

First Utility case study

In March of this year, I approached the University of Warwick to discuss setting up an internship. This was the first internship for First Utility and we were thinking of attracting a student for a part-time opportunity around an existing “Data & Insight” project, working with a mentor.

We were clear about our business needs and the anticipated benefits to First Utility, and gained tailored, valuable insights from the Internships Development Team (IDT) about our target Warwick students, for example their availability during term and vacation, when they were committed to revision or exams, and consequently when the optimal time would be to advertise. At their suggestion, we also began to consider postgraduate students.

Equipped with this information and confident that our work experience option would receive interest, we worked with support from IDT throughout the next steps: fine tuning our advertisement, uploading our vacancy to the student-facing careers portal, and accessing supporting information around pay. IDT even advised us as to how to make the internship itself into the most productive experience for both First Utility and the student.

We received a really good response to the advertisement and applications received, appointing a postgraduate researcher who was just finishing their degree. All the candidates seen were really credible and highly skilled.

If this internship is a success, we hope to bring internship opportunities into other areas of the business as well.

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