

Case Study

Derby City Council



Location: Derby, Derbyshire

Employees: 12,000+

Business Sector: Public sector

Training: Business and Administration, Accounting, Customer Service, practical trades

Training Providers: Training Services 2000, Babington Business College and Derby College for office based training, plus other appropriate providers for practical trades

Derby City Council believes in Apprenticeships as the way to train its future workforce and invest in young people. At present the Council has 60 apprentices; and it intends to establish more Apprenticeship opportunities this year.

"Our number of apprentices has more than doubled over the past year," said Erika Brown, Liaison Officer at Derby City Council. "We want to encourage young people into our workforce. Giving young people a real opportunity to begin a career is very important, especially in the current climate."

The training and job roles include administration, accounting, customer service and trades such as electricians and gardeners.

Rachael Harrison is one of the current crop of apprentices. Rachael, 17, applied online via the Apprenticeship Vacancy Matching Service. "Having the vacancies online means there is an increased number of applications," said Erika, who co-ordinates the majority of Derby City Council's Apprenticeships. "We are getting more than we have ever had."

Rachael said: "I was at Sixth Form, but learning full-time wasn't really for me. I wanted more experience and variety, and wanted to get qualifications but also work."

"The City Council is very keen to extend the range of apprenticeship opportunities. These young people represent the broad spectrum of communities within our city."

Adam Wilkinson,
Chief Executive,
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Rachael said: "I heard about Apprenticeships, so looked online at apprenticeships.org.uk and there was lots of information. I looked under 'Business and Administration' and there were vacancies, so I clicked and applied. I also made my details available for employers to look at. It was really easy and simple."

Derby City Council's apprentices are trained by several providers, including Babington Business College, Derby College and Training Services 2000, which is the provider working with Rachael and 23 other current apprentices. Barbara Patrick, Director at Training Services 2000, said: "We have had an excellent working partnership with Derby City Council for many years. The Council, and the departments the learners work in, recognise that by investing in training and developing individuals to national standards they will have a more skilled and motivated workforce, with everyone benefitting in the longer term."

"Learners would not achieve these qualifications and career opportunities without the excellent help, support and commitment of Derby City Council and their supervisors and managers."

Rachael's work includes helping the housing team deal with applications for council housing and assessments of homeless people. "I enjoy the work," said Rachael, "and there are plenty of routes for progression. I'm really glad I decided to be an apprentice."

Derby City Council Chief Executive Adam Wilkinson said: "The City Council is very keen to extend the range of apprenticeship opportunities. These young people represent the broad spectrum of communities within our city."



**For more information please visit
apprenticeships.org.uk or telephone 0800 015 0600**