

LEVEL 4 APPRENTICESHIP · ST1512 · CMI LEVEL 5 INCLUDED

AI for *Operations* Leaders.

The **natural alternative** to the defunded Operations / Departmental Manager Level 5 (ST0385). Built by the TESS leadership team — same operational leadership content, plus AI fluency, plus a **CMI Level 5 Award in Management & Leadership** included free.

<p>3</p> <p>Premium qualifications included free</p>	<p>15_{mo}</p> <p>Delivery + Gateway & EPA</p>	<p>100%</p> <p>Apprenticeship Levy funded</p>	<p>4.9★</p> <p>689+ verified reviews</p>
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★ **CMI Level 5 Award in Management & Leadership** — Unit 514 Managing Change

8 **leadership modules across 4 intensive days** — every ST0385 module waives in

11 **AI & Automation modules** — ST1512 curriculum

M **Microsoft AB-730 AI Business Professional**

N **NCFE Level 3 AI Prompt Mastery** — TESS exclusive

AI **Coachy AI tutor** — 24/7, included free

△ FUNDING DEADLINE · SEPTEMBER 2026

Operations / Departmental Manager L5 is being defunded.

Move your middle managers onto the natural alternative — no transition cost, no procurement disruption.





FUNDING CHANGE · EFFECTIVE SEPTEMBER 2026

Operations / Departmental Manager L5 (ST0385) is being defunded.

It's among the standards losing apprenticeship funding from September 2026. No direct successor standard has been announced. Middle and senior operations leadership isn't going anywhere — but the way employers fund it needs to change.

— THE NATURAL ALTERNATIVE

Every ST0385 module. *Plus* *AI fluency.*

Built by the TESS leadership team that delivered the Operations / Departmental Manager Level 5 standard. **Every one of the 12 taught modules from the old curriculum waives directly into 8 deeper leadership modules** across 4 intensive days — plus 11 AI & Automation modules, a formal CMI Level 5 Award, and Coachy your AI tutor. All in one Levy-funded apprenticeship.

DEFUNDED · SEP 2026

Operations / Departmental Manager L5 (ST0385)

12 TAUGHT MODULES · OLD STANDARD

- 01 Managing Professional Development
- 02 Professional Ethics, Regulation & Compliance
- 03 Coaching & Mentoring
- 04 Improving Performance & Goal Setting
- 05 Communication & Culture
- 06 Stakeholder Relations
- 07 Governance & Compliance
- 08 Sector Awareness & External Factors
- 09 Managing Change
- 10 Project Delivery
- 11 Sustainability & Risk Management
- 12 Strategic Planning & Decision Making

THE SUCCESSOR

AI for Operations Leaders L4 + CMI L5

8 LEADERSHIP MODULES · NEW STANDARD

- 01 Managing Professional Development & Self-Awareness
- 02 Strategic Planning & Decision Making
- 03 Coaching, Mentoring & Performance
- 04 Leading & Developing High-Performing Teams
- 05 Communication, Culture & Stakeholder Influence
- 06 Managing Change — CMI 514
- 07 Project Delivery & Sustainability
- 08 Governance, Sector Awareness & External Factors

PLUS 11 AI modules · CMI Level 5 Award · Microsoft AB-730 · NCFE Level 3 AI Prompt · Coachy AI tutor

Why this beats the old Operations Manager L5

- 01 **AI fluency built in** — the biggest capability gap in middle management today.
- 02 **12 modules waive into 8** — same content, less time off the desk.
- 03 **CMI Level 5 Award included free** — chartered, portable, lifetime.
- 04 **Coachy AI tutor 24/7** — board-prep & CMI 514 help on demand.
- 05 **Live ST1512 funding** — no procurement disruption.
- 06 **72% distinction rate** — measurably stronger managers.

THE STACK

Three premium qualifications. *All included free.*

The apprenticeship is the **ST1512 AI & Automation Practitioner Level 4** standard. On top, TESS includes a curated stack of qualifications — all **complimentary**. No extra cost. No separate enrolments. No add-on fees.

