MK College Group

BUSINESS
SUMMARY REPORT

The **Professional and Business Services** (PBS) sector covers a range **of diverse knowledge intensive industries and support functions** (e.g. call centres), providing specialised support to businesses and the public sector.

Financial and related professional services **contributed £261bn to UK gross value added (GVA) in 2021, representing around £12 of every £100 of economic output.**

This characteristic means that it **is well-placed to weather the myriad economic and geopolitical challenges** the coming year is set to deliver. (The City)

Covered sectors include **legal services, audit, accountancy, advertising and market research, management consultancy, architectural and engineering activities and recruitment activities.** (The Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy.)

Over 2.2 million people in the UK work in financial and related professional services .

The sector plays an **essential role in helping companies to raise finance, supports global business,** and provides a range of investment opportunities for institutions and individual).

Consequently, the sector has been **forecast to be one of the most important growth sectors in the UK over the next 15 years**. (The Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy)

Executive Summary

Introduction

This sector summary overview presents an overview of the Business sector within Milton Keynes (MK), highlighting particular areas of regional specialisation prioritisation alongside the macro factors driving short, medium and longer term changes to the sector, and local economy.

The objective of the report is to highlight the strengths, weaknesses, and opportunities within the local employment and skills market, including structural factors which may continue to impact the region in the future.

With the overall aim that intelligence will be used to inform and direct curriculum delivery, including but not limited to Apprenticeships, 16-19, Adult Learning, Higher Education, bespoke, part-time and modular bitesize provision.

The information outlined in the report is designed to inform stakeholder and employer forums to shape curriculum strategies and future facing skills design. Audiences are encouraged to use the data provided therein, alongside other reports, strategies, data and policy papers to plan future recruitment and training strategies in line with industry needs.

Important drivers and trends affecting labour market and skills demand to be considered within the context of this report and subsequent curriculum design include:

- Global and domestic political environments

- National and regional economic growth

- State of public finances and Further Education (FE) Funding allocations

- Ageing population, multigenerational workforces, migration, Brexit

- Pace of technological change* *e.g. technology-facilitated changes to the location and organisation of work*

- Climate change and Bioeconomy* *bioeconomy represents the economic potential of harnessing the power of bioscience, using renewable biological resources to replace fossil resources in innovative products, processes and services* in line with Net zero targets

- Inequality, underrepresentation, In-work poverty, Digital Exclusion

- Geo-based issues including transport and access

- Perception of Industry

- The education inspection framework (EIF) and OFSTED.

LMI in context

Different organisations will use a breadth of complementarity official datasets accessible API datasets including information from the Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings, the Labour Force Survey, the Employer Skills Survey, Working Futures and the UK Census.

Statistical agencies like the Office for National Statistics (ONS), the Higher Education Statistics Agency (HESA) produce data, and sector organisations or professional bodies at national and regional level, often have their own researchers and provide a rich source of LMI.

However LMI is also presented in many different formats. For example, complex statistical formats including CSV files, datacubes or technical reports that are geared towards economist and policy makers, rather than for use in education organisations.

Methods of data collection and curation will vary, as will the timeframe over which data is collected, its intended use and the reliability of the data needs to be considered within context of other LMI sources.

An example, some organisations will use former Government Office regions to classify a geography, others a Local Enterprise or Local Authority area. Slightly different geography or demography, the time period over which data was collated, different O*NET or Standard Occupational Classification (*SOC*) or Standard Industry Classification (*SIC*) definitions (levels 1 – 4) should be recognised as a limitation of the data, and account for any variance between sources of LMI.
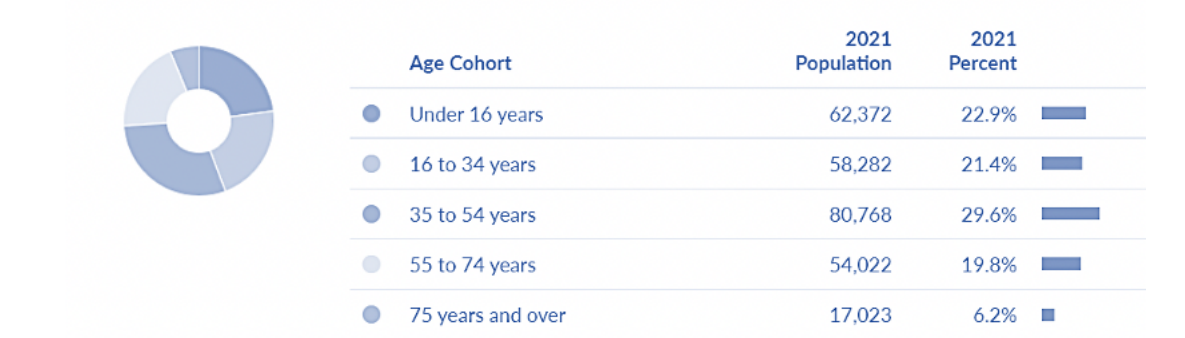
The validity of the data overall; which yields information from the various official datasets and sources of intelligence it draws upon is accurate at the point of circulation.

