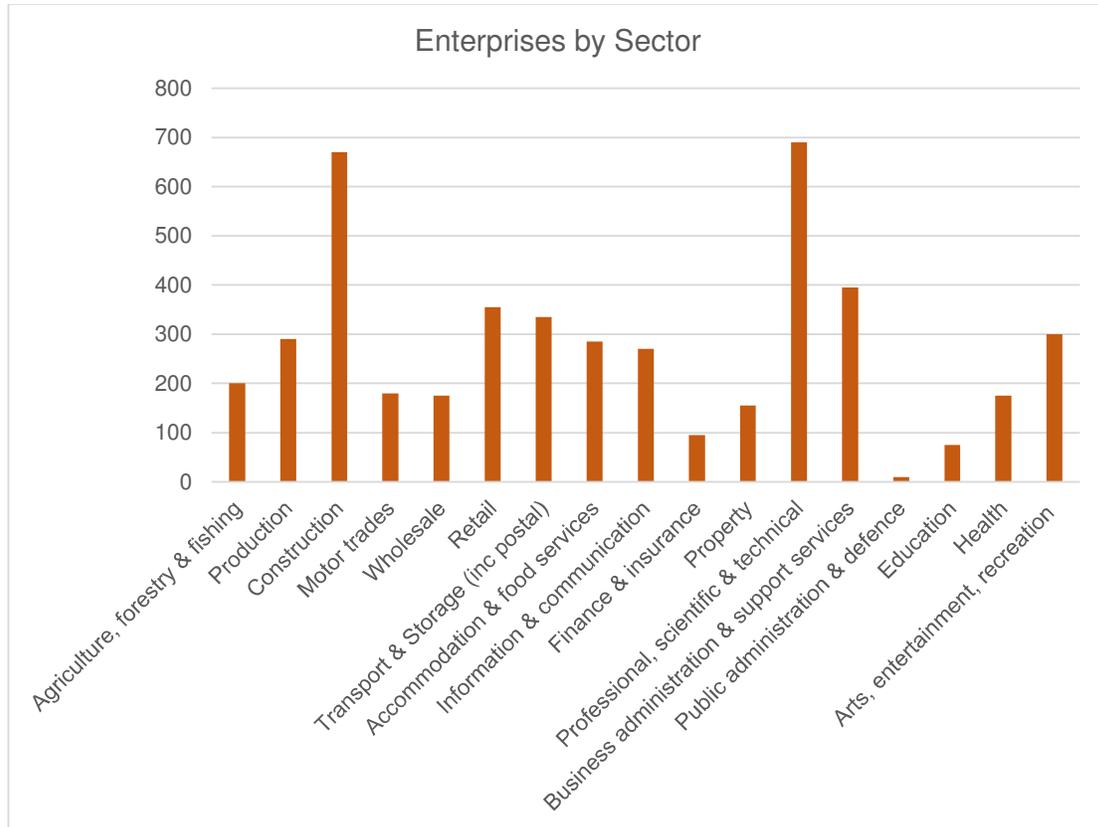


Chorley Business Demography

Type of business by sector

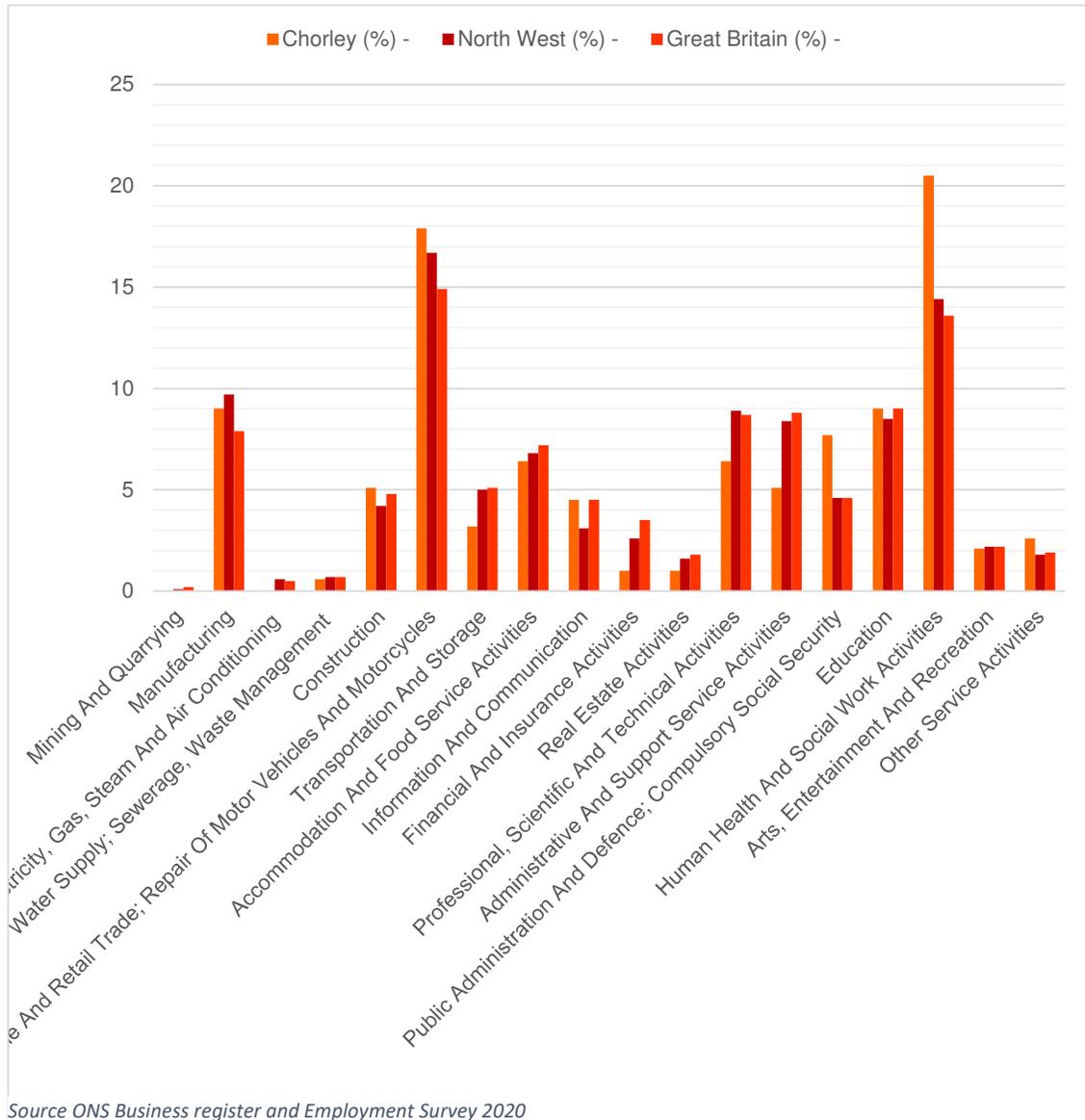
The Office for National Statistics analysis on the Inter Departmental Business Register for 2021 demonstrates that in Chorley there is the largest number of enterprises in the professional, scientific and technical sectors at 690, followed closely by construction at 670.



Source: Inter Departmental Business Register (ONS) 2021

However, when industry sectors are considered by number of jobs, the largest sectors are human health and social work activities followed by wholesale, retail trade and repair of motor vehicles. Chorley also has a larger percentage of jobs in these areas than across the North West and England on average alongside public administration, defence and social security.

Sectors where Chorley has a significantly lower percentage of jobs in comparison to regional and national averages include real estate, finance and insurance, and professional scientific and technical services.



