



Issue No 89 June 2022

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NATIONAL AND REGIONAL NEWS

[Zoom and Indeed reveal the UK's top 25 hiring hotspots for remote workers](#)

The growing demand for flexible working opportunities, such as remote and hybrid working is currently one of the most prominent trends. Employers are responding to preferences



and expectations by offering more remote and hybrid roles to attract and retain their workforce.

Recent data from Indeed in collaboration with Zoom provides some evidence of the locations with the highest growth in remote and hybrid job opportunities since the early days of the pandemic. According to the findings, job adverts for remote roles have more than tripled and grown at a faster pace than the local jobs market overall.

The top 5 locations in England with the highest growth in job postings offering remote working between February 2020 and March 2022 are:

- Worthing (650% growth)
- Burnley (391%)
- Stoke (323%)
- Southend (320%)
- Plymouth (308%)

We have to be careful of percentages as they can be misleading i.e. from 1 to 2 is an increase of 100%. However the point is that in a buyers' market employers/recruiters are having to be more responsive to the job seekers requirements and we are experiencing more customers asking for remote or hybrid or flexible working opportunities.

You can see the full list from the report here: <https://hrnews.co.uk/zoom-and-indeed-reveal-the-uks-top-25-hiring-hotspots-for-remote-workers/>

[Is hybrid working here to stay?](#)

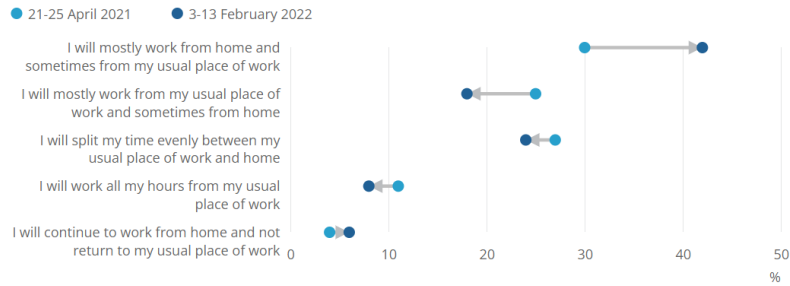
Hybrid and remote working trends have also been explored by ONS, through the Opinions and Lifestyle Survey (OPN) which reveals which ways of working employees are planning to embrace following the lifting of the restrictions.

According to the findings, overall, most people (8 in 10) who took up homeworking during the pandemic plan to both work from home and in the workplace in the future.

More specifically, the most common hybrid working pattern which employees planned to use in February 2022, was working mostly from home, and sometimes from their usual place of work, with more people reporting that compared to the previous year. At the same time, fewer people planned to split their time between home and the office, or work mainly from the office, compared to April 2021.



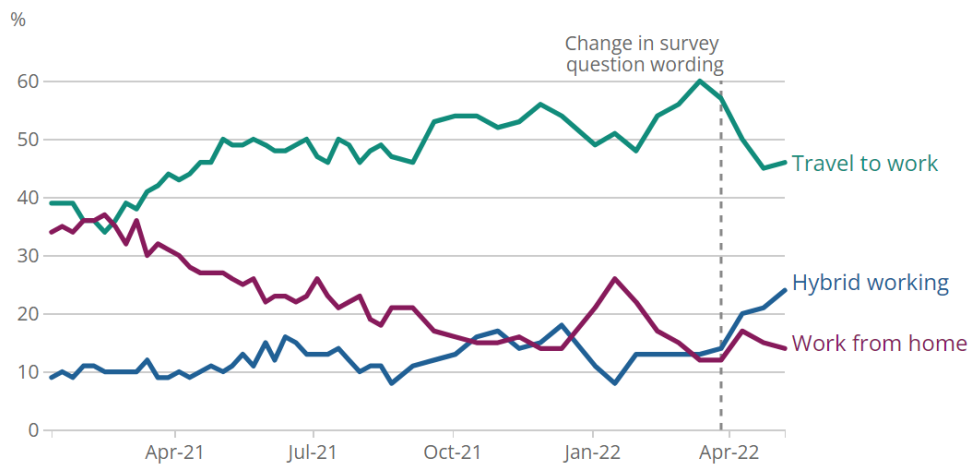
Future plans of workers who worked from home because of the coronavirus pandemic, Great Britain, 21 to 25 April 2021 and 3 to 13 February 2022



Source: Office for National Statistics – Opinions and Lifestyle Survey

During 2022, the proportion of people hybrid working has been rising, while the proportion of those working fully remotely has dropped. Nonetheless, travelling to work exclusively currently represents the most common working pattern, with 46% of workers doing this.

