

Considering a
Career in

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Freeport

Connecting us
to the world



Freeport

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A blue rectangular button with a white play icon and the text "Play Video".

Play Video

A large cargo ship is docked at a port, surrounded by numerous red gantry cranes. The ship's deck is covered with colorful shipping containers. The sky is blue with some clouds.

What is Freeport?

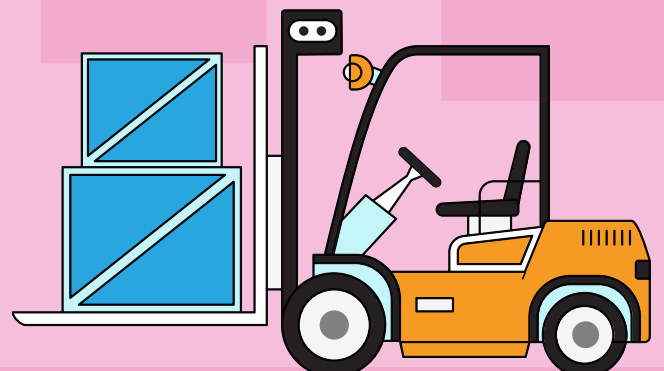
The Liverpool City Region Freeport is a zone with special conditions, meaning that businesses located there can trade goods with the rest of the world more cheaply and faster than other locations. This helps them grow, create jobs, and boost the local economy.

As an industry, the Freeport sector covers products coming into the country (known as imports) and products going out (known as exports). It enables the UK to be plugged into a global trade network. The sector includes many industrial activities, such as storing, processing, and transporting goods. It also covers research, development, and advanced manufacturing to encourage innovation and the use of green technology.

From managing payments for goods transported overseas when you order something online to crafting parts for 50,000-tonne cargo vessels, the freeport sector is essential to keeping the world connected.

The Liverpool City Region Freeport is fast-growing, with space to service many businesses. A career here means you might work in logistics, clean energy, pharmaceuticals, consumer goods, industrial, engineering, or manufacturing industries.

Whether you're overseeing a project to manufacture, ship, transport and deliver goods as an international freight forwarding specialist or carrying out vital work to check goods and monitor security as a border force officer, a career in the freeport sector means working in a highly-skilled, rapidly growing sector.



Stats & Facts

Did you know?

Freeport in Liverpool City Region: Stats & Facts

- Liverpool City Region Freeport is one of 12 Freeports in the UK.
- £1.2bn is invested in new port and logistics infrastructure in Liverpool City Region.
- Liverpool City Region Freeport is the most centrally placed port in the UK.
- The region has 10 nearby motorway links.

Freeport in action in the Liverpool City Region

- Liverpool is a £400m deep-water container terminal designed to handle huge container ships, boosting the port's capacity and making the UK's trade more efficient by providing improved connectivity.
- Located in Wirral Waters, the Marine, Energy and Automotive Park (MEA) park is a 60-acre, sustainably designed hub for industrial and business growth, offering units to the LCR Freeport and Mersey Waters Enterprise Zone.
- ADM Agriculture invested £7.4m into developing the largest animal feed store in the UK, contributing to the national agricultural industry and offering future growth opportunities.
- Peel Ports has invested in multiple innovative projects across the Freeport, including a £10m renovation of the main port entrance, allowing the stream of import and export vessels to move more efficiently.
- The Drax Group Plc worked with Peel Ports to adapt for the current sustainable energy targets, building a £100m bio-mass import terminal at Liverpool docks and connecting the hub to the rest of the UK.
- The Liverpool-China freight link, opened with investment by Allseas Global in 2021, has increased strong trade links and continues to expand with support from the Liverpool City Region and Chinese trade officials.



Freeport: Good to know

Is a Freeport always a maritime port?

