

NEWS RELEASE



17 January 2022

JOBS' BOOST TO KICKSTART YOUNG PEOPLE'S NEW YEAR

Unemployed young people are being given a jobs' boost thanks to Folkestone & Hythe District Council, with the creation of nine new roles.

The government-funded Kickstart Scheme gives those aged from 16 to 24 and who are on Universal Credit, the chance to apply for high-quality jobs which will build their confidence and skills in the workplace. This improves their chances of going on to find long-term, sustainable work either with the council, or another employer.

The nine jobs at F&HDC are administrative assistant (five positions in different departments), trainee gardener (three positions), and assistant caretaker. All are paid and 25 hours a week for a six-month fixed term.

Recognised by Best Companies as an outstanding organisation to work for, the council has a focus on staff engagement, health and wellbeing and development, and offers a benefits package that includes corporate membership and reward schemes, an Employee Assistance Programme and access to the Local Government Pension Scheme.

The council already runs schemes for trainees and apprenticeships, which sees new employees develop their skills and build lifelong careers.

Council Leader Cllr David Monk said: "The fantastic opportunities that this scheme provides will give young people that are currently at high risk of unemployment a better chance of a long-term career."

“Working closely with council staff in the various departments, applicants will be supported throughout their placement with training, coaching and mentoring, and will gain the confidence and skills to independently move forward.”

F&HDC will be holding a recruitment event at the Job Centre in Palting Way, Folkestone, on Tuesday 25 January, from 1pm to 4pm. Kickstart-eligible customers will get the chance to learn more about the vacancies and to talk with managers (anyone who is unsure if they are eligible is asked to check with their work coach).

Details of the Kickstart Scheme and the roles on offer with F&HDC can be found here: <https://bit.ly/3zv3Jw4>

ENDS

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