

The 10 biggest job announcements in Wales in 2022

Despite the challenging economic outlook in 2022, many firms in Wales have announced major expansion plans this year which promise to create thousands of new jobs.

Here, BusinessLive Wales rounds up the ten companies from across the nation that have made big job creation announcements this year.

Has your firm created jobs or is a recruitment drive planned across Wales in the New Year? Email sion.barry@reachplc.com or lauren.phillips@reachplc.com with the full details.

PwC

Up to 300 new jobs are set to be created in Cardiff in a boost for the city's professional and financial services sector.

PwC is recruiting for a wide range of roles including supply chain and operations specialists, technologists, project managers, data scientists and graduate roles.

The [announcement](#) was made by the firm earlier this month with much of the recruitment delivered over the next 18 months. The firm is taking a further 10,000 sq ft office space in the centre of the city at the 1 Kingsway building to support the new recruits.

The Magic Bean Co



The Magic Bean Co is one of the fastest growing Starbucks franchises in the UK.

Swansea coffee franchise The Magic Bean Co announced in June that it plans to increase its 25 Starbucks drive-thru sites to 200 across the UK over the next five years.

The business, which also owns franchised sites for Denny's, currently employs 370 staff and works closely with Starbucks to identify opportunities for growth in new locations.

[More than 4,000 jobs](#) will be created throughout the UK as a result of the expansion which is being funded with a £10m package from HSBC.

Airbus



Airbus airplane site, Broughton, Flintshire, Wales.

(Image: WalesOnline/Rob Browne)

Airbus is expected to create around 500 jobs as part of [plans](#) to ramp up production at its wing-making factory in Broughton, Flintshire.

The aerospace giant confirmed proposals to expand production of the hugely popular A320 family. Production levels slumped during the pandemic with monthly A320 rates going from 60 to 40 and job numbers falling from around 6,000 to just over 4,000.

However, the company is now aiming for a monthly rate of 65 by summer 2023 and 75 in 2025, with the latest investment boost potentially creating between 450 and 550 new jobs as a result.

Kepak



Chris Jones, general manager outside the Kepak St Merryn facility in Merthyr Tydfil

(Image: Gareth Everett/Huw Evans Agency)

Kepak announced in June it was creating over [100 new jobs](#) at its site in Merthyr Tydfil following a £5.5m investment.

The Irish food company, which employs over 850 people, supplies prime cuts of meat and convenience foods to restaurants and foodservice operators in the UK and internationally.

Its brands include Rustlers, Big Al's, Celtic Beef, McIntosh Donald, Watergrass Hill, Black Angus, and Hereford Beef.

It is now looking to fill new positions in manufacturing, operations, IT, engineering and technical, consisting of both supervisor and support roles.

PCI Pharma Services



PCI Pharma Services in Tredegar, Blaenau Gwent
(Image: Gwent Gazette)

PCI Pharma Services will be creating jobs as part of plans to open two new facilities at its site in Tafarnaubach Industrial Estate in Blaenau Gwent.

The firm provides drug development and manufacturing services for the pharmaceutical industry and currently employs 500 people in Tredegar.

The multi-million pound [expansion](#) will see 40 jobs created in the first year with potential to increase the workforce as the facilities scale up.

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Ciner Glass



Ciner Glass is investing £390m in a new factory making glass containers from recycled bottles.

Plans for a new factory at the Rassau Industrial Estate at Ebbw Vales by Turkish firm Ciner Glass is promising to create [600 jobs](#) in the area.

The company announced in June that it was investing in a new £390m factory making glass containers from recycled bottles.

The project is also expected to support 1,200 indirect jobs in its wider supply chain, while 400 to 500 jobs will be created during construction of the factory, with several hundred

people working on site during the peak of construction.

Mona Island Dairy

Back in April 2022, Mona Island Dairy on Anglesey unveiled its [£20m cheese factory](#) which aims to have a workforce of over 100 staff by 2023.

Production at the 25,000 sq ft factory started in June producing 7,000 tons of Welsh and continental cheeses every year.

Supported by a £3m grant from the Welsh Government, the net-zero dairy is powered by renewable energy and uses traditional and modern methods to manufacture edam, gouda and cheddar and a range of artisan cheeses using milk from local farms.

Starling Bank



CEO and founder of Starling Bank, Swansea-born Anne Boden
(Image: Starling Bank)

Fast-expanding digital bank Starling announced its latest recruitment drive in [October](#).

It is creating a 150 jobs in Cardiff which will take its workforce in the city to 1,200 – having already established itself as one of the city's biggest private sector employers.

The fintech venture has three million customers in the UK and is likely to float on the London Stock Exchange over the next two years.

Tandem Bank



Tandem Bank chief executive Susie Alikar with deputy chief executive Alex Mollart

(Image: ©2021 Professional Images (UK) Ltd)

Cardiff's fintech sector saw another boost this year when the UK's original challenger bank Tandem Digital announced a major [recruitment](#) drive.

The challenger bank, which currently employs 70, is creating 100 new jobs in the city as part of plans to expand its Cardiff operation which will serve as a base for its motor finance business and a centre of excellence for wider lending operations.

It is currently located in serviced offices on Cathedral Road but is committed to moving to large offices, around 13,000 sq ft, in the city centre at a yet to be disclosed location.

Caerdav



Bruce Dickinson at Caerdav's MRO facility in St Athan

The aviation maintenance firm chaired by lead singer of Iron Maiden, Bruce Dickinson, announced it was creating [100 jobs](#) in South Wales in the summer this year.

Caerdav, based at St Athan, announced it was creating new roles on the back of a £4m investment.

The company, which is owned by the lead singer, provides aircraft maintenance, repair and overhaul (MRO), consultancy and pilot training services to large carriers, aircraft leasing companies and private clients.

It will use the funding to expand upon its current record order book and strong new business pipeline.

Read more:

- [Business rates in Wales will be frozen for the 2023-24 financial year](#)
- [The Welsh firms adapting and innovating in the face of the economic crisis](#)
- [The challenges facing scale-up firms](#)
- [The new £50m equity fund for the Cardiff Capital Region](#)