Percentage of working adults travelling to work, Great Britain, January 2021 to May 2022



Source: Office for National Statistics – Opinions and Lifestyle Survey

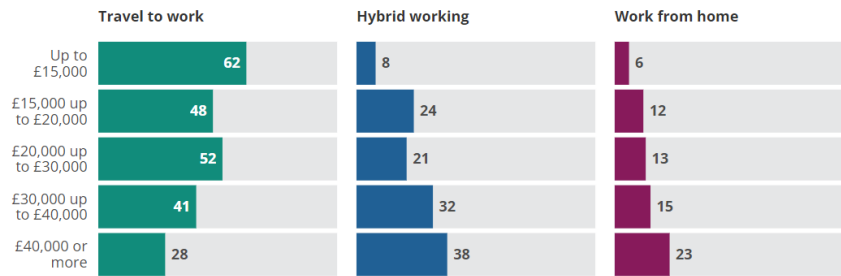
The data identified a correlation between hybrid/remote working and employees' income, revealing that high earners are more likely to hybrid work, or work from home.

In contrast, those who work in lower paid jobs (earning up to £40,000 annually) tend to exclusively travel to work, with this working pattern being the most common among the lowest paid individuals.



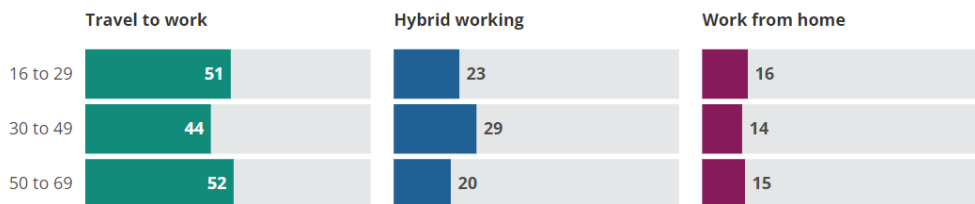
Hybrid work was more common among higher earners

Percentage of working adults, by income, Great Britain, 27 April to 8 May 2022



Another factor that determines the working patterns is age with workers aged 30 to 49 representing the group which is most likely to hybrid work, followed by those aged 16-29.

Percentage of working adults, by age, Great Britain, 27 April to 8 May 2022



In terms of working exclusively from home, the differences among the age groups are minimal, with the younger people (aged 16 to 29 representing the highest numbers). On the other hand, travelling to work was most common for older workers (aged 50 to 69), followed closely by the youngest employees.

The survey also explores how the different sectors approach hybrid and remote work, revealing that businesses operating in information and communication are most likely to permanently adopt homeworking, with over half of them (53%) planning to do so. This is followed by companies operating in professional, scientific and technical activities (43%), education (37%) and real estate firms (32%).

The top three reasons that employers mentioned behind their decisions to embrace homeworking as a permanent business model were:

- Improved staff well-being (60%)
- reduced overheads (43%)
- increased productivity (41%)



Travelodge is looking to fill 700 positions in readiness for the summer season

The UK's second largest hotel chain is recruiting for 700 permanent roles across the UK. The positions include:

- Hotel Manager
- Assistant Hotel Manager
- Bar Café Team Member
- Reception Team Member
- Housekeeping Supervisor
- Housekeeping Team Member

As part of the recruitment drive, Travelodge is also looking to fill 20 full-time maintenance engineers, as well as 40 roles at its head office in Thame in the below areas:

- Customer Services
- Finance
- HR
- IT
- Marketing
- Property
- Revenue
- Sales
- UK Operations

Additionally, 60 of the new roles will be based at the three new Travelodge hotels in London which are scheduled to open this summer.

The Skills Imperative 2035: The essential skills most needed for work

The National Foundation for Educational Research has published a report which explores the employment skills in highest demand, as well as the key current and emerging socioeconomic trends that shape the UK's labour market.

According to the research, the top five skills most needed for work are:

- Problem solving/decision making
- Critical thinking/analysis
- Communication



- Collaboration/cooperation
- Creativity/innovation

The research also identified health, social and personal care as the key growing sectors that will drive future job growth. On the other hand, jobs in administration, manufacturing/production and retail (such as cashier roles) were found to be declining.

