

focus on

a career in traffic
and transportation

local government talent: careers



What is traffic and transportation?

Traffic and transportation work within a local council is about planning, designing, building and managing an integrated transport system that fulfils the economic and social needs of an area, but also takes into consideration environmental and safety concerns.

What kind of work would I be doing?

The work of a traffic and transportation department covers a whole range of functions including road building, traffic congestion, pollution, public transport, school transport and car parking.

Working in traffic and transportation, you would be involved in activities such as: monitoring traffic hot spots and considering solutions; assessing the environmental impact of new road building schemes; compiling strategic transport plans; reviewing the efficiency and effectiveness of public transport and improving it; assessing the traffic accident rate and implementing schemes such as traffic lights or pedestrian crossings to reduce accidents; ensuring there are safe routes to school for children; proposing and implementing traffic calming measures or cycle lanes.

Where can I find out more?

local government careers information,
job vacancies and talent pool:
www.LGtalent.com

national graduate development programme:
www.ngdp.co.uk

transport planning careers website:
www.transportationopportunities.org.uk

Insider view: 'On a day to day basis I am involved in assisting with the design and management of highway schemes, recording and inspecting highway structures, assisting with tender processes, working with appointed contractors, and carrying out site inspections. I enjoy the job, as it is always different and my work can change daily. There are always new schemes to work on and new things to learn. I've already completed an Apprenticeship and am about to start an HNC in civil engineering.'

What kind of jobs are there?

Here are some examples of traffic and transportation related job roles:

- highways engineer
- public transport officer
- rights of way officer
- road safety engineer
- school transport adviser
- traffic and transportation engineer
- transport manager
- transport planner.

What qualifications do I need?

You could gain a degree in a subject such as geography or mathematics and then go on to study for a postgraduate qualification in transport management. Alternatively, you could qualify as a civil engineer or town planner and specialise in traffic and transportation.

What skills do I need?

You need to be:

- an excellent problem solver,
- a logical thinker,
- practical and creative,
- able to communicate well, verbally and in writing,
- a good researcher,
- organised and have good planning skills.

How much would I get paid?

Salaries vary around the country, but qualified transport planners and engineers may earn £20-30,000 per year.

Are there any other benefits?

Working for a local council can offer a lot of additional benefits, not least, the great feeling of being able to help people in your own community and do something worthwhile and rewarding.

Local councils may also offer some or all of the following: generous annual leave, flexible working hours, pension scheme membership, reduced price public transport, gym membership, crèche facilities, employee guidance and support groups.

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