



Regional Initiatives

Leeds city region boasts several strategic bodies providing the opportunity for dynamic and innovative delivery across many disciplines including skills, training and business incubation. Some of the initiatives dovetail with the work of Financial Leeds and their roles are outlined below.

United Kingdom Careers Academy for Finance (UKCAF)

A not-for-profit national body representing employers, schools and colleges, working to raise the aspirations of 16 to 19-year-olds. Its principal activity is based upon developing partnerships between businesses and education. The model operates in all regions of the UK and within the Leeds city region is represented by Leeds, Bradford and York career academies.

Financial Services Skills Council (FSSC)

An independent, employer-led organisation, established in 2004 to provide strategic leadership for education, training and skills development for financial services, and more recently accountancy and finance, across the UK with a regional presence within the Leeds city region.

National Skills Academy for Financial Services (NSAFS)

National Skills Academies are being implemented across a range of industries to support the development of a workforce with better skills than ever before. The National Skills Academy for Financial Services - by being the leading body for the development and delivery of education, skills and training solutions for the financial services sector - will act as a facilitator ensuring that the UK has a better educated financial services workforce.

Financial Services Knowledge Transfer Network (FSKTN)

KTNs are funded by a mix of government, industry and academia and they work by bringing together diverse organisations that promote the exchange of knowledge and the stimulation of innovation across a wide range of communities. The objective of a Knowledge Transfer Network is to improve the UK's overall innovation performance by increasing the breadth and depth of intelligence into UK-based businesses. The FSKTN has a particular role of increasing knowledge transfer across the broad financial and professional services sector. The Network falls within the remit of the Technology Strategy Board a government advisory public body sponsored by DBIS (Department of Business, Innovation and Skills).

Knowledge Transfer Partnership

Knowledge Transfer Partnerships (KTP) is a UK-wide programme that helps businesses and organisations to improve their competitiveness and productivity through the better use of the knowledge, technology and skills that reside within Higher Education institutions, Research Organisations and Further Education Colleges (otherwise known as the Knowledge Base).

A partnership is formed between a business and a University, allowing the transfer of knowledge, technology and skills to which the business will currently have no access to, through a project, or projects, undertaken by a recently qualified person (Associate), recruited to specifically work on that project and supervised by the University in question. Financial Leeds is well placed to facilitate the development of such partnerships. KTPs can vary in length from 1 to 3 years (classic KTP) or from 10-40 weeks (shorter KTP), depending on the needs of the business and the desired outcomes.

The Associates are either postgraduate researchers, university graduates, or individuals qualified to at least NVQ (Level 4) or equivalent.

KTP Mission

"To strengthen the competitiveness, wealth creation and economic performance of the UK by the enhancement of knowledge transfer skills and the stimulation of innovation through collaborative projects between business and the knowledge base."

National Apprenticeships Service

Apprenticeships are a proven way to train an organisation's workforce and can increase efficiency, productivity and competitiveness by addressing skills gaps directly. There are tangible business benefits to taking on apprentices, with a programme jointly designed by suppliers and providers to ensure employees reach a high level of competency and performance.

Apprenticeships can form a vital part of any Employers' Skills Plan and 1,000 apprentice employers across Leeds are already reaping the benefits of the scheme...so why not join them.

To discuss exact training requirements you may have please contact Financial Leeds who can facilitate a meeting with the local apprenticeship representative.