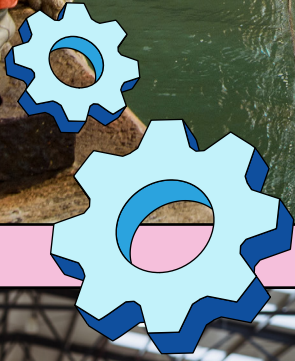
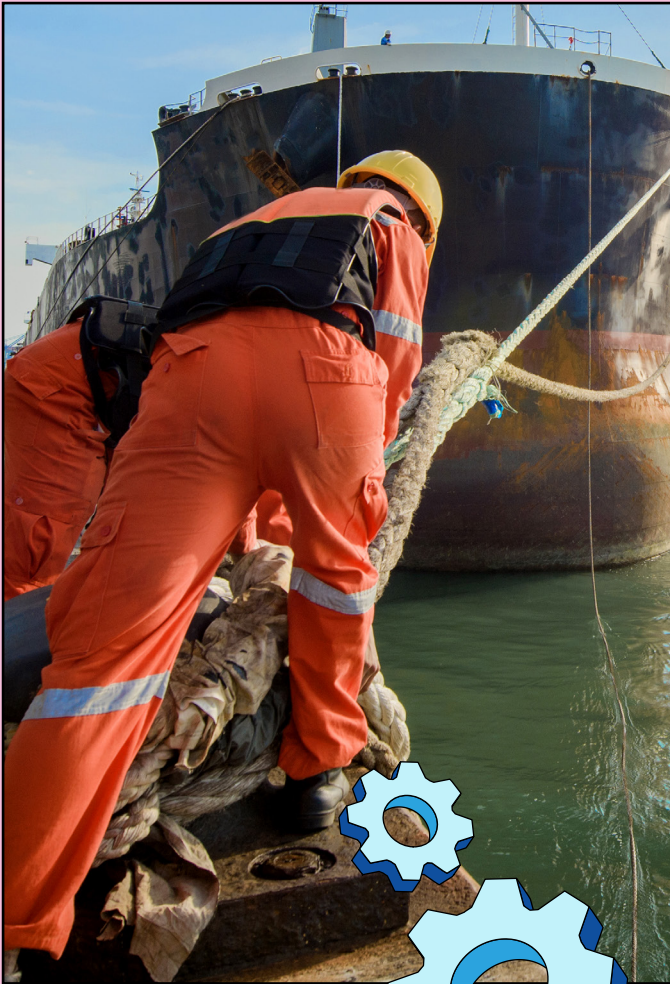
No. Although the Liverpool City Region Freeport and other Freeports are built around maritime ports, there are exceptions. A Freeport is defined as a designated area where goods can be imported, stored, processed or re-exported at a lower cost and faster than other areas. A Freeport can also be inland, such as the East Midlands Freeport.

Where are the UK's Freeports?

Anglesey Freeport, Celtic Freeport, East Midlands Freeport, Freeport East, Forth Green Freeport, Humber Freeport, Inverness and Cromarty Firth Green Freeport, Liverpool City Region Freeport, Plymouth and South Devon Freeport, Solent Freeport, Teesside Freeport, and Thames Freeport.

What role does freight play in the Freeport sector?

The freight industry manages the logistics and physical transportation of goods. Therefore, there are many logistics job roles in the Liverpool City Region Freeport and other Freeports.



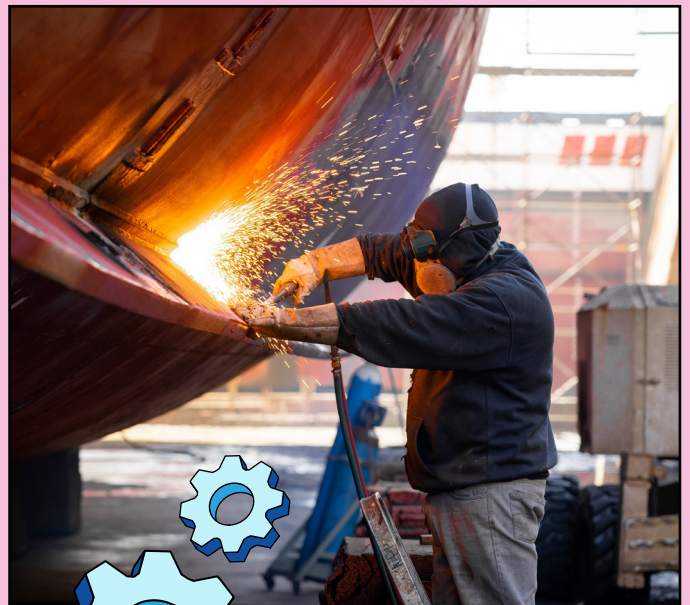
What are the Career Pathways & Job Roles?

Freeport career pathways

In an entry-level job such as a border force officer or forklift driver, you'll help manage goods entering the country through ports and airports or help move freight across warehouses and docks, following regulations and gaining valuable practical experience.

A mid-level role could see you using operations know-how to manage large depots as a warehouse manager or overseeing international trade as a freight operations supervisor. Over time, you could train to develop technical skills to become a heavy goods driver or take on additional responsibilities as a process lead.

To progress into higher-level roles, such as naval architect or supply chain leadership professional, you could develop leadership skills or advanced technical knowledge in a specialist area.



£1.2bn

is invested in new port and
logistics infrastructure in
Liverpool City Region.