Nevertheless, good LMI practitioners will advocate how important to use your own judgement to draw conclusions about the information.
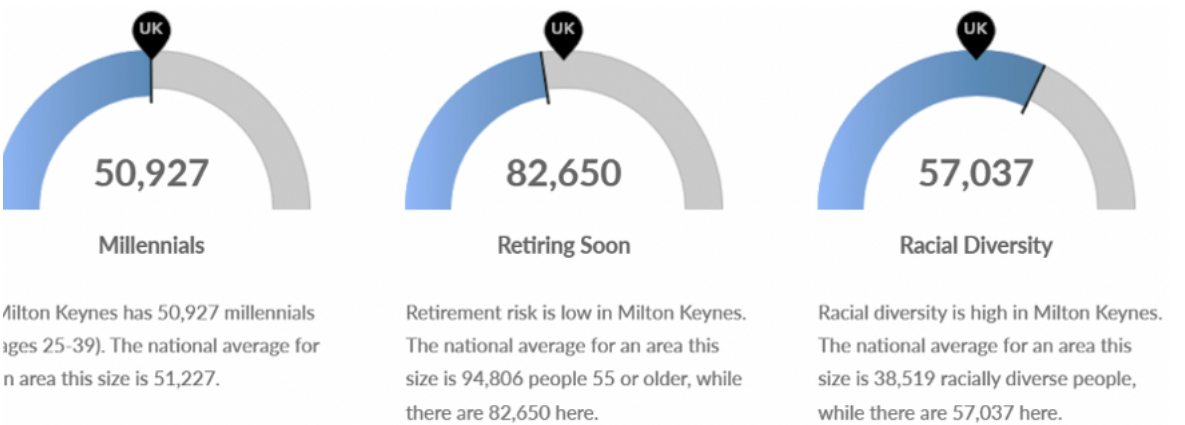
Question and explore the data, reflect on the key messages and in doing so, engage in an ongoing dialogue and debate with the information within context of each readers situation to contribute towards creating growing body of up to date LMI.

Regional Context

Since the previous Census in 2011, Milton Keynes has seen its population grow to 287,821. This is a **15.3% increase, which is above the national average of 6.3%.** Milton Keynes has a **younger age profile than England as a whole.**
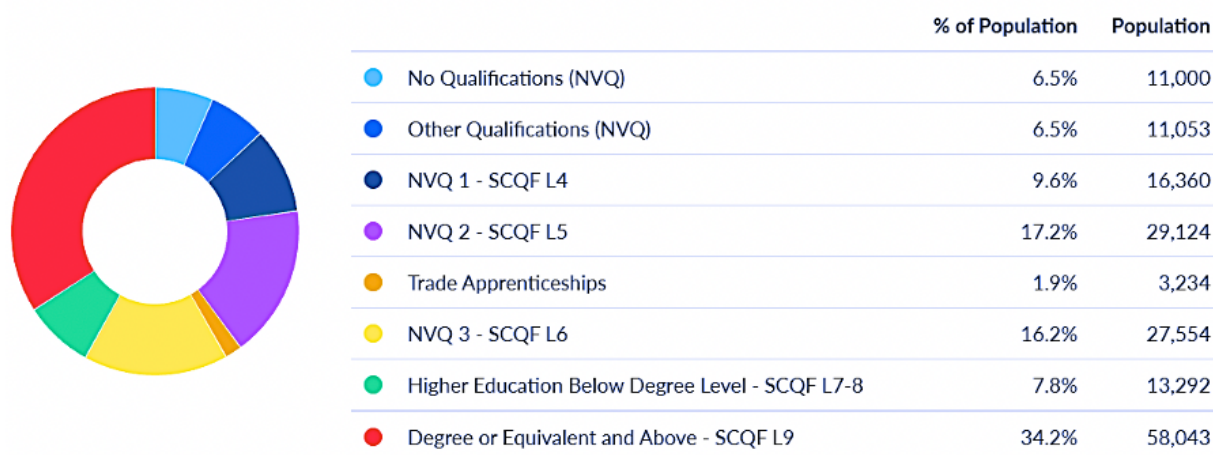
272,467	173,681	£32.4k
Population (2021)	Total Regional Employment	Avg. Wages Per Job (2021)
Population grew by 6,227 over the last 5 years and is projected to **grow by 3,877** over the next 5 years.	Jobs decreased by 8,442 over the last 5 years and are projected to **decrease by 953** over the next 5 years.	Regional average wages per job are **£1.9k above** the national average wages of £30.4k per job.

Age Cohort	2021 Population	2021 Percent	
Under 16 years	62,372	22.9%	
16 to 34 years	58,282	21.4%	
35 to 54 years	80,768	29.6%	
55 to 74 years	54,022	19.8%	
75 years and over	17,023	6.2%	

Population Characteristics

50,927	82,650	57,037
Millennials	Retiring Soon	Racial Diversity
Milton Keynes has 50,927 millennials (ages 25-39). The national average for an area this size is 51,227.	Retirement risk is low in Milton Keynes. The national average for an area this size is 94,806 people 55 or older, while there are 82,650 here.	Racial diversity is high in Milton Keynes. The national average for an area this size is 38,519 racially diverse people, while there are 57,037 here.

As of 2021 the region's population increased by 2.3% since 2016. **Population is expected to increase by 1.4% between 2021 and 2026,** adding 3,877.

Concerning educational attainment, 34.2% of Milton Keynes residents possess a Degree or Equivalent and Above - SCQF L9 (0.7% above the national average), and 7.8% hold a Higher Education Below Degree Level - SCQF L7-8 (0.2% below the national average).

	% of Population	Population
No Qualifications (NVQ)	6.5%	11,000
Other Qualifications (NVQ)	6.5%	11,053
NVQ 1 - SCQF L4	9.6%	16,360
NVQ 2 - SCQF L5	17.2%	29,124
Trade Apprenticeships	1.9%	3,234
NVQ 3 - SCQF L6	16.2%	27,554
Higher Education Below Degree Level - SCQF L7-8	7.8%	13,292
Degree or Equivalent and Above - SCQF L9	34.2%	58,043

Sector Summary

Financial and professional services account **for 2.3m jobs across the UK.** In 2020, the financial services sector contributed £164.8 billion to the UK economy, **8.6% of total economic output**. The sector was largest in London, where half of the sector's output was generated**.**

This accounts for approximately **1 in 14 people in employment**, with two thirds of this employment based outside of London, according to *The City.*