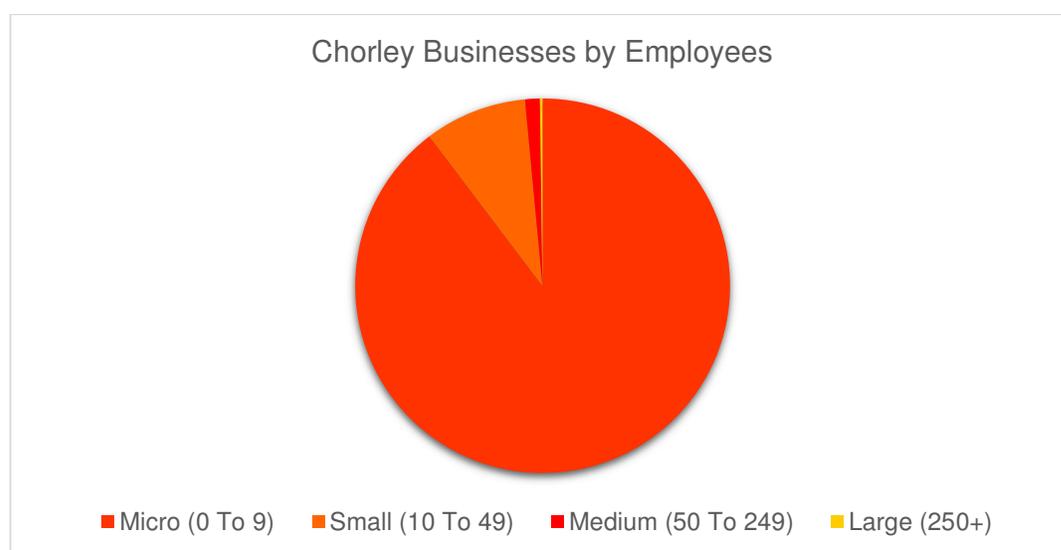
Size of business by turnover/number of employees

The majority of enterprises (overall businesses) and local units (individual work sites) in Chorley are micro businesses with 0-9 employees, and there are only 10 enterprises and 15 local units with a large employee base of over 250 employees. This mirrors regional trends as shown in the table below:

	Chorley	North West
Enterprises		
Micro (0 To 9)	4,175	241,185
Small (10 To 49)	410	24,345

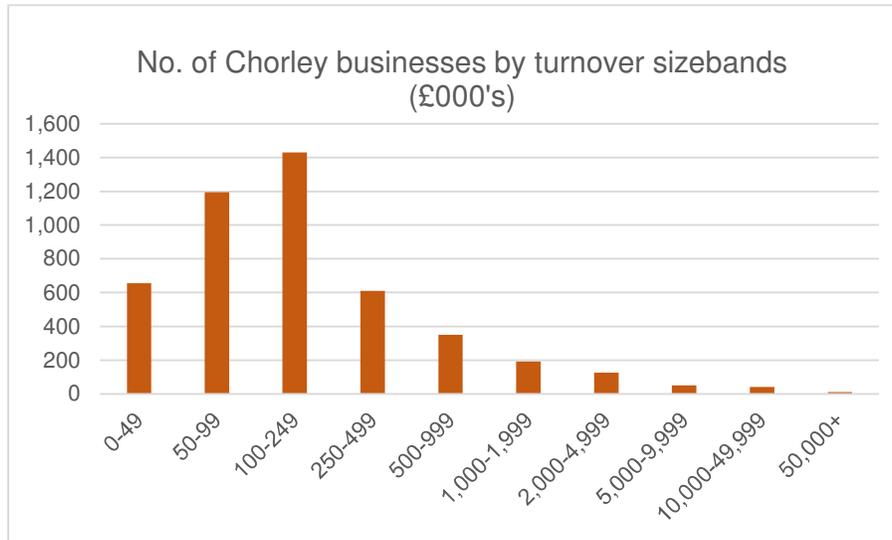
Medium (50 To 249)	60	4,375
Large (250+)	10	1,040
Total	4,655	270,945
Local Units		
Micro (0 To 9)	4,445	267,380
Small (10 To 49)	645	41,760
Medium (50 To 249)	100	8,930
Large (250+)	15	1,345
Total	5,205	319,420

Source: Inter Departmental Business Register (ONS) 2021



Chorley closely follows regional and national trends in relation to the percentages of enterprises within each employment size band, however, the borough does have a significantly smaller percentage of enterprises with over 250 employees at just 0.21% of all businesses in comparison to 0.38% in the North West and 0.39% across England.

Chorley also mirrors national trends in relation to size of businesses by turnover. The largest number of businesses fall within the £100,000-£249,000 turnover range at 1,430 enterprises, followed by £50,000-£99,000 at 1,195.

