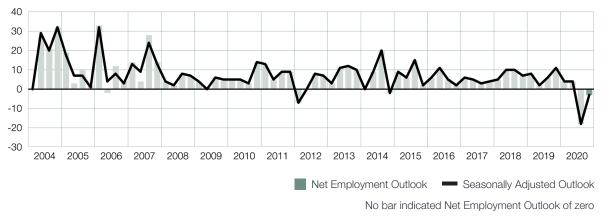


SOUTH WEST

South West Hiring Up 15% from Previous Quarter

Job seekers can expect a dull hiring climate in the October to December period, according to employers who report a Net Employment Outlook of -3%. While hiring plans are 15 percentage points stronger quarter-over-quarter, employers report a decline of 14 percentage points in comparison with the final quarter of 2019.



MARKET OVERVIEW

Employers in the South West are among the most optimistic in the UK of a swift return to pre-COVID-19 hiring levels, with 58% expecting pre-crisis hiring activity to resume within 12 months – nine percentage points above UK average. Over a shorter timeframe, 21% of employers in the region expect these hiring levels to return within the next three months.

More learning and development opportunities will be offered by 43% of employers, and 33% will offer more health and wellbeing benefits following the impact of the crisis. In total, 37% of employers will offer the option to work remotely some of time, 29% will offer flexi or condensed hours, and 11% will offer staff the opportunity to work remotely all of the time.