Milton Keynes: Industry Profile

Due to the cities convenient location just **32 minutes** from London, **Milton Keynes' highly developed industry cluster** includes **400 head office and financial services companies** employs a **specialist professional, business and financial workforce of more than 22,000 people.**

Located in a **strong growth region**, the National Infrastructure Commission describes the **Cambridge – Milton Keynes -Oxford arc** of cities as the UK's Silicon Valley, the sector has a

health supply chain and is an epicentre of **Accounting, Bookkeeping and Auditing Activities; Tax Consultancy, Legal Activities; Computer Consultancy Activities.**

Industry Requirements

Purchases from	In-region Purchases	Imported Purchases	Total Purchases
Business and Other Management Consultancy Activities	£21,347,980	£17,318,363	£38,666,342
Other Business Support Service Activities n.e.c.	£23,243,520	£14,834,699	£38,078,219
Accounting, Bookkeeping and Auditing Activities; Tax Consultancy	£32,626,907	£1,212,996	£33,839,903
Legal Activities	£18,838,200	£8,987,706	£27,825,907
Activities of Head Offices	£27,247,751	£91,475	£27,339,226

The city's fast **growing population**, l**ow business rental costs supports further business expansion**, and current data on the sector **potentially underestimates the local impact**, due to the **fluid project ecology of the services offered**, where **skilled individuals can now work and live anywhere and provide services locally, nationally and internationally** due to technology (*The Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy*.)

It is a **high GVA adding sector**, making it an important sector to support the post pandemic economic recovery in Milton Keynes. According to the latest reports Milton Keynes is **set to be home to one of the UK's fastest growing economies by the end of 2022.**

The study, produced by the Centre for Economics & Business Research (Cebr), analyses 50 of the largest local economies by employment and Gross value added (GVA) growth. The latest figures suggests that **Milton Keynes is predicted to see its economy become the fourth fastest growing over the next 12 months, increasing year-on-year by 3.3% and adding £500m to the size of its economy.**

Gross Value Added (GVA)

£410.8m	£323.2m	£7.0m	£741.0m
Earnings (2019)	Capital Income (2019)	Taxes on Production less Subsidies (2019)	Total GVA (2019)

There are a **significant number of people currently employed in Business and Other Management Consultancy Activities** in Milton Keynes, **18% above the national average.**

Demand is projected to outperform UK demand over the next 2 years, **by 3% opposed to a UK average of 0.1%+ .**

3,064	+3.0%	£41,153
Jobs (2021)	% Change (2022-2024)	Avg. Wages Per Job (2021)
18% above National average	Nation: +0.1%	Nation: £43,844

Occupations employed by this Industry include M**anagement Consultants and Business Analysts** which make up **the majority of total jobs in the Industry at 11.9%, followed by Sales Accounts and Business Development Managers 6.0% , Managers and Proprietors in Other Services at 5.9%, Marketing and Sales Directors at 5.7**% and then Financial Managers and Directors at 5.2%.

The types of Management Consultants and Business Analyst currently most in demand by recruiting employers include **Business Analysts; Business Intelligence Developers; Business Intelligence Consultants; Business Change Managers.**

The demand for these roles, as well as **Reporting Analysts; Business Intelligence Analysts; Lead Business Analysts; First Line Managers; Data Migration Analysts and Oracle Financials ERP Functional Leads, aligns with the number of organisations undertaking digital, data, cultural and business change transformation projects following the pandemic.**

A mix of **programme and project management and IT skills** are valuable commodities in the 'new' workplace.
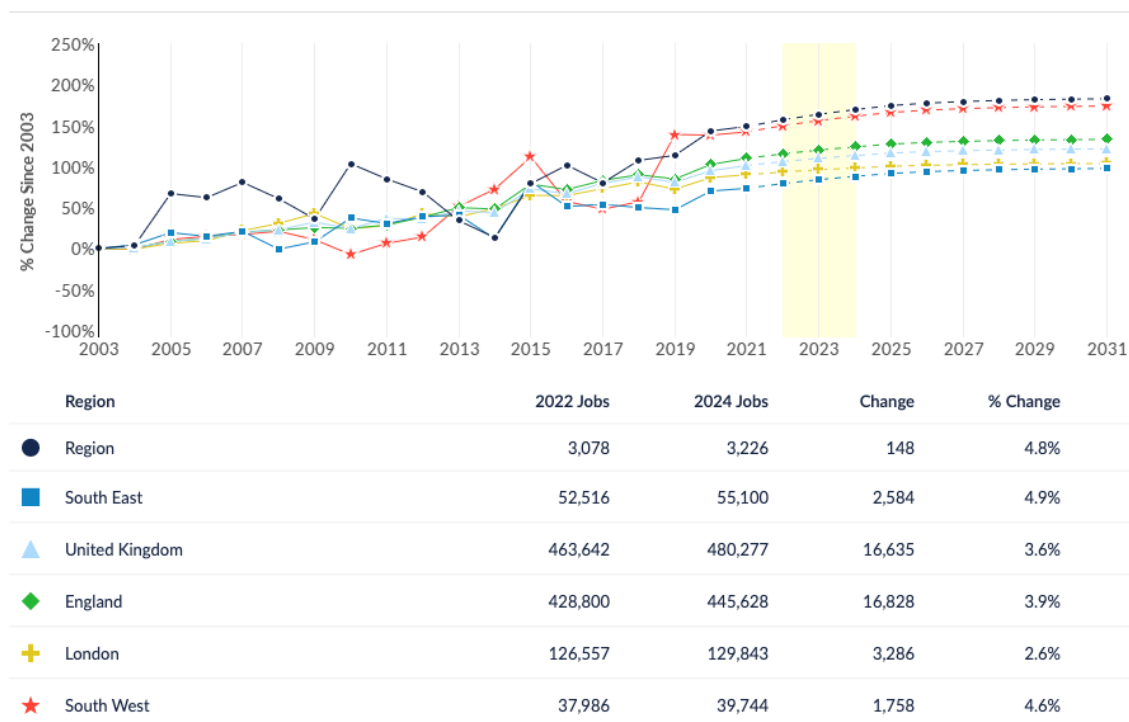
Accounting, Bookkeeping and Auditing Activities and Tax Consultancy is another important area of the Professional and Business Services sector in Milton Keynes.