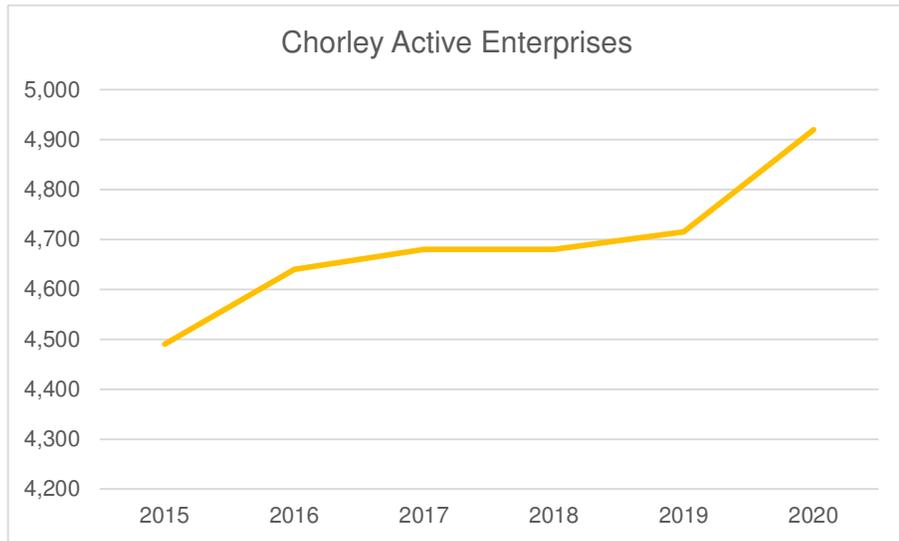


		Turnover Size Bands (£000's)									
		0-49	50-99	100-249	250-499	500-999	1,000-1,999	2,000-4,999	5,000-9,999	10,000-49,999	50,000+
ENGLAND		366,820	539,075	785,825	307,945	176,295	100,320	70,045	26,970	24,550	8,120
NORTH WEST		40,880	63,645	86,465	34,380	19,720	11,290	7,915	3,075	2,730	845
Chorley		655	1,195	1,430	610	350	190	125	50	40	10

Source: Inter Departmental Business Register (ONS) 2021

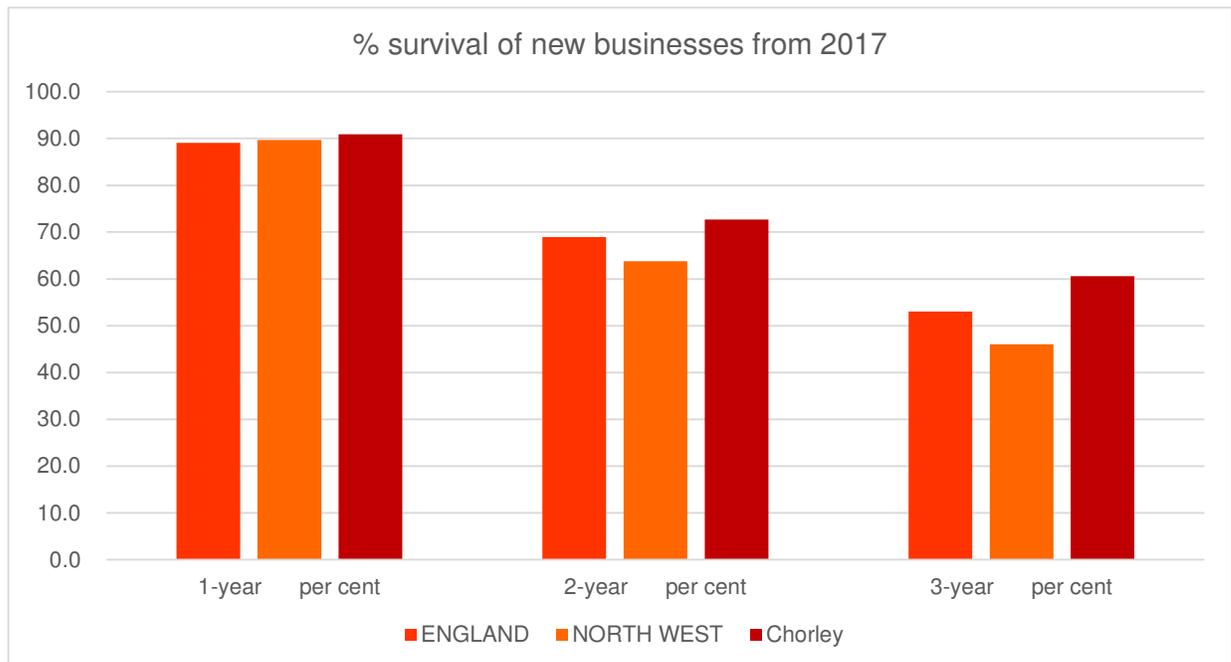
Business growth

Chorley has seen positive growth in enterprises from 4360 in 2019 to 4655 in 2022. This is a 6.77% increase compared to 1.69% for the North West and 1.55% nationally



