

## SKILLS and QUALIFICATIONS

The North East, Tyne and Wear and Gateshead in particular is making ever-increasing improvement in the level of qualification and skills of its workforce.

The extensive network of partners in school education, further and higher education, vocational training and business are working together to create a well qualified and skilled workforce to meet the demands of the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

Rising skills in the region mean that the area offers investors a potential workforce with a higher level of general work-based skills and industry-recognised qualifications.

The proportion of employers in the north-east that provide training is higher than the average in England.

	% North East	% England
With a training plan	56	49
With a training budget	39	38
Providing off the job training	59	52
Providing on the job training	91	79

The number of employers involved in training in the north east is higher than the rest of England.

	% North East	% England
NVQs/SVQs	41	33
Time off for studying or training	8	8
ILAs	14	8
Learning Partnerships	8	9

Source: Learning and Training at Work: 2002.

The commitment shown by the region to improving education, qualifications and skills is starting to have a real effect on the north east and Gateshead in particular where improvements are now bringing Gateshead and the North East nearer to the average in England.

	Gateshead Council%	North East %	England %
Adults in employment qualified to NVQ level 2 or above 2002	65.3	67.4	68.5
Adults in employment qualified to NVQ level 2 or above 2003	68.1	68.5	69.4
Adults in employment qualified to NVQ level 2 or above 2004	69.7	69.2	70.2