Other areas of job growth were:

- data and artificial intelligence (AI)
- engineering and cloud computing
- people and culture
- product development
- sales, marketing and content
- care
- green economy

Overall, the main current trends which are transforming the world of employment, giving rise to the new skills needs are the increasing digitalisation – including the shift to hybrid and remote working - the ageing population, which is growing the demand for roles in care, as well as the environmental changes which speed up the shift to a green economy.

You can read the full report here: [The Skills Imperative 2035: What does the literature tell us about essential skills most needed for work? - Learning and Work Institute](#)

[The best companies to work for in the UK named for 2022](#)

An employee survey carried out by workplace culture organisation Great Place to Work UK reveals the small, medium, large and super large businesses in the UK which are perceived to be the best places to work, based on employee feedback.

Among the top 20 large businesses (those employing over 1,000 people) are some well-known companies included were Hilton hotels, Home Group, DHL and more.

You can see the full list for each type of business here: <https://tinyurl.com/yvejph4u>
The results reflect aspects such as equity and transparency, work benefits such as flexibility, as well as having a purpose in work, which are all increasingly valued by employees.



[The happiest jobs with the highest salaries revealed](#)

A Career Welfare Index that was recently published by Phoenix Health & Safety provides interesting insights on the industries with the highest levels of health & safety, mental health, and overall quality of life, based on the responses of 116,000 employees in the UK.

The results shed light on how people across different industries feel about the quality of their work environment, how much they enjoy their job, as well as the average annual earnings by industry and the number of non-fatal injuries.

In terms of career welfare, those who work in **media/marketing, PR & sales** were found to have the highest score over any other industry, with just under a third (27%) of people in those jobs reporting that they love their job.

It is also worth mentioning that people working in these areas also earn an average of £41,552 per year, which is 33% higher than the national average.

Together with the **IT & telecoms** and **legal** sectors who follow closely behind with the same score, they represent the three industries with the best career welfare in the country. Below are

The UK's most loved jobs

- Legal (28%)
- Media, marketing, PR& sales (27%)
- IT & Telecoms (24%)
- Education (23%)

The riskiest jobs in the UK*

- Transportation and distribution (457.5)
- Retail (395.5)
- Manufacturing (322)
- Medical and health services (255)

*These figures are based on the number of non-fatal injuries per 100,000 people in the industry

The jobs with the highest average annual salary

- Legal - £43,508
- Accountancy - £43,508
- Financial insurance services - £43,508



- Media, marketing, PR & sales - £41,552

In terms of those who earn the most and also love their job, office-related jobs came out on top, and below is the full list:

The happiest and highest earners

- Legal
- Financial Insurance Services
- Accountancy
- Media/marketing/advertising/ PR & sales

Nonetheless, although the awareness around well-being at the workplace has increased in the post-covid era, the index serves as a reminder that there is more that can be done to improve the working environment across the different industries. The below table shows the scale of the need to improve wellbeing, health, safety and welfare in each industry:

Industry	% that want a better working environment
Transportation & distribution	32%
Manufacturing	31%
Accountancy	31%
Medical & health services	31%
Estate Agency	28%
Retail	28%
Education	27%
Financial Insurance services	26%
Hospitality and leisure	25%
IT & telecoms	24%
Legal	24%
Construction	20%
Media/ marketing/ advertising/ PR & sales/	15%

You can read the full report here: [The Career Welfare Index | Phoenix Health & Safety \(phoenixhsc.co.uk\)](https://www.phoenixhsc.co.uk/the-career-welfare-index)



[South West's 'financial strength' now greater than London, research finds](#)

The latest data by business advisory firm, Quantuma, put the South West in a better position than the rest of the UK in terms of its potential for economic growth. According to the report, the region owes its growth to its retail and wholesale, construction and leisure sectors, all of which have outperformed London.

[Hilton Hotels searching for 100 bar and restaurant staff](#)

The chain is looking to recruit staff across its 30 hotels for roles ranging from apprentice chefs and junior sous chefs to chef de partie and head chef positions in various locations, including London and Brighton.

[Screwfix to create 800 retail jobs by opening 80 new stores](#)

The job openings are expected to take place by January and will include roles such as sales assistants and management roles for its new stores as well as apprenticeships in various locations across the country.