Business demography (ONS) 2020

Chorley has a large number of new enterprises established each year with an average of 543 per year from 2015-2020. The borough also has a higher than average survival rate of new businesses, which suggests that whilst there may be slower growth in the number of active businesses in Chorley in comparison to national and regional levels, the enterprises which are established are more likely to survive with 90.0% of new businesses still active after 1 year and 60.6% after 3 years.



Business demography (ONS) 2021

Figures indicate that growth in businesses, particularly for micro and small enterprises, has increased during the Covid-19 pandemic in Chorley, with an increase of 160 enterprises with an employee size band of 0-4 between March 2020 and March 2021.

No. of enterprises per employee size band	0-4	5-9	10-19	20-49	50-99	100-249	250+
2021	3,615	560	280	130	35	25	10
2020	3,455	505	255	120	45	25	10
2019	3,390	505	260	130	40	25	10
2018	3,400	500	240	130	45	25	10

Inter Departmental Business Register (ONS) 2018-2021

Furthermore, business 'births' per year from 2019-2020 increased by 60 for Chorley (an increase of 11.76%,) whereas new businesses across England decreased by 33,560 (an overall decrease of 10.27%.)

The Office for National Statistics identifies high growth enterprises by considering all enterprises which have an average annualised growth greater than 20% per annum over a three-year period by either number of employees or turnover. This excludes micro-businesses and only considers enterprises with over 10 employees to prevent skewing of data. Chorley demonstrates similar patterns for high growth enterprises in comparison to national and regional figures, with the largest number of high growth enterprises falling within 2016, 2017 and 2018 and reduced numbers in 2019 and 2020.

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
ENGLAND	10,650	11,910	11,535	12,225	11,070	10,620
NORTH WEST	1,280	1,400	1,380	1,445	1,325	1,300
Chorley	20	30	25	25	15	15

Business demography (ONS) 2020

From 2016 to 2020, Chorley had the 5th highest average number of high growth enterprises out of the 12 Lancashire district authorities with an average of 22 per year.