2,981	+4.8%	£34,067
Jobs (2021)	% Change (2022-2024)	Avg. Wages Per Job (2021)
17% above National average	Nation: +3.6%	Nation: £41,204

Occupations Employed by this Industry include **Book-keepers, Payroll Managers and Wages Clerks at 36.3% of the total Jobs in Industry, followed by Chartered and Certified Accountants 18.4%**; there is then a large gap to the next largest occupational group, with **Financial Accounts Managers 6.0%,** Personal Assistants and Other Secretaries follow at 4.4%, then other Administrative Occupations at 3.9%.

It is clear across all occupation groups within the broader sector that the Milton Keynes area has a significant percentage **more people employed in this sector than the rest of the South East and London.**

Regional Trends

Region	2022 Jobs	2024 Jobs	Change	% Change
● Region	3,078	3,226	148	4.8%
■ South East	52,516	55,100	2,584	4.9%
▲ United Kingdom	463,642	480,277	16,635	3.6%
◆ England	428,800	445,628	16,828	3.9%
✚ London	126,557	129,843	3,286	2.6%
★ South West	37,986	39,744	1,758	4.6%

In-demand occupations

During the 6 months from January 2022 to June 2022 the most in-demand roles by employers recruiting within Milton Keynes was dominated by sharp demand for **customer service, sales, administrative and HR roles**.

Top Posted Occupations

Occupation (SOC)	Total/Unique (Jan 2022 - Jun 2022)	Posting Intensity	Unique Postings Trend (Jan 2022 - Jun 2022)
Programmers and Software Development Professionals	3,609 / 1,561	2 : 1	
Customer Service Occupations n.e.c.	3,664 / 1,367	3 : 1	
Sales Related Occupations n.e.c.	2,466 / 1,292	2 : 1	
Other Administrative Occupations n.e.c.	2,443 / 1,139	2 : 1	
Human Resources and Industrial Relations Officers	1,725 / 844	2 : 1	
Marketing and Sales Directors	1,183 / 684	2 : 1	
Management Consultants and Business Analysts	1,376 / 672	2 : 1	
Book-keepers, Payroll Managers and Wages Clerks	1,112 / 657	2 : 1	
Managers and Proprietors in Other Services n.e.c.	1,283 / 639	2 : 1	
Marketing Associate Professionals	1,067 / 595	2 : 1	

The key thing to note here is that when employers are looking for employees they often post or advertise multiple times across different sites, which creates the duplication. Emsi uses a deduplication process to determine how many of these postings are unique vs. how many are duplicates for the same position, and both numbers are reported here.

Based on the number of unique and total postings, we can also see the Posting Intensity. For example, in Milton Keynes, the ratio for Customer Service Occupations is 3:1, meaning that for every 3 postings, 1 is unique. This indicates that for every one open position they advertise for it in three places. This suggests employers are putting in more effort to recruit for this post than others.

The most in demand jobs within the above occupational categories employers were actively recruiting for during this period were as follows:

Top Posted Job Titles

Job Title	Total/Unique (Jan 2022 - Jun 2022)	Posting Intensity	Unique Postings Trend (Jan 2022 - Jun 2022)
Customer Service Advisors	629 / 254	2 : 1	
Project Managers	315 / 175	2 : 1	
Recruitment Consultants	328 / 167	2 : 1	
Account Assistants	266 / 154	2 : 1	
Business Analysts	232 / 127	2 : 1	
Credit Controllers	232 / 120	2 : 1	
Marketing Executives	219 / 119	2 : 1	
Receptionists	250 / 114	2 : 1	
Business Development Managers	176 / 112	2 : 1	
Administrators	227 / 110	2 : 1	

Wage trends

The Median Advertised Salary for Business Sales and Business and Related Associate Professionals in Milton Keynes has **increased by 11.4% over the last 12m to 2022, currently at £29.5k**.

Similarly, the Median Advertised Salary for Management Consultants and Business Analysts in Milton Keynes, £44.9k, **is £3.3k above the government recorded median salary for this role.**

In-demand skills

Employers have been actively seeking employees with the **following top specialised skills**, in order of frequency of appearance within job advertisements and descriptions:

Marketing (2,647 appearances) Finance (2,462) Accounting (1,653)
Key Performance Indicators (1,479) Invoicing (1,452) Agile Methodology (1,410)
Auditing (1,344) Procurement (1,160) Customer Relationship Management (1,157)

There is significantly **less demand for Data Analysis(689) SAP Applications (687) Selling Techniques (672) Project Management (622)** Stakeholder Management (612) Business To Business (594) Microsoft Azure (558) and C# Programming Language (546).

This suggest that there is a **current demand for Finance, Accounts Payable, Purchasing and/or Procurement and Marketing roles.**

The most popular, in-demand soft skills employers are actively seeking, in order of frequency of appearance within job advertisements and descriptions include: **Communications (7,777 appearances) Management (5,647) Customer Service (5,365) Sales (4,667) Detail Oriented (3,256) Planning (2,175) Problem Solving (2,102) Leadership (1,807) and Operations (1,800).**

A future facing Sector

Currently, Further Education (FE) providers are allocated funds from different sources depending on the type of courses they provide and on the age of their students. There is also capital funding available for upgrading the college estate, as well as European funding for skills to support economic growth across locally defined geographies.

EU investment will transition across domestic funding over the next couple of years, spearheaded under the UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF).

