KENT GRADUATE PROGRAMME

YOUR APPLICATION PACK

TO AN EXCITING FUTURE

RECRUITING LOCAL GOVERNMENT PROFESSIONALS OF THE FUTURE

Apply online:

kent.gov.uk/jobs/starting-your-career/ kent-graduate-programme

Closing date: 7th November 2025

Your Graduate Data Analyst (Infrastructure Mapping Platform) application pack includes:

Introduction to Kent County Council

Job description

Recruitment selection criteria

Vacancy timetable

Working for Kent County Council



Content details

Letter to Applicant	4-8
Introduction to Kent County Council	9
Political Arrangements	10
Structure of KCC	11-12
Job Description and Person Specification	13-16
Introduction to Data Analyst Pathway	17-18
Working for Kent County Council	19-20
Vacancy Timetable	21



October 2025

APPLICANT INFORMATION PACK

Dear Candidate

Application for the post of Graduate Data Analyst (Infrastructure Mapping Platform), Strategic Planning & Infrastructure, Growth and Communities

Thank you for your interest in this challenging but rewarding role on our Graduate Programme. The successful candidate will be offered a position, ensuring the right skills, experience and knowledge mix exist in the team.

Our Recruitment Process

Step 1 - Application Form

We consider several factors when assessing your suitability for a graduate role. The first stage is your application form.

If you are interested in this opportunity, please apply as soon as possible as we may close applications before the closing date if we receive a large number of applications from suitability qualified candidates so if there's a programme you're really interested in, do get your application in early to avoid disappointment. We would also encourage you to allow plenty of time to complete your application form as we want to understand what makes you an excellent fit for a graduate role here at KCC.

Entry Requirements

Please remember to tell us about your degree and GCSE Maths and English qualification(s) or equivalent. Please note, you must already hold all entry requirements by the programme start date. Failure to include your qualifications in your Application Form may mean that your application is automatically excluded.

Tailoring your application

When making your application, refer to the **Person Specification** contained in this application pack and use the 'reason for application' to demonstrate how your past experience, knowledge or skills and achievements will transfer to the position you are applying for (please provide examples). Please list your full employment history and explain all gaps in employment. You may also want to use this section to describe why the role appeals to you and how this role fits with your longterm career aspirations. Your application form (and CV if you uploaded one) will be used by the Graduate Team to decide whether to shortlist you for the next stage of the selection process.

Step 2 – Online Assessment

At this stage, we will ask you to complete an interactive online assessment. The assessment helps us evaluate candidates fairly and equally. The blended assessment is designed to represent a typical working day and consists of Situational Judgement, Applied Numerical Intellect and Applied Verbal Intellect items. The assessment also includes a short video interview consisting of four questions.

Following the assessment, you will be able to download your candidate report. This report is designed to help you identify areas that you're naturally good at and where you may want to focus on developing. It also offers suggestions and hints and tips for how you can grow your future potential. We encourage you to take some time to reflect on your report and use this new understanding to guide your career planning. Your report looks at your responses against four areas known to predict work success based scientific research. We call these four pillars: Applied Intellect, Digital Mindset, Creative Force, and Grit.

Reasonable Adjustments

We believe that every person should have a fair and equal chance to succeed in our assessment process. If you require adjustments in relation to a disability, a neurodiverse condition (e.g. dyslexia), a medical condition or another individual need please let us know so we can understand how you are impacted and put the right support in place for you.

Step 3 - Sifting and Shortlisting

We'll assess your application form against the criteria in the Person Specification and at this stage we will review your video interview too. Please be patient at this stage as our shortlisting team will be busy reviewing a number of applications and video interview submissions for multiple roles and will update you on your application as soon as they are able to.

Step 4 - Interview

Candidates that are successful following the first sift recruitment exercise will be informed as soon as possible and invited for interview by e-mail. **Please note these interviews will be face-to-face and will be held in Maidstone.** Please make a diary note of the interview date.

At KCC we use a mixture of role-specific and values-based questions, to ensure that all new graduate recruits have the skills and ability to do the job and the behaviours, attitude and values to be successful in their role. KCC's values can be found here.

Final Outcome

The successful candidates will be contacted as soon as possible after the last interview.

As you have invested your time in applying for a role at Kent County Council, we would encourage you to request feedback, regardless of the outcome, as feedback will be invaluable to you when preparing for future interviews.

Step 5 - Offer

If you are successful, we will make you an offer to join us. Between your offer and your start date our recruiting managers will be in contact with you to let you know everything you need ahead of your first day at KCC. Our graduate team will also be available to offer any support you may need.

Eligibility Criteria for Apprenticeships

Apprenticeship Funding

All of our Graduate Pathways consist of an embedded apprenticeship qualification. To be eligible for apprenticeship funding, you'll need to have resided in the UK, the British Overseas Territories, or Crown Dependencies (Channel Islands and Isle of Man) continuously for at least three years prior to the start of the apprenticeship programme.

This is to ensure Kent County Council is compliant with the <u>apprenticeship funding rules</u>. These are the rules employers must follow to get funding for apprenticeship training in England.

Unfortunately, if you do not meet the above residency requirement, we will be unable to progress your application for the Graduate Programme.

Do you accept applications from non-UK citizens?

Our Graduate Programme Pathways consist of an embedded apprenticeship qualification so to be eligible for apprenticeship funding as a non-UK national you will need to:

- Have a valid and eligible residency status and the right to work in England.
- Have been resident in the UK and Islands or British Overseas Territories for at least the previous three-year period on the first day of the apprenticeship.
- Your residence in the UK and Islands has not during any part of that period been wholly or mainly for the purpose of receiving full-time education.
- You have permission granted by the UK government to live in the UK and such permission is not for education purposes only.

This is to ensure Kent County Council is compliant with the <u>apprenticeship funding rules</u>. These are the rules employers must follow to get funding for apprenticeship training and assessing apprentices in England.

Further details on Right to Work in the UK can be found on the UK Visas and Immigration page.

If you have any queries regarding your eligibility for the programme, please contact the Kent Graduate Programme Team at kgp@kent.gov.uk.

International Degrees

If you have a degree from another country, you must be able to provide evidence that your Degree is equivalent to our 2:2 entry requirements.

You are responsible for providing documentation and meeting any associated costs; we will normally ask to see evidence of your 2:2 Degree (or equivalent) during our pre-appointment checks.

The <u>UK National Information Centre</u> for the recognition and evaluation of international qualifications and skills (UK ENIC) provides information about the comparability of different international qualifications.

Introduction to Kent County Council

Visit our website at www.kent.gov.uk

We are the UK's largest local authority, with a workforce in excess of 30,000 people, including maintained schools, serving a population of 1.6 million. We have various offices in central locations and a large number of service establishments throughout Kent; our corporate office is based in Maidstone.

More than two thirds of our workforce provide services directly to the public – such as domiciliary Care Workers, Classroom Assistants, Social Workers, Teachers, and Occupational Therapists etc.

Our annual budget covers a huge range of services. This translates into a host of interesting roles and career paths awaiting those who want to work in a leading- edge public sector organisation.

Aims and Objectives

Our focus is to work as one council to design and deliver a cohesive, modern public service offer for all Kent's residents, businesses and communities. This will bring together change projects consistently across the council and create organisational design opportunities to transform the way we work, including our people, assets, technology, structures and service delivery.

Success in delivering this aspiration will be determined using the following criteria:

- Working beyond the limit of organisational and service boundaries
- Thinking beyond the limit of our statutory powers
- Building capacity to provide sector and system leadership
- · Delivering at both strategic and local scale
- Supporting economic security
- Delivering a cohesive service offer
- Flexibly uses its assets as part of public service design and delivery

<u>Framing Kent's Future</u> is our top-level council strategy for 2022 to 2026. It sets out the priorities that we will focus on over the next four years to tackle the challenges and make the most of the opportunities that the county is facing. Through delivering these priorities, our aim is to improve life in Kent and build a solid foundation for the county's future success.

Political Arrangements

The County Council has 81 councillors and elections take place every four years.

The political composition of the County Council is as follows:

Reform UK	55 members
Liberal Democrat	12 Members
Conservative	5 Members
Green Party	5 Members
Labour (including Labour and Cooperative Party)	2 Members
Independent	1 Member
UK Independence Party	1 Member

There is a Cabinet of Executive Members which meets regularly to debate policy issues and make key decisions. The cabinet comprises of:

Linden Kemkaran	Leader of Kent County Council
Brian Collins	Deputy Leader of Kent County Council
Diane Morton	Cabinet Member for Social Care and Public Health
Paul Webb	Cabinet Member for Community/Regulatory Services
Matthew Fraser Moat	Cabinet Member for Department of Local Government Efficiency (DOLGE)
Paul King	Cabinet Member for Economic Development and Coastal Regeneration
Beverley Fordham	Cabinet Member for Education and Skills
David Wimble	Cabinet Member for Environment
Christine Palmer	Cabinet Member for Integrated Children's Services
Peter Osborne	Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport

Structure of KCC

The structure of the organisation is as shown here

The Senior Officer team consists of six Corporate Directors. For more information on the Corporate Management Team please click here

The directorates are as follows:

Growth, Environment and Transport

The Directorate comprises a range of key frontline, strategic, policy and commercial functions, and plays a major role in making Kent a better place to live, work and visit. The services provided, and the future the directorate helps to shape, affects every household in Kent. This includes strategic responsibility for the future of the county in terms of planning, economic development, transport policy, and major transport improvement schemes, waste disposal and recycling services. In addition, GET manages country parks; libraries; and delivers enforcement services including trading standards, community safety and emergency planning.

Responsible for services that include:

Highways, Transportation & Waste, Regulatory Services, Economic Development, Community Safety & Emergency Planning, Libraries, Registration & Archives, Sport & Country Parks, Arts including Kent Film Office, Development Planning, Planning Applications, North Downs Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty, Flood Risk & Environment, Sustainability & Climate Change and Heritage Conservation

Adult Social Care and Health

The Directorate commissions and provides a range of services to improve outcomes for older and vulnerable adults, including those with mental health issues or disabilities, and their families. The Directorate supports vulnerable adults to live independently by promoting their wellbeing and supporting their independence. Services for adult mental health and learning disability already work in integrated teams with NHS colleagues and as a key partner in the Kent and Medway STP we are developing multi-disciplinary teams within communities to support local care.

Responsible for services that include:

Adults Central Referral Unit, Adult Community Teams, Safeguarding and quality, Kent Enablement at Home, Sensory and Autistic Spectrum Conditions Service, Integrated/Registered Care Centres, Day Centres, Community Learning Disability Teams, In-House Provision and Mental Health Services.

Children, Young People and Education

This Directorate combines and integrates the statutory responsibilities of Specialist Children's Services together with Education services and the targeted and universal services for children and young people within Early Help and Preventative Services. There is a strong focus on alignment of resources to help ensure achievement of one of the key County Council strategic outcomes: 'Every child and young person in Kent gets the best start in life'. To improve outcomes for children and young people, services within the Directorate are working together with relevant partners to deliver the vision set out in the Children and Young People's Services Integration Programme.

Responsible for services that include:

Children's Social Care, Adoption & Fostering, Standards & School Improvement, Skills & Employability, Early Years and Childcare, Provision Planning, Fair Access, Educational Psychology, SEN Assessment & Placement, Youth Justice, Outdoor Education Centres, Children's Centres and Youth Hubs, Inclusion & Attendance, Early Intervention and Community Learning & Skills and Disabled Children and Young People Teams.

Chief Executive's and Deputy Chief Executive's Department (Amanda Beer, Chief Executive)

Responsible for services that include:

- Strategy, Policy, Relationships and Corporate Assurance
- Finance
- Governance and Law
- Strategic Commissioning
- Infrastructure
- Technology
- HR/OD
- Marketing and Resident Experience
- Health and Safety
- Business Management and Client Relationships
- Strategic Reset Programme

Kent County Council Job Description

Directorate: Growth, Environment and Transport

Section: Growth and Communities

Grade: KSF

Responsible to: Strategic Planning and Infrastructure Manager

Purpose of the Job:

To develop their skills in data driven apps, reports and geospatial analysis across a wide range of planning related datasets, the Post Holder will assist in the delivery of the Infrastructure Mapping Platform (IMP). The IMP is a digital tool consolidating and publishing key local infrastructure data to help coordinate the planning and delivery of 'good' growth.

As part of the role the post holder will also undertake an apprenticeship qualification as a Data Analyst.

Main duties and responsibilities:

- Contribute to the processing and transforming data for use within the Infrastructure Mapping Platform (IMP).
- Produce analytical and business intelligence reports and tools based on data available within the IMP and making these accessible on the platform. All digital reports and associated tools will need to meet accessibility standards and be viewable on a range of devices (monitors, phones, tablets etc.).
- Engagement across the Council to assist in the development of the IMP's underlying architecture (currently SharePoint) to help host, share and maintain platform data and associated apps.
- Undertake continual professional development in the area of data analysis, changing technology and building technical knowledge and skills.

•	Engagement with internal IMP users, KCC partners and data providers to ensure that data is consistent, accurate, timely and available in appropriate formats.
•	Contribute towards ensuring all data processing and presentation is compliant with information governance and data protection policies.
-	Assisting with other data related tasks as required by the Strategic Planning and Infrastructure Team, and assisting in the function of the Strategic Planning and Infrastructure Service.

NB: This job description is provided to assist the job holder to know what their main duties are. It may be amended from time to time without change to the level of responsibility appropriate to the grade of post.

Kent County Council Person Specification:

The following outlines the criteria for this post. Applicants who have a disability and who meet the criteria will be shortlisted.

Applicants should describe in their application how they meet these criteria.

As part of this Graduate Pathway there is a requirement to undertake an Data Analyst Apprenticeship Level 4 therefore, we are unable to accept applications from those with an equivalent/higher level qualification in a related area.

	CRITERIA
QUALIFICATIONS	2:2 degree or equivalent in any discipline.
	GCSE Grade A-C (4-9 or equivalent) in English language
	GCSE Grade A-C (4-9 or equivalent) in Mathematics.
	 Clear commitment to further personal and professional development.
EXPERIENCE	 Proficient in Microsoft Office applications, especially Excel.
	 Preferred experience of processing, analysing and reporting on multiple or complex datasets.
SKILLS AND ABILITIES	 Excellent IT skills. Ability to use technical knowledge and experience to identify and resolve problems.
	 Ability to understand the importance of own workload and to prioritise in line with team objectives.

	Ability to work in partnership with colleagues to
	provide relevant and high-quality contribution to joint projects.
	 Good verbal and written skills, demonstrating an ability to effectively communicate with a wide range of partners and customers
KNOWLEDGE	Knowledge of techniques to capture, analyse and evaluate qua a quantitative data and information accurately.
KENT VALUES AND	Kent Values:
CULTURAL ATTRIBUTES	We are brave. We do the right thing, we accept and offer challenge.
	We are curious to innovate and improve.
	We are compassionate, understanding and respectful to all.
	We are strong together by sharing knowledge.
	 We are all responsible for the difference we make.
	Our values enable us to build a culture that is:
	Flexible/agile - willing to take (calculated) risks and want people that are flexible and agile.
	Curious - constantly learning and evolving.
	Compassionate and Inclusive - compassionate, understanding and respectful to all.
	Working Together - building and delivering for the best interests of Kent.
	Empowering - Our people take accountability for their decisions and actions.
	Externally Focused - Residents, families and communities at the heart of decision making.
	(If this document is being used for recruitment purposes, examples of Behaviours which support the Kent Values will need to be demonstrated within the context of this post)

The Data Analyst Pathway – An Overview

What's Involved

As a Graduate Data Analyst (Infrastructure Mapping Platform), you will be part of the Strategic Planning & Infrastructure Service.

The Data Analyst pathway offers an exciting opportunity to support the delivery of Kent's Infrastructure Mapping Platform; a flagship digital tool consolidating and publishing key local infrastructure data to help coordinate the planning and delivery of 'good' growth across the County.

You will assist in the creation of a range of interactive apps based on user feedback that will enable users to better assess and plan against the impact of population and housing growth across their services.

You will learn how to produce analytical and business intelligence reports and tools based on data available within the Infrastructure Mapping Platform and engage across the County Council to assist in the development of the Infrastructure Mapping Platforms underlying architecture (currently SharePoint) to help host, share and maintain platform data and associated apps.

This role will have a particular interest to those wishing to develop their skills, knowledge and behaviours as a Data Analyst in data driven apps, reports and geospatial analysis across a wide range of planning related datasets.

Length of Programme

2 Years

Salary

You will receive a starting salary of £30,404 which will increase as you progress.

Location

Our main offices are in Maidstone, but travel may be required to other offices and locations around Kent.

We are currently operating hybrid working giving the flexibility for individuals to work from home or in one of our reconfigured office buildings. We will support you to work in a hybrid way, with the necessary induction, management and equipment.

Training and Development

The job provides you with invaluable on-the-job experience of working within the public sector and offers extensive training and development opportunities you won't find elsewhere.

Whilst on the programme, you will be provided with the right support to help you achieve the Data Analyst apprenticeship (Level 4). We will commit to your continuing professional development and will support you in your training and as you develop your management skills and knowledge.

Qualifications

- 2:2 degree or equivalent in any discipline.
- GCSE Grade A-C (4-9 or equivalent) in English language
- GCSE Grade A-C (4-9 or equivalent) in Mathematics.
- Clear commitment to further personal and professional development.

Working for Kent County Council

Salary and Notice

This post is offered as a permanent contract.

The appointment will be subject to 1 months' notice.

KCC pays salaries to bank accounts on the 25th of the month unless this falls on a weekend or public holiday.

Terms and Conditions

The appointment is subject to the terms and conditions contained within the Kent Scheme of Conditions of Service.

28 days annual leave is provided excluding Bank Holidays. You will also receive paid time off for public holidays plus a concessionary day at Christmas.

Pensions

The post holder will have the choice of contributing to the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS). Further details will be available for the successful applicant.

Whole Time Employment

The person appointed will be required to devote their whole-time service to the work of Kent County Council and should not engage in any other business without the express consent of the County Council.

Health and Safety Policy

The County Council recognises and accepts its responsibility as an employer, and will take positive action to ensure the health, safety and welfare of all employees and other persons who may be affected by its operations, by providing safe working conditions and a healthy and safe working environment.

Sickness Provision

Our sickness benefit scheme exceeds statutory requirements. Actual paid absence depends on how long you have worked for KCC and the circumstances of your absence. For example, after 6 years' service your benefit would be 6 months full pay and 6 months half pay.

Training and Development

KCC is committed to supporting staff to reach their full potential through annual appraisal and personal development plans, enhanced by a range of career development opportunities.

Managers from KR9 to KR20 will be required to undertake our Kent Manager standard programme within the first year of employment.

Green Travel

Our Green Travel Plan is exploring alternative modes of transport to improve travel choice and reduce congestion and pollution. This includes:

- · Car sharing and emergency taxi home.
- Discounted fares, free tickets, trip planning and improved travel information.
 Pool car and bikes

Other benefits

KCC offers a range of family friendly policies including:

- A generous maternity scheme
- Emergency leave
- · Parental leave
- Special leave
- Help Fund all employees have the opportunity both to pay into the fund and to apply for help from it when experiencing financial hardship
- An in-house confidential counselling service and Occupational Health Service
- Kent Rewards discounts at over 1,200 retailers ranging from reduced rates at Health Clubs to house and car insurance to holidays

Living in Kent

With great schools, vibrant cities, golden beaches and stunning countryside Kent has lots to offer you. Find out more about locations in Kent.

Vacancy Timetable

Closing Date for Receipt of Applications: Friday 7th November 2025.

Candidates will be invited to complete a first sift activity: Monday 10th – Friday 14th November 2025

Final Stage Interviews: Shortlisted candidates will be invited to attend interview on Monday 1st December 2025. Please note these will be face-to-face interviews and will be held in Maidstone.

Start Date: Monday 5th January 2026

How to Respond

Apply online at Kent Graduate Programme - Jobs & Careers - Kent County Council