[Nine retailers with ambitious store opening plans](#)

Below is a list of the retailers with the expansion plans, worth keeping an eye on in the next coming years:

- **Moss Bros** - plans to open 10 new stores over the next year
- **Ted Baker** - plans to open a minimum of 30 new Ted Baker stores over the next decade
- **Lidl** - has set a target of having 1,100 UK stores by the end of 2025 – which would mean the opening of 100 additional stores by then
- **Aldi** - plans to open a further 100 stores by 2023
- **Screwfix** – is set to open 80 new stores by January
- **Crew Clothing** – plans to open 8 to 12 new stores this year with two of them expected to open by mid-April in the South East
- **Amazon Fresh** – plans to open the first UK store outside of London in Sevenoaks, Kent.
- **Cake Box** – plans to open 52 new shops



[One in five retail workers plan to quit the retail industry](#)

Despite the above positive announcements, a survey from The Retail Trust draws attention to the negative experiences of people working in the sector, which make them consider leaving the industry.

According to the survey, a fifth of retail workers and a third of people working for the UK's major retailers are planning to quit the sector, based on the responses of over 1,500 retail staff.

The reasons behind this are related to increasing mental health problems, abuse from the customers and financial concerns. Based on the findings, young retail workers aged between aged 16 and 29, those working in distribution and warehouses, and employees of larger retailers are those who are struggling the most.

In response to this, the Retail Trust will be launching the first retail wellbeing and happiness index, at [Retail Week Live](#) in order to help retailers, look into how they can improve the wellbeing of their workforce.

LONDON

[John Lewis to hire delivery drivers and tech staff following major online growth](#)

John Lewis Partnership – which includes Waitrose stores - is hiring more than 150 tech specialists and delivery driving staff as part of its shift to online retail. The tech vacancies, which will be based at the company's head office in London, include software, cloud platform, and data engineers.

With its online sales now representing 70% of its total sales, it is not surprising that the retailer is looking to fill 70 additional driver roles across the UK to meet the high demand for home deliveries.

However, these developments come after thousands of job cuts across its high street stores. In other words, although delivery drivers and couriers have been reaping the benefits of retail's digitalisation, for many of those working in the high street, the new trend poses a threat to their jobs.



BOURNEMOUTH DORSET AND POOLE

[Bournemouth Airport: Job vacancies you can apply for now](#)

This article sets out some of the jobs currently available with Bournemouth Airport.

[Dorset countryside to lose millions in Common Agricultural Policy payments](#)

According to the Bournemouth Echo, a report warns that tens of millions of pounds are to be taken out of Dorset's countryside economy, with a knock-on effect on jobs. A total of £883million will disappear in payments that farmers and other landowners in the South West relied on under the European Union's Common Agricultural Policy, the study says. In Dorset, £38.3m paid to land managers under the Basic Payment Scheme will reduce to £4.8m in 2027 before the scheme is axed altogether. The figures come in a report prepared for the Great South West, which includes Dorset Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP).

[McDonald's opening in Christchurch is delayed](#)

McDonald's was due to be opening a new store in Christchurch in the summer but the international chain has now given an update that the launch has been pushed back until the winter but more jobs will be created.

[Travelodge has 30 jobs to fill in Dorset for summer](#)

Travelodge is looking to fill positions across Dorset as it gears up for a "busy" summer season in the county. The hotel chain, which has eight sites in Dorset, has a number of positions available including bar café team member, reception team member, housekeeping supervisor and housekeeping team member. The company said it welcomes applications from all candidates "including Ukrainian refugees who need a fresh start and have a right to work in the UK".

DEVON AND CORNWALL

[Future Skills Institute launched at college in Cornwall](#)



A package of training, state of the art facilities and cutting-edge adult courses have been launched as part of a multi-million-pound Future Skills Institute at Truro and Penwith College.

The College's 19+ career-driven learning options will now sit under the Future Skills Institute, with training developed in collaboration with employers and in line with the local skills strategies of the Cornwall and Isles of Scilly LEP, Cornwall Council and Cornwall Chamber of Commerce.

[Free courses on offer to support residents into highly skilled jobs](#)

Cornwall Council and Devon County Council have been awarded £1.8 million funding from the Department for Education's National Skills Fund to run a third year of Skills Bootcamps. The [Train4Tomorrow Skills Bootcamps](#) are flexible courses lasting up to 16 weeks, offering adults the opportunity to retrain into in-demand job roles in emerging and growth sectors, including Green and Construction, healthcare, professional services and creative industries.