To assess the current performance of different areas of college provision, and develop new, fit for purpose skills solutions and it is important to understand the key sources of funding. Any regulatory requirements, as well as the opportunities and limitations of each programme and overall policy drivers should be factored into any subsequent skills discussion and design.

Primary sources of current FE funding are summarised overleaf.

Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA)

16-19

Funding to provide study programmes for young people. The ESFA pays colleges based on the numbers of students they are expected to enrol each academic year using funding rates adjusted by a weighted average calculation based on characteristics.

19+ Adult Education Budget (AEB)

The AEB provides most of the public funding for non-apprenticeship, 19+ further education in England. AEB monies is used specifically to fund training opportunities to support the most disadvantaged learners.

Funds can be used for anyone aged 19-23 to get a L2/ 3 qualification if they don't already have one. AEB can be used to fund low-waged learners 24+ to get their first L2/3 qualification. The AEB can be used to fund anyone unemployed for any course or qualification up to L2.

English and Maths

AEB can be used to fully fund level 2 English and maths for anyone over the age of 19.

Lifelong Loan Entitlement (LLE)

From 2025, the Lifelong Loan Entitlement is intended to provide individuals with a loan entitlement to the equivalent of four years' worth of post-18 education to use over their lifetime. The flagship element of the Skills and Post16 Education Act 2022, It is intended to be used flexibly, for full or part-time study of modules or full qualifications at L4 to L6.

Apprenticeships

Employers can receive incentive payments to help fund apprenticeships The amount received depends on whether employers pay the apprenticeship levy .If you pay the levy you will receive funds to spend on training and assessing your apprentices. The government will add 10%.

If employers do not need to pay the levy they pay 5% and the government will pay the rest (95%) up to the funding band maximum.

Department for Education (DfE)

National Skills Fund
Free L3 qualifications for adults and Skills Bootcamps. There are over 400 qualifications available in areas such as engineering, social care, and accounting. The offer is also available to adults who earn less than the National Living Wage annually or the unemployed. All 19 - 23 year olds can access courses for free through their legal entitlement to a first full L3 qualification.

Capital funding
The 2021 Skills for jobs White Paper included a proposal to "continue to invest in the college estate, to transform facilities and enable high-quality provision." The £1.5bn capital commitment made in the Budget 2020 for capital spending across all further education sites in England for the next 5 years is primarily being delivered through the **Further Education Capital Transformation Fund**.

Additional sources

EU structural funding (ESIF)
ESIF includes money from the **European Social Fund (ESF**), **European Regional Development Fund (ERDF)** and **European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD).**

The ESIF Growth Programme provides investment to projects that improve local innovation and growth, create jobs and promotes social inclusion. Projects funded by the ESIF Growth Programme are currently running, in some cases with an extension to the end of 2023. Local Enterprise Partnerships and Combined Authorities are responsible for developing local ESIF strategies.

The UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) is intended to replace EU structural funding. The Fund will focus on three priorities: communities and place, local businesses, and people and skills.

Current curriculum overview

Combining ILR, schools data and LMI, RCU Vector provides an insight into local learner markets. Allowing parties to identify and meet the future needs of local communities by shaping appropriate responses and curriculum updates.

The following pages, using Vector data, provide a comprehensive picture of the current Milton Keynes College Group (MKCG) curriculum delivered, alongside local skills demand.

Summary

In 2020/21 there were a total **of 410 Business, Administration, and Law (BAL) 16-19 learners, of which 200 were enrolled at Milton Keynes College Group (MKCG).** The total market has grown by 30 learners since 2018/19, during which time MKCG gained 40 learners. **MKCG controlled 47% of the 2020/21 16-19 market;** the remaining learners study mainly at **School Sixth Forms (45%), or at Other GFE Colleges (7%).** This may consist of **hybrid vocational A level pathways offered at School Sixth Forms**. A nominal number study at Private Training Providers.

In 2020/21 there were a total of 690 BAL Adult learners, of which 270 were enrolled at Milton Keynes College Group (MKCG). **The total market has grown by 80 learners since the 2018/19 academic year, during which time MKCG saw no change in learner numbers**. Most learners are studying at **Level 2 (70%),** with roughly the same proportions studying at Level 1 and below (15%) and Level 3+ (14%).

In 2020/21 there were a total of 6,150 Business and Administration apprentices, of which 80 were enrolled at Milton Keynes College Group (MKCG). **The total market has grown by 4,620 learners since the 2018/19 academic year, during which time MKCG saw an increase of 20 learners.** Most apprentices study at **Advanced Level (50%) or Higher Level (46%),** with only 4% on Intermediate apprenticeships.

In 2020/21, there were 2,300 learners within the HE market, of which 30 were studying at MKCG. **This is a market decrease of 530 learners and no change at MKCG, since 2018/19.**

A note on differences across funding streams and data:

- There are slight differences in the definition of a Technical Route (which is used for apprenticeships) and Subject Sector Area. These are both based on information contained in the submitted ILR. This is sometimes just a name change, and sometimes multiple SSAs being mapped to a single Technical Route. For example, A full table of this mapping is available in the *Supporting Documents* menu on Vector RCU.
- Geographies are defined by Vector as the resident location of learners, rather than where the learning is taking place. Across funding streams, different aggregate geographies are available, from the Local Authority to the LEP level. For some cases, it is more appropriate to survey a larger geography (such as apprenticeships). This is especially important to note for HE, where many learners leave their residence area to study at a HEI.
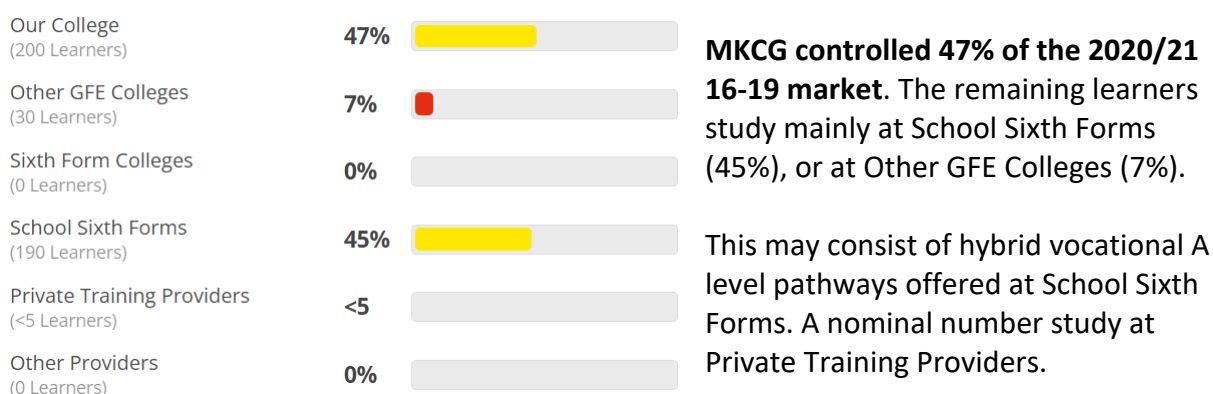
- Suppression Rounding is carried out by Vector RCU to ensure anonymity of the data where raw figures are presented. This may cause slight discrepancies between data sets of different granularities and when comparing market share percentages to learner numbers.

16-19

For this section, the Subject Sector Area (SSA) analysed **is Business, Administration, and Law (BAL),** and the selected geography is *Main Area (MK).*
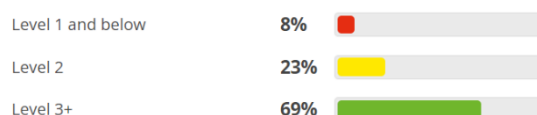
In 2020/21 there were a total of 410 BAL 16-19 learners, of which 200 were enrolled at Milton Keynes College Group (MKCG). The total market has grown by 30 learners since 2018/19, during which time MKCG gained 40 learners.
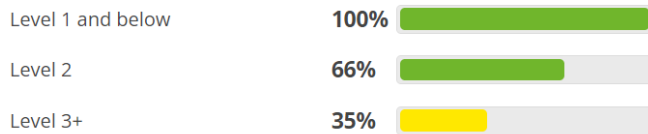
Market Share

Our College (200 Learners)	47%	
Other GFE Colleges (30 Learners)	7%	
Sixth Form Colleges (0 Learners)	0%	
School Sixth Forms (190 Learners)	45%	
Private Training Providers (<5 Learners)	<5	
Other Providers (0 Learners)	0%	

MKCG controlled 47% of the 2020/21 16-19 market. The remaining learners study mainly at School Sixth Forms (45%), or at Other GFE Colleges (7%).

This may consist of hybrid vocational A level pathways offered at School Sixth Forms. A nominal number study at Private Training Providers.

The majority of local 16-19 learners are enrolled on level 3+ courses (69%), potentially at School Sixth Forms.

Level Profile - All Learners

Level 1 and below	8%	
Level 2	23%	
Level 3+	69%	

Market Share by Level

Level	Share	
Level 1 and below	100%	████████████
Level 2	66%	████████
Level 3+	35%	███

MKCG has a very strong market share across Level 1 and 2, with 100% of the Level 1 and below learners and 66% of the Level 2 learners. Level 3 learner share is lower, but still notable at 35%.

There are a number of providers operating in the 16-19 market. The data provided by Vector excludes School Sixth Forms. **MKCG is the largest provider with 200 learners.** Other GFE Colleges and Private Training Providers report no more than 10 learners each.

MKCG has been gaining learner numbers, particularly from 2019/20 to 2020/21. School Sixth Form figures have dropped overall but remain quite stable. MKCG has seen a large rise in Level 1 learners, a dip in Level 2 learners, and stability amongst Level 3+ learners.
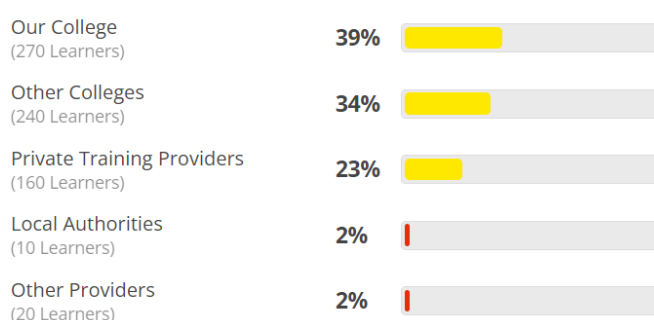
Provider Types

