



Employers report lowest hiring confidence in the UK

Employers in the North East are putting the brake on their hiring plans as the threat of Brexit makes them think twice about adding to their headcount. In the three months to the end of June, jobs confidence has dropped by five points to **0%** – the lowest level for the North East since the end of 2015.



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MARKET OVERVIEW

The prospects for North East job seekers look tough as we head into Spring, showing all the hallmarks of a jobs market in stagnation. The threat of Brexit is undoubtedly weighing heavily on the minds of many employers delaying their investment and hiring plans.

While hiring confidence is low, employers are also struggling to fill any current vacancies due to a lack of candidates. The key industries of construction and manufacturing are in the midst of a national skills crisis and the North East is no exception to this. The uncertainty in the market has also made candidates hugely risk-averse. Those that choose to stay in the region are reluctant to move, favouring the relative certainty of their current position. For good candidates looking for a new role there are opportunities. Businesses are going to have to work even harder if they are to attract and hold on to the talent they need this year.