The bootcamps are designed alongside employers, to ensure people are developing industry skills that meet current recruitment needs, with learners guaranteed an interview at the end of their training.

The bootcamps will run from July 2022 until March 2023, with learners supported to secure employment after their training has been completed.

[New link road announced for Cornwall to create 6,000 jobs](#)

In a bid to ease congestion and improve journey times for drivers, it is reported that the Department for Transport are to provide £78.5m, and Cornwall Council £6.4m, in funding for a scheme building a new road linking St Austell in Cornwall to the A30. It is expected that 6,300 new jobs are to be created as part of the investment, according to the Government, which said the new road would generate almost £112m in economic benefits through reduced journey times and providing more options to walk and cycle.

[Proper Job work scheme launches to support adults in Cornwall with learning disabilities or autism](#)



A new initiative, The Proper Job scheme, to support adults in Cornwall with learning disabilities or autism into work launched on 7 June 2022 with the opening of a new café at County Hall in Truro.

The scheme now has plans to open similar cafes at the Council's Dolcoath offices in Camborne, while also looking to expand into different sectors. You can also find out more using easy read, please [visit the council's website](#).

HAMPSHIRE AND THE ISLE OF WIGHT

[Work starts on Portsmouth International Port's carbon neutral terminal extension](#)

Knights Brown contractors have started the development of Portsmouth International Port's terminal extension, which will bring thousands of jobs to the region, including 550 in the city.

The new carbon neutral facilities are one of the UK's first Levelling Up projects and are anticipated to boost the local economy by attracting more visitors, as well as further investment.

[Three Choirs Vineyard in Southampton becomes Wickham Estate after buyout](#)

The Southampton site which will be renamed to Wickham Estate is expected to create new jobs as its new owners are planning to expand the venue by building more facilities in the coming months and years.

SOMERSET

[Hinkley Point C welding training centre opens](#)

UK Energy Minister Greg Hands has opened one of three new training centres to support the Hinkley Point C (HPC) project in Somerset. Together with existing facilities and investment into education and skills, the centres will be ready to help local people join the additional 4000 workers needed for the next phase of the plant's construction.



The minister unveiled the new Welding Centre of Excellence at Bridgwater and Taunton College's campus in Bridgwater on 28 April. The project has invested GBP8 million (USD10 million) into the three new training centres, in partnership with the college. The Welding Centre will train and qualify 500 welders a year, helping local people into work and meeting skills shortages in the South West and across Britain.

[Clean energy firm secures planning permission for Somerset solar farm](#)

Renewable energy firm Enviromena has secured planning permission for a solar farm on a 90-acre site in Somerset.

The company said when the project in Horsey near Bridgwater is fully operational it could produce enough energy to power around 9,750 average-sized homes a year and offset approximately 6,500 tonnes of carbon emissions.

[McDonald's plans to open in new Highbridge business park](#)

Somerset County Gazette reported that McDonald's is planning to open a new restaurant at Oak Tree Business Park near Highbridge.

No planned opening date has been announced, but McDonald's says around 120 jobs will be created if the new restaurant goes ahead.

SURREY AND SUSSEX

[Activate Learning provide enhanced education and job opportunities for refugees and asylum seekers](#)

The group has created a range of courses for asylum seekers and refugees who want to improve their English skills in order to live and work in the UK.

The group is working with local authorities and charities to support these individuals by offering a variety of primary need courses, including ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages) and EFL (English as a Foreign Language) courses.

These are offered across the group's sites in Berkshire (Reading, Bracknell and Wokingham), Oxfordshire (Oxford, Banbury and Bicester) and Surrey (Guilford).



For more information, visit: [Learn English - ESOL and EFL - Activate Learning - Adult](#)

Brighton's economic output growth set for huge increase

According to the latest projections by the Centre for Economics and Business Research (CEBR), Brighton is expected to jump from 43rd in terms of economic growth to the 5th place by the end of next year.

The city is one of the fastest growing city regions in the UK and one of the best places to start a new business and owes its economic success in large part to its creative and digital tech hub which is globally recognised.

Nandos set to open new Brighton restaurant

Brighton's London Road might welcome Nandos, Starbucks and Heavenly Deserts to a new building that will replace the former Boots and Co-op supermarket, if their applications are successful. We are anticipating further updates regarding the investment plans, as these would bring an economic boost and new jobs to the area, if fulfilled.

