


Future opportunities in the Essex economy for you



New jobs, new opportunities

The economy of Essex is changing – and we want to harness that change for good. The future economy is going to bring new, different jobs and introduce ways to do existing jobs differently. Whether you're just starting out in the workplace or have been working for years, there will be opportunities for you.

We will show you the types of skills that businesses are going to need; the jobs that will be in demand; and where in Essex you can go to start your journey. These are real opportunities in Essex that are only going to grow bigger.



Having a destination
has helped me build for
my future, it brings
security and enables
me to grow

Emma Johns
Apprentice

What's our plan?

We have a 10-year strategy to change the Essex economy to make it better for everyone:

Our **10 year ambition** for a stronger, more equal, and more sustainable economy

10 year ambition

- Green growth
- Good jobs for local people
- Equal opportunity

5 growth sectors

- Construction and retrofit
- Clean energy
- Advanced manufacturing and engineering
- Digi-tech
- Life sciences

5 economic sectors with big opportunities now and in the future for Essex

The long-term goals we want to see as a result of supporting the **growth** of these sectors


Our goals and outcomes

More well-paid, secure, employment opportunities in the sectors of the future

To enable delivery we will **review, measure and report** on the strategy's progress

What are the opportunities of the future?

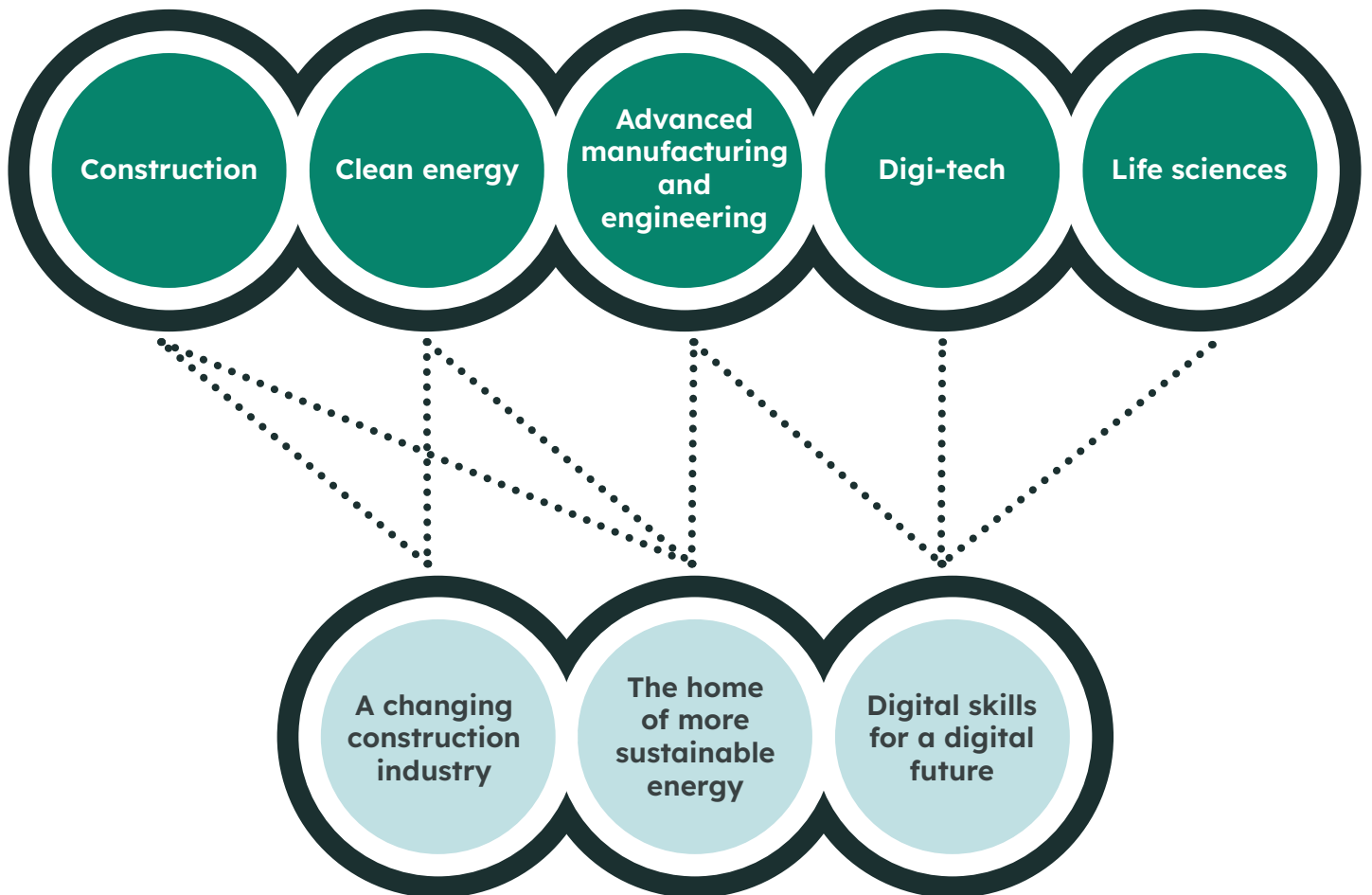
Essex County Council has a Sector Development Strategy which identifies 5 sectors crucial to the Essex economy that we think will grow rapidly in the near future. We have talked to businesses across the county about what they need to take advantage of this growth – and there are five areas of opportunity that everyone in Essex, no matter your skills and qualifications, can take advantage of today, to build a better future.



