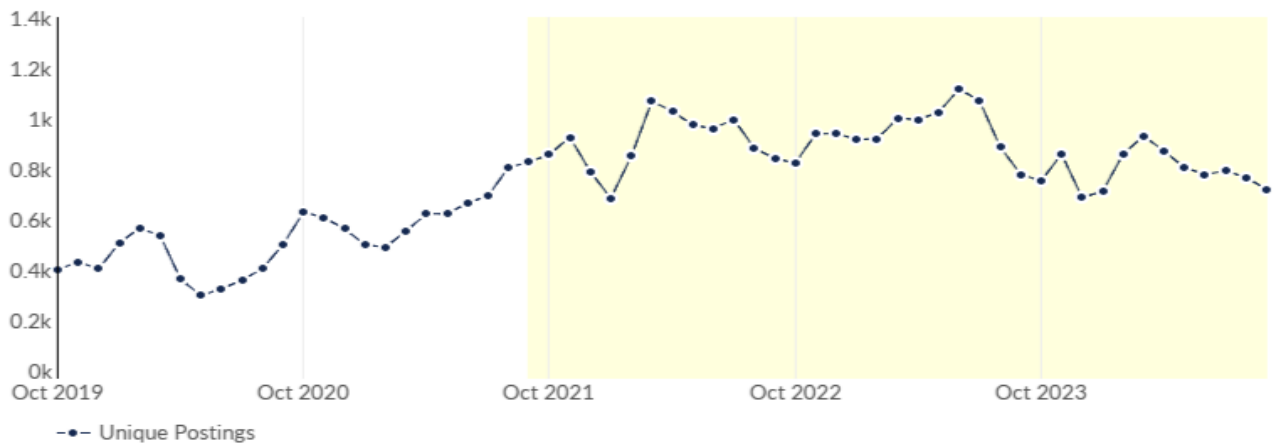
## New green jobs report released

A new report, the **Journey to Green Jobs**, offers a comprehensive analysis of the challenges and opportunities tied to the growing demand for green jobs, underscoring the urgency of preparing the workforce for this transition. See more: <https://www.fenews.co.uk/fe-voices/navigating-the-transition-to-green-jobs-new-report-reveals-skills-gap-and-opportunities/>

## Local job vacancy data

Area **advertised job vacancy area** below (on roles advertised that specify the need for green-linked skills) shows a steady increase over time, with 720 roles in September 2024 as opposed to 420 in September 2019. It is still early days in trying to effectively capture green-aligned roles, but increasingly national and area data sets are endeavouring to build in parameters to monitor green job activity. The top three roles most mentioning the need for green skills at present are safety leads, safety coordinators and mechanical engineers.

Unique Postings Trend



## **Advertised\* green jobs, LLEP area, Sept 2019 to Sept 30, 2024**

\*Source, Lightcast job analytics 2024

## Newsletter feedback

If you have any **feedback or news items to enhance future newsletters**, please email [anna.cyhan@llep.org.uk](mailto:anna.cyhan@llep.org.uk)

This newsletter was created by the Leicester & Leicestershire Business and Skills Partnership, which is collaborating with Leicestershire County Council and Leicester City Council to enhance green skills coordination and awareness in the area. The Leicester & Leicestershire Business and Skills Partnership has replaced the LLEP and now supports local business, skills, and economic growth. See the LLEP area Green Skills Report:

<https://llep.org.uk/app/uploads/2023/09/LLEP-area-Green-Skills-report-2023.pdf>