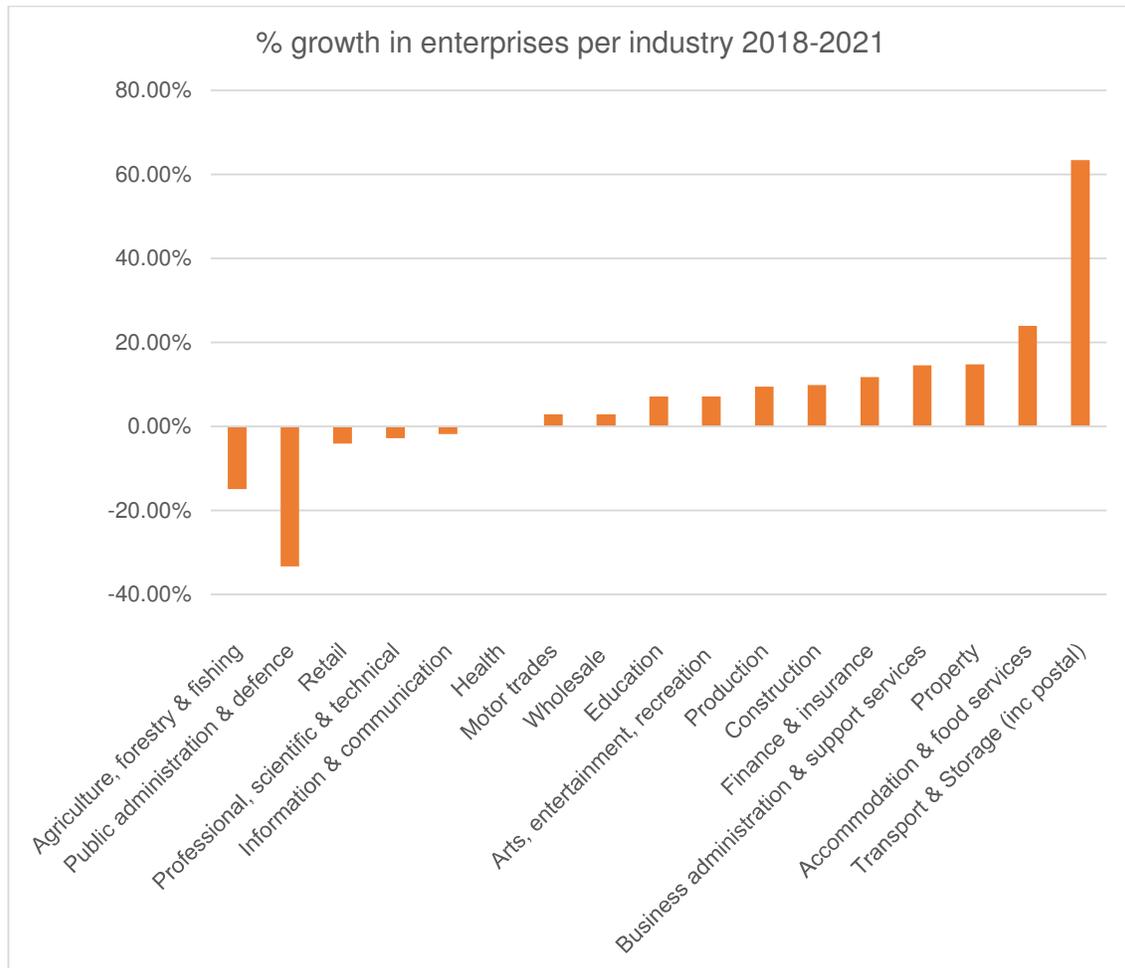
District Authority	Average number of high growth enterprises 2016-2020
Rossendale	12
Wyre	13
Ribble Valley	14
Burnley	17
Fylde	17
Hyndburn	18
Pendle	18
Chorley	22
West Lancashire	24
Lancaster	25
South Ribble	25
Preston	28

Business demography (ONS) 2020

Growth sectors

From 2018-2021, the number of enterprises per industry have remained relatively stable across Chorley. There has been the largest percentage increase in transport and storage industries at 63.4% which could reflect increased demands as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic with a greater need for transportation and delivery services during lockdown periods. There have also been significant increases in the accommodation and food services sector at 23.91%.

The largest decreases in numbers of enterprises have been for the public administration and defence sector which has decreased from 15 to 10 enterprises, agriculture, forestry and fishing which is down 14.89% and retail down 4 %. Professional, scientific and technical enterprises have also decreased by 2.82% despite having the largest total number of enterprises in Chorley.



Source: Inter Departmental Business Register (ONS) 2021

	% growth in enterprises 2018-2021	Number of enterprises 2018	Number of enterprises 2021
Agriculture, forestry & fishing	-14.89%	235	200
Public administration & defence	-33.33%	15	10
Retail	-4.05%	370	355
Professional, scientific & technical	-2.82%	710	690
Information & communication	-1.82%	275	270
Health	0.00%	175	175
Motor trades	2.86%	175	180
Wholesale	2.94%	170	175
Education	7.14%	70	75
Arts, entertainment, recreation	7.14%	280	300
Production	9.43%	265	290
Construction	9.84%	610	670
Finance & insurance	11.76%	85	95
Business administration & support services	14.49%	345	395
Property	14.81%	135	155
Accommodation & food services	23.91%	230	285
Transport & Storage (inc postal)	63.41%	205	335

Source: Inter Departmental Business Register (ONS) 2021

Policy Development

Central Lancashire Local Plan

A new Local Plan for the 3 Authorities of Chorley, Preston and South Ribble is being prepared to cover the period to 2036. The Local Plan will provide a robust strategy to attract new investment whilst continuing to protect the unique characteristics of the area, to deliver sustainable development. A key challenge of the Local Plan is to maximise the land available for employment while balancing the requirement for housing provision. The Central Lancashire Employment Land Study Update 2022 identified employment land needs of 76.34 ha to 2038. Against that need Chorley Borough has a realistic employment land supply of 56.28 ha, mostly comprising allocations in the Adopted Local Plan. This shows that Chorley has an undersupply of 20.06 ha against its needs to 2038. To meet projected demand, Chorley needs to protect its existing supply and identify additional employment land in other locations.

