

I'd just left my previous job and I was looking for something new. I chose an apprenticeship with the council because there's lots of different roles in the council that I could go into and the NVQ qualification was sought after on a lot of the job specs.

I studied for an NVQ level 3 in Business Administration. I worked in my normal office in technical support five days a week and my mentor came and visited us in the office and brought a laptop for us to do the NVQ work on so I didn't have to do any extra traveling or anything like that.

I was learning about things in my apprenticeship and also being trained to do them in the office. It worked really well together and I could get the basics down in the office and then go into more detail during my NVQ sessions with my mentor.

So while I was doing my apprenticeship I was learning whilst I was also doing a full time job in the office and I was also making some money.

I got a job as a licensing assistant last November. I think it's really good that I managed to transition from an apprentice to a full time worker and it really shows you how effective the apprenticeship is at giving you the skills you need to find full time employment.

I would definitely recommend applying for an apprenticeship with Durham County Council. There's loads of different roles at the council and an apprenticeships are a really good way to get into them without any previous experience.