

South Ribble Apprentice Factory offer

Internal

- An inclusive career development programme for South Ribble Council staff, using apprenticeships to maximise the number of training opportunities for employees

External

- An impartial, informed voice for apprenticeships, jobs and training in South Ribble, which can engage with regional and national institutions to deliver the needs of South Ribble residents and businesses
- Providing impartial careers and employment support (information, advice & guidance) in schools, colleges and communities
- Supporting businesses to create and manage new apprenticeships and jobs, linking them with the most relevant, cost-effective training providers
- Helping to re-skill and up-skill residents to enable them to access employment opportunities and to progress their careers

Objectives of the External Offer

- Enabling individuals and employers to access the right skills support, by providing simple advice and guidance to help overcome the confused and crowded market place which currently exists
- Encouraging and supporting more employers to offer apprenticeships and pre-apprenticeship training
- Helping everyone to access jobs, training and apprenticeships
- Supporting those who are harder to reach (who have left education and are not currently in employment or training) with skills and job opportunities
- Providing options to re-skill for people made redundant and older workers changing career
- Maximising benefits of Jobcentre Plus and Youth Hub co-location, working towards delivery through the Town Deal Business Advice, Skills & Enterprise hub
- Delivering the fairer employment objectives of Community Wealth Building
- Working alongside the Lancashire Enterprise Partnership Skills Hub to maximise benefits to South Ribble residents and businesses
- Supporting growing businesses and sectors of the economy to create jobs and apprenticeships, helping businesses to recruit local people and helping people to access the new opportunities
- Advising businesses and local residents on the new opportunities through technical education, including T-levels
- Working with local schools and colleges to link the relevance of the curriculum to industry needs so students are work-ready and young people can realise their potential and achieve their career ambitions

The Apprentice Factory activities described do not have a specific budget, they are part of the Investment and Skills Team support offer.

The £200,000 allocated within budget falls under HR and is to cover the employment and training of apprentices within the council as part of the council's own apprenticeship programme.