Freeport Job Roles

There are hundreds of different job roles in the Freeport sector.
Here's just a sample:

Position	Role & tasks	Salary
Delivery van driver	Plays a vital role in transporting and delivering goods across the country, connecting ports and trade terminals with millions of destinations. Ensures timely transport of products for businesses or individuals.	Up to £27,000
Import-export clerk	Manages freight records and bookings using administration skills and knowledge of transport methods, geography, costs, and tax regulations. Communicates with other team members and officials to organise the transport of goods, managing invoices and payments relating to trade.	Up to £30,000
Warehouse manager	Oversees the operations of a warehouse, managing staff and ensuring goods are kept according to regulations and industry standards. Supervises the process of receiving, storing, and dispatching goods to and from the warehouse.	Up to £34,000
Crane operator	Lift and move industrial materials for construction or unloading container ships. Understands and follows essential safety rules, using problem-solving skills to accurately manoeuvre heavy machinery.	Up to £37,000
Freight forwarding specialist	Chooses appropriate transport services to move goods internationally across trade routes. Calculates weight, volume, or cost of goods accurately and records these details carefully.	Up to £40,000
Marine engineering technician	Designs, builds, and maintains parts of ships and whole vessels. Uses engineering knowledge to recognise problems and find solutions, efficiently carrying out repairs and preventing future issues.	Up to £43,000



Earn up to
£80,000
per year

Position	Role & tasks	Salary
Supply chain manager	Controls the movement of goods from suppliers to customers by overseeing the entire manufacturing process and product delivery. Communicates with clients and suppliers to optimise processes and increase output.	Up to £48,000
Road transport manager	Plans and manages road transport, ensuring that employees follow road regulations and that vehicles are fully operational. Ensures safe transport and goods across the UK, connecting trade ports with distribution centres.	Up to £55,000
Naval architect	Oversees engineering design teams to create safe, seaworthy, and cost-effective vessels. Prepares and checks design plans, and tests specifications using simulations and 3D models, coordinating manufacturing or repair processes, guaranteeing optimal performance and compliance.	Up to £65,000
Merchant Navy deck officer	Navigates and manages the safe travel of ships, relying on their own judgement and technologies such as radar and computer systems. Understands complex technical and safety regulations. Plans and executes ship travel, cargo loading and unloading, stability, communication and maintaining all the ship's parts.	Up to £80,000



Getting into Freeport

At entry-level

You can train for an entry-level position with a T-level for a specialist role such as boat builder or engineering fitter. If you want to progress while on the job, you could complete a level 2 or 3 apprenticeship, leading to roles such as international freight forwarding specialist or port agent.

At mid-level

For mid-level positions, you could take a higher technical qualification (HTQ) or degree apprenticeship and become a process leader or engineering manufacturing technician. Other options include a foundation degree in business with international business management or a similar subject, where you can develop your understanding of global trade and learn management skills.

At senior level

More complex roles, such as naval architect or marine technical superintendent, you will typically need a university degree in a related area. You could also choose from a range of degree apprenticeships, which could lead you to roles such as marine surveyor or engineering business manager.

Subjects to study at school & beyond

- Business & accounting
- Design & technology
- Engineering
- Electronics
- Maths
- Science

Core skills and knowledge to build

- Analytical thinking
- Communication
- Business knowledge
- Foreign languages
- IT skills
- Leadership skills
- Problem-solving
- Project management
- Sustainability knowledge

Test Your Knowledge

(Answers on back page)



Q1. Is a Freeport always a maritime port?

Q2. Which of the following jobs are typically found in the freeport sector? (Choose as many as you wish)

- Warehouse manager
- International freight forwarding specialist
- Artificial intelligence specialist
- Marine engineer

Q3. There are 10 freeports in the UK.

True or false?

Q4. How many port and logistics businesses are based in Liverpool City Region?

Q5. Which of these investors contributed £10m to the Port of Liverpool entryway?

- A.** Allseas Global
- B.** ADM Agriculture
- C.** Peel Ports
- D.** Drax Group Plc

Q6. Which of the following industries could a career in the freeport sector find you in? (Tick as many as you wish)

- Commercial
- Healthcare
- Marketing
- Engineering

Q7. Give an example of an apprenticeship or training course that could prepare someone for a role in the freeport sector.

Q8. What are the skills necessary for a career in the Freeport sector? Name three.

Q9. What role does a supply chain manager play in the Freeport sector?

- A.** Supervises only the transport of products and goods.
- B.** Manages the entire process of goods being made, transported, and delivered.
- C.** Only manages the manufacture of a product.
- D.** Fills out invoices for services.

Q10. Fill in the blank: £_____ billion has been contributed to Liverpool City Region's Freeport.

- Quiz Answers**
- Q1.** No. Although almost all UK Freeports are built around a maritime port, a Freeport can also be inland like the East Midlands Freeport.
- Q2.** Warehouse manager, international freight forwarding specialist, marine engineer.
- Q3.** False – there are 12.
- Q4.** 3,400+
- Q5.** C
- Q6.** Commercial Engineering.
- Q7.** Level 2 or 3 apprenticeship, such as an international freight forwarding specialist or port agent, or a foundation degree in a related subject like business and international business management.
- Q8.** Problem-solving, business knowledge, sustainability knowledge (or any other from the brochure content).
- Q9.** B
- Q10.** 12