Filters: Business, Administration and Law, All Levels, Main Area (MK)
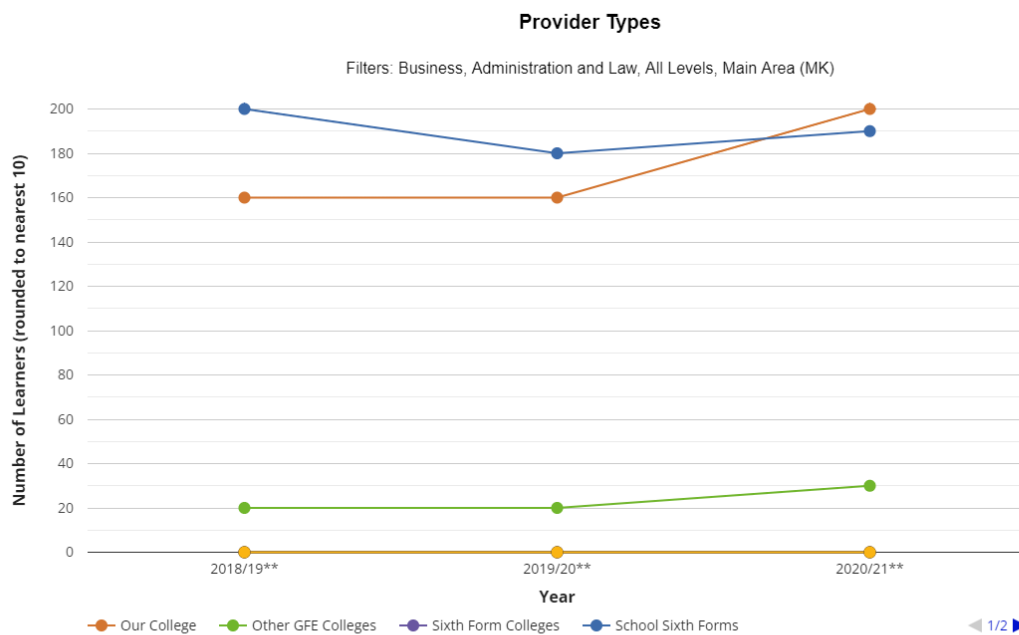
Data Sources: ILR data (2018/19 - 2020/21) and schools data (PLAMS/Autumn Learning Aims and Pupil Census 2018/19 - 2020/21)

Adults

For this section, the Subject Sector Area (SSA) analysed is **Business, Administration, and Law (BAL)** and the selected geography is *Main Area (MK).*

In 2020/21 there were a total of **690 BAL Adult learners, of which 270 were enrolled at Milton Keynes College Group (MKCG).** The total market has grown by 80 learners since the 2018/19 academic year, during which time MKCG saw no change in learner numbers.
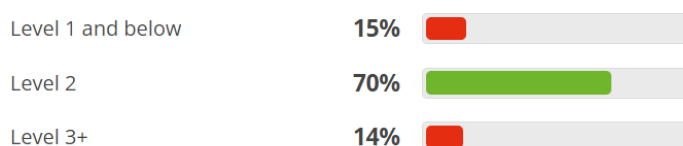
Market Share

|		
Our College (270 Learners)	**39%**	
Other Colleges (240 Learners)	**34%**	
Private Training Providers (160 Learners)	**23%**	
Local Authorities (10 Learners)	**2%**	
Other Providers (20 Learners)	**2%**	

The providers operating within the market are quite varied. **MKCG leads the market with 39% market share, followed by Other Colleges (34%)** and Private Training Providers (23%). LA and Other Providers account for a very small portion of the market.

Most learners are studying at Level 2 (70%), with roughly the same proportions studying at Level 1 and below (15%) and Level 3+ (14%).

Level Profile - All Learners

Level 1 and below	**15%**	
Level 2	**70%**	
Level 3+	**14%**	

Market Share by Level

|		
Level 1 and below	**16%**	
Level 2	**39%**	
Level 3+	**64%**	
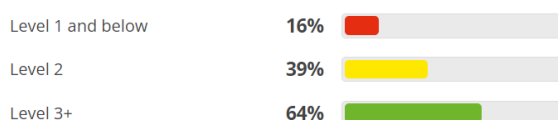
MKCG have a strong market share at Level 3+ (64%), but reports fewer learners at lower levels. This is interesting when considering most learners are studying at Level 2 regionally. There is room for growth here by analysing competitor curricula.

There are many providers within this market. Amongst these are several GFE colleges and private training providers across a fairly wide geographic reach. Milton Keynes College is the largest individual provider.

Provider	2020/21 Learners
Milton Keynes College	270
CT Skills Ltd	40
West Herts College	40
Peopleplus Group Ltd	30
Buckinghamshire College Group	30
Dudley College of Technology	30
Moulton College	20
North East Surrey College of Technology (NESCOT)	20
Capital City College Group	10
Babington Business College Ltd	10

Level 2 learner numbers have seen the greatest growth over the past 3 academic years, with other levels remaining fairly stable. Most of this growth has come from Other FE Colleges and, notably, Private Training Providers.
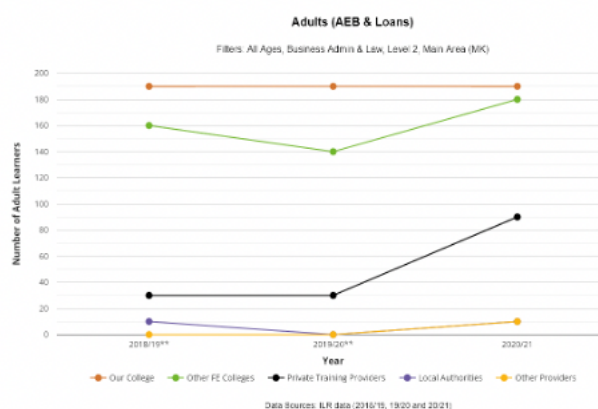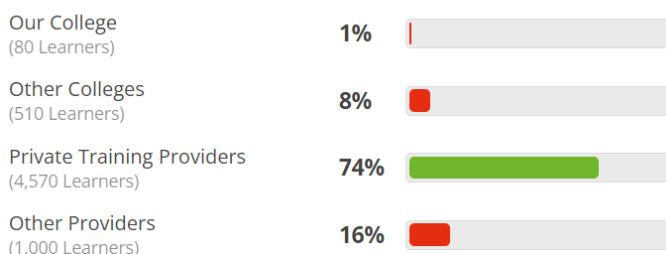

Apprenticeships

For this section, the Technical Route analysed is **Business and Administration (BA)** and the analysed geography is *South East Midlands LEP, for All Ages.*

In 2020/21 there were a total of 6,150 Business and Administration apprentices, of which 80 were enrolled at Milton Keynes College Group (MKCG). **The total market has grown by**

4,620 learners since the 2018/19 academic year, during which time MKCG saw an increase of 20 learners.

