National Careers Service ®

Greater Birmingham and Solihull LEP has the largest UK banking and professional service cluster, after London.

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The sector employs around 53,000 people in over 4,400 companies.

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Many large businesses have their head office or a regional office in the area.

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The Big Four consulting firms - **PwC**, **Deloitte**, **EY** and **KPMG** - all have an office in Birmingham and run competitive graduate and apprenticeship programmes.

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The area is home to a growing number of financial technology businesses like VERMEG, PM Connect, Intercity Technology, Delta Financial Systems and Oxygen Finance.

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Sector specialisms include:

- Legal services
- Banking and finance
- Accounting and consulting
- Financial technology

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Job roles in the industry are varied and include:

- Office / administrative assistant
- Sales manager
- Lawyer
- Financial manager
- Accountant
- Bookkeeper / Accounts clerk

- Recruiter
- Project manager
- Business analyst
- Human resources specialist
- Marketing manager
- Buyer / purchasing agent

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Employers are particularly looking for:

- Good communication skills
- Advanced digital and ICT skills
- Teamwork and interpersonal skills
- Customer service skills
- Knowledge of how business works
- Commercial awareness

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Employers are particularly looking for:

- Confidence in working with numbers
- Analytical, logical reasoning and problem solving skills
- Good attention to detail
- Leadership and management skills
- Ability to manage own time and prioritise tasks
- Ability to speak other languages

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Growth in cashless transactions, digital service provision, cloud-based solutions, cryptocurrencies, Artificial Intelligence and machine learning will mean that skills in blockchain development, programming, data analytics and statistics will grow in demand.

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Last year, in the West Midlands region, Professional, Technical and Scientific services grew by 10,000 workforce jobs while Finance and Insurance Services grew by 1,100 jobs