Knowing that my county is focused on gearing itself up for my future is inspiring

Tom Watson
Engineer graduate

The 5 sectors we are focused on



Teamwork, communication, problem solving, adaptability, and writing skills are going to be more valuable than ever across every sector in the future economy

Some of the future opportunities in Essex

A changing construction industry

A net-zero Essex by 2050 is a priority for Essex. To get there we are going to need massive changes in many areas – for example, there are almost **650,000 homes** in Essex – and every single one of them will need to become more energy efficient. We also know that **10,000 jobs** in the construction industry are needed to make the county more sustainable. This is the start: creating new, green jobs that will need new skills as well as making use of traditional ones.

Opportunities are on the up, we are actively searching to find the best people with a passion for construction

Amy Satu
Quantity surveyor



Sectors that will be offering construction related opportunities:



There is also demand for many new roles needed that aren't what you might typically think of as a job in construction, like:



Jobs needed in Essex by 2030

Heat pump installers	3,900
Insulation installers	2,800
Solar panel technicians and installers	3,300



What are the jobs and typical salaries in the opportunity?

Heating engineer	£34k
Insulation installer	£27k
Solar installer	£33k
Construction manager	£53k
Building surveyor	£39k
Sales admin	£23k
Human resources admin	£22k



There are already places in Essex you can go to get the skills you need to thrive in a new sustainable construction industry:

- South Essex College Construction Centre, Basildon
- Construction Skills Centre, Harlow College
- Chelmsford College Construction Centre
- SECTA Construction Academies, South Essex
- STEM Innovation Centre, Braintree (Colchester Institute)
- Harlow College

The home of more sustainable energy

We are going to need more ways of generating sustainable energy in the future, and demand is growing which means lots more jobs in the county – especially in engineering and science-based fields.

Our sector growth has been phenomenal, job opportunities have significantly risen to meet the increased demand

Sam Shepherd
Solar technician



Sectors that will be offering sustainable energy related opportunities:



Demand for clean energy will need everyone from apprentices all the way to post-graduate level engineers, technicians and project managers, whether in solar farms, wind turbines, hydrogen or nuclear power – there are mechanical, electrical roles needed.



Jobs needed in Essex by 2030

Offshore wind	230
Onshore wind	100
Solar	3,300
Nuclear	170



What are the jobs and typical salaries in the opportunity?

Wind turbine technician	£28k
Nuclear power reactor operator	£36k
Solar technician	£35k
Laboratory technicians	£21k



There are already places in Essex you can go to get the skills you need to thrive in a new sustainable energy industry:

- Colchester Institute Energy Skills Centre, Harwich
- SECTA Construction Academies, South Essex
- STEM Innovation Centre, Braintree (Colchester Institute)
- Harlow College

Digital skills for a digital future

One of the biggest changes in the economy has been the power of going digital and working differently. There are a huge range of different roles that will be needed in an ever growing digital world. Being ready for a role in the digital economy doesn't necessarily need you to specialise and there are skills applicable across many areas – and Essex businesses are looking for them.



The digital world is constantly changing, not only do we need new minds, but I too require on-going training

Ciara Denton
Software engineer

Sectors that will be offering digital related opportunities:



Trends in automation mean that these skills are only going to be more valuable in the future, as more traditional roles give way to new and exciting opportunities.



Top 10 digital skills businesses say they lack:

- Machine learning
- Programming & coding
- Knowledge of emerging technologies and solutions
- Advanced statistics
- Data visualisation
- Storytelling
- Analytical mindset
- Creativity
- Data ethics



What are the jobs and typical salaries in the opportunity?

Machine learning engineer	£57k
Software engineer	£44k
Data analyst	£32k
Data scientist	£49k
Financial admin	£23k
Legal secretary	£22k



There are already places in Essex you can go to get the skills you need to thrive in a new cutting edge digital market:

- USP College Centre of Excellence for Digital Technology
- Institute for Analytics and Data Science at University of Essex in Colchester
- Centre for Digital Technologies, Basildon

Where to go next

Below you'll find a whole host of links to help you take the next step on making your new dream career a reality:

Government Careers Service – <https://nationalcareers.service.gov.uk/>

Essex Opportunity Portal – <https://www.essexopportunities.co.uk/>

Essex Business Support – <https://backingessexbusiness.co.uk/>

Adult Community Learning Essex – <https://aclessex.com/>

Federation of Essex Colleges – <https://www.federationofessexcolleges.org/>

Essex Provider Network – <https://essexprovidernetwork.com/>

This information is issued by:
Essex County Council
Sustainable Growth

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The information contained in this document can be translated, and/or made available in alternative formats, on request.

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If you'd like to know more about our plans for developing the sectors of the future and to read our strategy, scan this QR code:

