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**Maritime SuperSkills Project**  
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*“A qualification fit for the 21st century, Marine Technical Superintendent, enhancing the skills, knowledge and behaviours already achieved as a seagoing Marine Engineer.”*

Lawrie White, Svitzer (Trailblazer Group member)

# APPRENTICESHIP MYTH BUSTING



## Apprenticeships are only for school leavers

Not so. The minimum age is 16 but there is no upper age limit. Most apprentices are actually over 25 and existing members of staff, and government subsidy is available to all.

## Apprenticeships are only for new employees

In the past apprenticeships were usually offered to people at the start of their career. Today it's more often a way that companies can provide high quality training for their existing staff.

## Apprenticeships aren't what they used to be

Fact – New reforms have introduced employer-led requirements. A minimum training term and an end point assessment involving the employer to ensure that apprenticeships are of a high and robust standard to support your business for many years to come.

## Apprenticeships are only available at level 2 or level 3

Fact – Reforms in apprenticeships have meant that there are higher-level apprenticeships available; to degree and masters levels in some areas.

*“Maritime SuperSkills provides an excellent supportive framework for employers to build and standardise apprenticeships within the maritime sector.”*

Richard Graham, Royal Fleet Auxiliary (Trailblazer Group member)

## ABOUT

The Maritime SuperSkills project offers local employers in the Liverpool City Region (LCR) the opportunity to upskill their workforce and invest in their future through the development of higher and degree-level apprenticeship standards. The standards are linked to a set of key occupations of importance to regional growth sectors.

Partly funded by the European Social Fund (ESF), the Maritime SuperSkills project is led by Liverpool John Moores University and supported by Mersey Maritime, Port Academy Liverpool at Hugh Baird College, Wirral Metropolitan College, The Engineering College and Northern Logistics Academy.

## HOW DOES IT WORK?

The project enables LCR maritime-focused employers to come together in trailblazer groups to identify, map and develop apprenticeship standards in maritime, logistics and advanced manufacturing with a national relevance.

Progression is from Levels 3/4 advanced / higher apprenticeship through to Masters Level 7 degree apprenticeships for the key occupations that will accelerate growth.

Employers are increasingly seeing apprenticeships as the best way of recruiting and developing staff with the high-level specialist skills necessary to grow their business. The costs of training and assessment are met by the employer in the case of levy paying organisations and the government in the case of those below the threshold.

## BENEFITS

- Upskill new or existing staff with a high-level apprenticeship that can make a real difference to your business.
- Apprentices will be employed by you, working full-time in your business, and at least 80% of this training is done on-the-job.
- Help to address the skills gap affecting maritime businesses in the Liverpool City Region and positively impact upon productivity in the sector.

*“The Maritime SuperSkills Project offers employers the opportunity to shape the maritime occupations of the future, whilst contributing to the strengthening of the local economy. It’s an effective way of nurturing talent by providing people with the prospect of a high level occupation and a clear pathway for future career progression.”*

Jamie Brown, Stena Line (Trailblazer Chairperson)

## GET INVOLVED

Employers, large and small can get involved by participating in one of our trailblazer groups that are working to develop and shape the apprenticeship standards and assessment plans.

Be part of the wider consultation that’s required to ensure the apprenticeship standards are national standards.

Currently developing standards for Marine Technical Superintendent, Marine Surveyor and Harbourmaster