Lancashire Local Skills Improvement Plan (LSIP)

The Lancashire LSIP is operating as one of eight Trailblazers led by the local Chambers of Commerce. The process aimed to engage with a wide range of employers and gain an understanding of the skills supply issues employers across different sectors are struggling with. Following a review and evidence gathering, the LSIP identifies key improvements for future skills provision including: clear points of contact for employers, clear dialogue with employers to inform course design, skills provider flexibility to respond to emerging needs, early engagement with young people and reskilling initiatives. The report concludes with a 'roadmap for change' to be delivered collaboratively with regional partners.

Levelling Up

The Levelling Up White Paper sets out the government's approach to rebalancing opportunities across the UK through the redistribution of government powers and funding. The White Paper includes new detail on the approach to devolution, guidance on a UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) and underpinning policy, monitoring and metrics.

The Levelling Up approach is based around 12 'missions' to be achieved by 2030. These missions are based on four areas around boosting productivity and living standards by the private sector; improving public services; restoring community and local belonging; and empowering local leaders. Chorley has been allocated £4,212,901 over a three year period up to 2024/25 to be delivered in line with a government approved local investment plan.

Key trends/ future skills demand

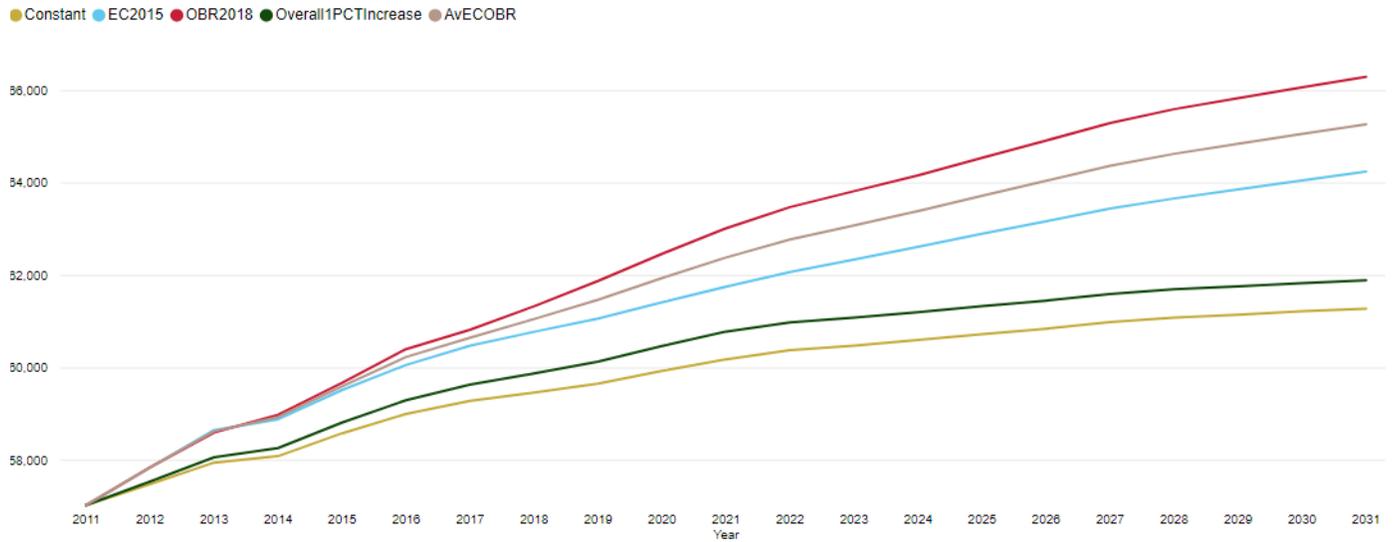
Lancashire sectors and impact of Covid-19

Across Lancashire, there are several key sectors of growth and future opportunity. There are four universities across the county with a student population of over 55,000 which, alongside local colleges, produce the largest source of STEM graduates in the UK. The region also holds the greatest concentration of aerospace production in the UK, 85,000 specialists in manufacturing and engineering, and 400 creative and digital businesses.