Market Share

|		
Our College (80 Learners)	1%	
Other Colleges (510 Learners)	8%	
Private Training Providers (4,570 Learners)	74%	
Other Providers (1,000 Learners)	16%	

Regionally, **Private Training Providers dominate with 74% of the market.** Despite this, there are a number of provider types present, with Other Providers following PTVs most closely (16%).

Most apprentices study at Advanced Level (50%) or Higher Level (46%), with only **4% on Intermediate apprenticeships.**

Level Profile - All Apprenticeships

Intermediate	4%
Advanced	50%
Higher	46%

Market Share by Level

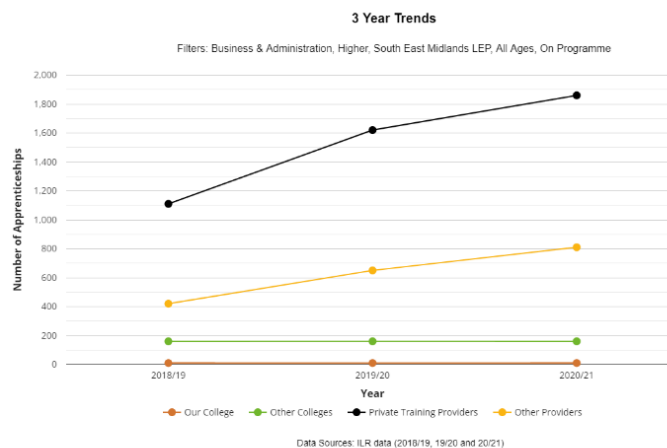|	
Intermediate	0%
Advanced	2%
Higher	0%
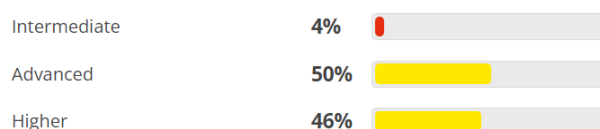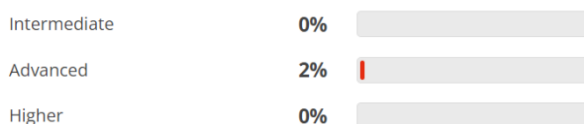
MKCG's market share is very low across all levels, **indicating very little market penetration.**

Many different providers operate within this market, dominated by a number of Private Training Providers.

Provider	2020/21 Learners
Corndel Ltd	350
Babington Business College Ltd	180
Capita Plc	170
Hawk Management (UK) Ltd	150

The Open University	140
Lifetime Training Group Ltd	140
Bedford College	130
BC Arch Ltd	130
NIE Professional Learning Ltd	120
Starting Off (Northampton) Ltd	120

Market growth has come from Private Training Providers and Other Providers. **Intermediate apprenticeships have seen a sharp decline across provider types**, with the vast majority of the growth coming from Higher apprenticeships.


3 Year Trends

Filters: Business & Administration, Higher, South East Midlands LEP, All Ages, On Programme

Data Sources: ILR data (2018/19, 19/20 and 20/21)

Higher Education

For this section, the SSA selected is **Business, Administration, and Law (BAL)** and the geography selected is ***Milton Keynes***. Data is for ***All Ages*** and ***All Level 4+*** unless otherwise specified.

In 2020/21, there were 2,300 learners within the HE market, of which 30 were studying at MKCG. This is a market decrease of 530 learners and no change at MKCG, since 2018/19.

Most regional ICT learners are 21+ (1540), as are all 30 MKCG learners.

Within Milton Keynes learners, **Higher Education Institutions dominate the 2020/21 BAL** market. This pattern is seen across the previous three academic years.

Number of HE Learners
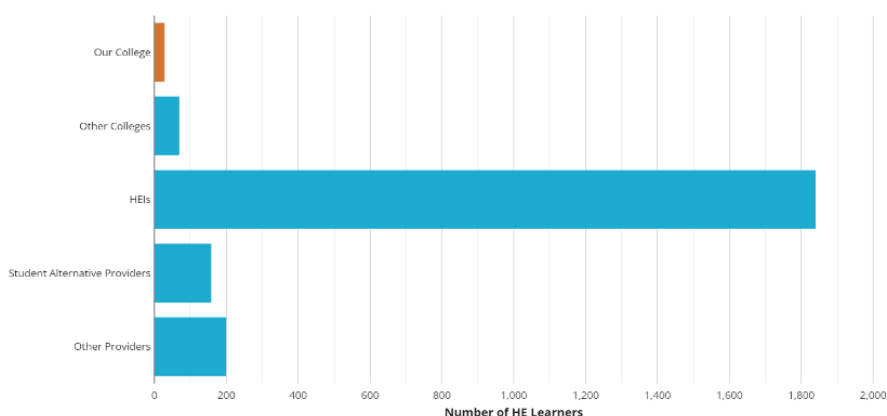
The impact of the COVID-1- pandemic continues to impact the learning and skills system, which is no doubt reflected in the data. Particularly in sectors where apprenticeships and other skills may not lend themselves well to online delivery, or industries and employers who have had to focus on business survival, sustainability, or invest in new technologies to support ways of working which has had a knock-on-effect on staff development budgets or time available to train and upskill staff.

Even before the current crisis, changing technologies and new ways of working were disrupting jobs and the skills employees need to do them, and ambitions to improve resilience, tackle digital and social isolation, as well as overcoming barriers to overcome mental and physical health issues for staff and learners have been core priorities for FE Colleges over the last 2 years.

Using the information contained within this report alongside associated LMI and stakeholder intelligence there are opportunities to reskill and upskill the workforce to deliver new business models in the post-pandemic era.

Building

Fairer Futures.