Mamas & Papas coming to Crawley County Oak Retail Park as opening date announced

The nursery retailer opened its new store on Thursday, June 2, which will be within the Next store.

“Game-changing” creative project given green light

A new creative project which has received funding from Coast to Capital economic partnership is expected to boost the creative economy of Coastal West Sussex, by helping to attract new investments and bring skilled jobs to the region.

In addition to a large-scale film studio complex, the Coastal Creative Technologies project will also bring a skills and training programme to help local people develop skills in areas ranging from animation to set building.



The project will be focusing on virtual production, which is increasingly being used for high end film and TV production, as well as e-sports, music production, and other forms of digital media.

LOCAL ENTERPRISE PARTNERSHIPS (LEP) NEWS

[Solent LEP to unveil Solent 2050 strategy for creating thousands of jobs](#)

The Solent Summit which is taking place on Wednesday, June 8, in Southampton, will reveal the Local Enterprise Partnership's (LEP) long term strategy for job creation, levelling up and economic growth. The event will also launch the Solent Freeport, which is a key part of the economic plan, as it is expected to attract billions of pounds' worth of investment, creating tens of thousands of new jobs.

[Enterprise M3 have published their Annual Report for 2021/2022](#)

The EM3 region, which covers West Surrey and Hampshire, is the UK's fifth largest economy with major innovation and new tech clusters. The annual report for 2021/2022 published by the Local Enterprise Partnership outlines the region's key economic achievements in the past year which include major investments in digital technologies and green energy.

Below are some key facts about the region's economy and its recent success story:





Source: Together Again: Back to Business, Enterprise M3 Local Enterprise Partnership Annual Report 2021- 2022

You can read the full report here: [EM3 Annual Report 2021/22 | EM3 \(enterprisem3.org.uk\)](https://enterprisem3.org.uk/EM3-Annual-Report-2021/22)

FUTURE EVENTS

- 20th July – Reading Jobs Fair - Madejski Stadium - 10.00am - 1.00pm
www.thejobfairs.co.uk/network/jobseeker/event-guides/jobs-in-reading-select-car-leasing-stadium
- 27th July - Plymouth Jobs Fair – Home Park Stadium – 10.00am – 2.00pm
www.thejobfairs.co.uk/network/jobseeker/event-guides/job-fairs-in-plymouth
- 5th August – Crawley Jobs Fair – Arora Hotel, Gatwick – 10.00am – 1.00pm
www.thejobfairs.co.uk/network/jobseeker/event-guides/job-fairs-in-crawley
- 24th August – Exeter Jobs Fair - Exeter Corn Exchange – 10.00am – 1.00pm
www.thejobfairs.co.uk/network/jobseeker/event-guides/job-fairs-in-exe
- 26th August – Portsmouth Careers Fair – Fratton Park, Portsmouth - 10.00am – 2.00pm
www.ukcareersfair.com/event/portsmouth-careers-fair
- 7th September- Brighton Jobs Fair – Jury’s Inn, - 10.00am – 1.00pm -
www.thejobfairs.co.uk/network/jobseeker/event-guides/job-fairs-in-brighton



- 9th September - Plymouth Jobs Fair – 10.00am – 1.00pm - www.thejobfairs.co.uk/network/jobseeker/event-guides/job-fairs-in-plymouth
- 9th September - Croydon Jobs Fair – Selhurst Park Stadium – 10.00am – 1pm www.thejobfairs.co.uk/network/jobseeker/event-guides/job-fairs-in-london-croydon
- 28th October – Reading Jobs Fair – Reading Town Hall - 10.00am - 1.00pm www.thejobfairs.co.uk/network/jobseeker/event-guides/jobs-in-reading-select-car-leasing-stadium
- 23rd September – Southampton Jobs Fair – St Mary’s Stadium, Southampton – 10.00am – 2.00pm - **Error! Hyperlink reference not valid.**
- 28th and 29th October – The London Jobs Show – Westfield, Shepherd’s Bush www.londonjobshow.co.uk/shepherdsbush/
- 23rd November – Southampton Jobs Fair – St Mary’s Stadium – 10.00am – 1.00pm - www.thejobfairs.co.uk/network/jobseeker/event-guides/job-fairs-in-southampton
- 30th November – London Twickenham Jobs Fair – Twickenham Stadium – 10.00am – 1.00pm - www.thejobfairs.co.uk/network/jobseeker/event-guides/job-fairs-in-london-twickenham



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