It will be important to consider the longer-term impact of Covid-19 on these industries given changing population behaviours and economic shifts which may impact on demand and supply chains. Similarly, there is an above average percentage of employees in the food and drink industries, with 12,000 people across the county which may be more vulnerable to economic challenges, alongside a higher than average rate of self-employment.

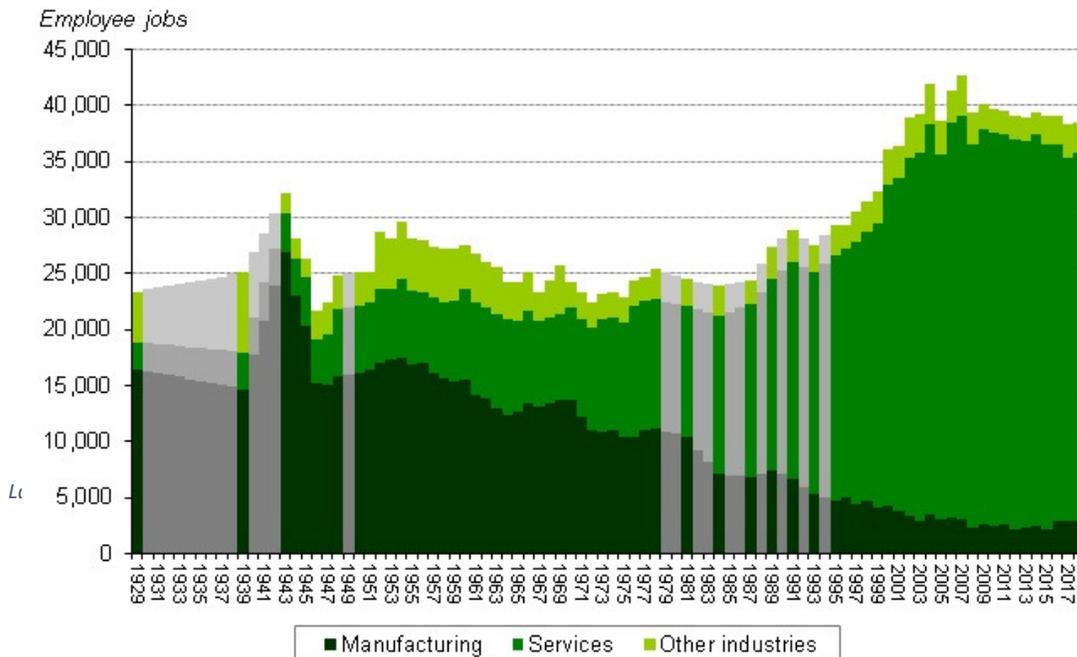
Increasing employee numbers

Across Chorley more specifically, there has been a continued growth in employee numbers above national averages, which could be impacted by the corresponding growth in working age populations for the borough. Projections made prior to the Covid-19 pandemic indicate an increase in the working-age labour force over the next 10 years, making Chorley the only local authority in Lancashire which indicates an increase across all six of the models of projection measured by Lancashire Insight:



Lancashire Insight: Labour Force Projections (Lancashire County Council) 2019

The following graph from Lancashire Insight demonstrates how employee jobs have increased over time and how the make-up of job industries has changed with a decrease in manufacturing jobs and the majority of jobs in service industries.



Place of residence in comparison to place of work

Another key trend is that there is a significant number of employees who live in Chorley but work for businesses in other towns or cities, with the 2011 Census indicating that only 39.1% of people ages 16+ both living and working in the authority. This could be partly due to there being less jobs available within Chorley, with a job density per resident of 0.63 in 2020 in comparison to 0.82 across the North West. However, this could also be due to residents commuting to other areas for higher paying roles, with average earnings for those who reside in Chorley of £29,276 per annum in comparison to those whose place of work is in Chorley of £23,320 (Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings, Office for National Statistics, 2021). This could mean that well qualified employees are seeking work outside of the borough, with the ONS Annual Population Survey showing that in 2021 44.8% of residents in Chorley held an NVQ4 and above in comparison to 38.5% across the North West.