★ FLAGSHIP · INCLUDED FREE



CMI Level 5 Award in Management & Leadership

The **gold-standard credential for middle managers**. Apprentices complete the formal CMI assignment for unit **514 Managing Change** — the most natural companion to an AI programme, addressing how to introduce AI into teams and operations. Chartered, portable, lifetime — stays on the CV.

Level 5

Unit 514 · Formally assessed

Chartered Mgmt Institute

ncfe.

COMPLIMENTARY

NCFE Level 3 CQ in AI Prompt Mastery

Bespoke TESS qualification. Master prompt engineering across **ChatGPT, Microsoft Copilot, Gemini and Claude**. Apply prompts to forecasting, supply-chain analysis, board reporting and operational decisions.

Level 3 CQ

TESS exclusive



COMPLIMENTARY

Microsoft AB-730 AI Business Professional

Microsoft's globally recognised credential. Demonstrates proficiency in **Copilot, generative AI tools and enterprise AI adoption**. The badge that travels with your operations leader on LinkedIn and into every boardroom.

Professional

AB-730



HIGH ACHIEVERS

BCS Foundation Certificate in AI

For top-performing learners. Covers AI ethics, governance, responsible deployment and generative AI — SFIA 3-4 equivalent. Doubles as End Point Assessment preparation.

Foundation

Stretch goal



PLUS · INCLUDED FREE WITH EVERY LEARNER

Coachy — your AI tutor, 24/7.

Built on Claude. Scoped to the ST1512 standard, EPA-safe by design. Ask questions about decision frameworks, change models, the CMI 514 assignment or board-prep — any time, mobile or desktop.

FLAGSHIP LEADERSHIP CURRICULUM

Eight modules. *Four intensive days.*

Two paired leadership modules per day — immersive, themed, efficient. **Every one of the 12 ST0385 modules waives** into these 8 deeper sessions across 4 dedicated leadership days. Maximum depth, minimum time off the desk.

<p>DAY 1 FOUNDATIONS</p> <p>Who you are as a leader <i>Self-awareness, CPD & strategy</i></p> <p>LM1 · Professional Development & Self-Awareness LM2 · Strategic Planning & Decision Making</p>	<p>DAY 2 PEOPLE</p> <p>Build the team that delivers <i>Coaching, mentoring & succession</i></p> <p>LM3 · Coaching, Mentoring & Performance LM4 · Leading High-Performing Teams</p>	<p>DAY 3 MASTERY </p> <p>Influence & change <i>Stakeholders + CMI 514 assignment</i></p> <p>LM5 · Communication, Culture & Influence LM6 · Managing Change — CMI 514</p>	<p>DAY 4 DELIVERY</p> <p>Deliver through complexity <i>Projects, sustainability & governance</i></p> <p>LM7 · Project Delivery & Sustainability LM8 · Governance, Sector & External Factors</p>
<p>LM1 DAY 1 · FOUNDATIONS</p> <p>Professional Development & Self-Awareness</p> <p>Waives ST0385 #1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strengths, blind spots, derailers Johari Window & 360° feedback CPD that compounds over time Energy, focus, resilience Reflective practice that drives change 	<p>LM2 DAY 1 · STRATEGY</p> <p>Strategic Planning & Decision Making</p> <p>Waives ST0385 #12</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> OGSM framework for ops planning RACI, RAPID, OODA, Eisenhower Defensible business cases Pilot, scale, kill — decision gates Leave with: your 90-day plan 	<p>LM3 DAY 2 · PEOPLE</p> <p>Coaching, Mentoring & Performance</p> <p>Waives ST0385 #3/4</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coaching vs mentoring vs managing GROW model in practice SMART goals that compound output 1:1s that earn the team's trust Tackle underperformance early 	<p>LM4 DAY 2 · PEOPLE</p> <p>Leading High-Performing Teams</p> <p>Supplements ST0385 #4</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tuckman + Lencioni's 5 Dysfunctions Psychological safety in practice Spot capability gaps in 60 seconds Identify 3 successors, stretch plan Measure team health holistically
<p>LM5 DAY 3 · INFLUENCE</p> <p>Communication, Culture & Influence</p> <p>Waives ST0385 #5/6</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7-slide executive briefing Frame for CEO/CFO/COO/CHRO Manager cascade that doesn't dilute Influence without formal authority Shape culture deliberately 	<p>LM6 DAY 3 · ★ CMI 514</p> <p>Managing Change — CMI 514</p> <p>Waives ST0385 #9</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kotter, ADKAR, Bridges' Transitions Map change impact across stakeholders Resistance signals managers miss Sustain change after launch Earn the CMI L5 Award credential 	<p>LM7 DAY 4 · DELIVERY</p> <p>Project Delivery & Sustainability</p> <p>Waives ST0385 #10/11</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Waterfall, Agile, hybrid — when each Estimating & stage-gating Risk heat-maps & mitigation ESG & sustainability in delivery Benefits realisation post-close 	<p>LM8 DAY 4 · DELIVERY</p> <p>Governance, Sector & External Factors</p> <p>Waives ST0385 #2/7/8</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Professional ethics & accountability Governance frameworks across sectors PESTLE + Porter's 5 Forces Sector AI maturity & regulation Horizon-scan briefing for your CEO

AI & AUTOMATION CURRICULUM

The 11 AI modules. *ST1512 standard.*

The official **ST1512 AI & Automation Practitioner Level 4** curriculum — 11 KSB-aligned modules delivered across 15 months. The 8 leadership modules above are delivered **separately and complimentary** on top of this.

- 01 AI Ethics & Values
- 02 Governance, Law & GDPR
- 03 Spotting Waste & Inefficiency
- 04 Building for People
- 05 No-Code Automation Tools
- 06 Data-Driven Decision Making
- 07 Change Mgmt & AI Impact
- 08 Agile Testing & Piloting
- 09 AI Risk & Security
- 10 Winning AI Buy-In
- 11 Microsoft Copilot in Practice
- + EPA Prep & Portfolio

COACHY — INCLUDED FREE

Your AI tutor, *24/7.*

Built on Claude, scoped to the ST1512 standard, EPA-safe by design. Apprentices can ask Coachy about decision frameworks, change models, the CMI 514 assignment or board-prep — any time. **Mobile and desktop.**

1

Named Skills Coach

Fortnightly 1:1 mentoring across 15 months.

2

OneFile Portfolio

Evidence collection & gateway readiness.

3

Peer Cohort

Group learning + EPA prep tutors.

4

Live Workshops

Zoom or Teams · monthly intakes.

- 77%**

Faster workflow cycle times via AI
- 15%**

Operating cost reduction
- 35%**

Forecast accuracy improvement
- 72%**

Distinction-grade rate at EPA

— HOW TESS COMPARES

The only programme of its kind *in the UK.*

The only UK provider combining a CMI Level 5 Award in Management & Leadership with the live ST1512 AI & Automation apprenticeship — the natural alternative to the defunded Operations / Departmental Manager L5.

What you get	TESS AI for Ops Leaders L4 + CMI L5	Ops Manager L5 (defunded Sep 2026)	Typical AI provider
CMI Level 5 Award in Management & Leadership	✓	Partial	✗
8 leadership modules (covers all 12 ST0385 modules)	✓	✓	✗
AI & Automation curriculum (11 modules)	✓	✗	Partial
Microsoft AB-730 + NCFE L3 AI Prompt	✓	✗	✗
Workplace AI project — board-ready ROI	✓	Partial	✗
Coachy AI tutor — 24/7, free	✓	✗	✗
Levy-funded (Sep 2026 onwards)	✓	Defunded	✓

FUNDING BAND

£18,000

100% drawn from the Apprenticeship Levy.
SMEs: 95-100% government co-investment.

- ✓ **Levy payers:** £0 out-of-pocket. Cost drawn from your monthly Levy.
- ✓ **SMEs (under £3M wage bill):** 95-100% DfE co-investment.
- ✓ **All qualifications complimentary** — CMI L5 + NCFE L3 + Microsoft AB-730 + BCS Foundation.
- ✓ **No transition cost** — moves directly from Ops Manager L5 plans onto a live standard.

READY WHEN YOU ARE

Book a 25-min Teams chat with TESS.

No obligation. We'll walk you through how the programme works for your operations, your sector and your Levy.

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SCAN WITH YOUR PHONE
Book in 30 seconds