

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY & DECARBONISATION

More than two-thirds of councils across the UK have declared a climate emergency. They are now building their internal expertise around environmental sustainability to translate these political commitments into real action, and real reductions in carbon emissions. Roles range from cross-cutting strategies coordinating climate action across an Authority, to more technical work delivering specific projects or programmes. Environmental Sustainability and Decarbonisation placements may involve:

- Securing political and senior commitment to ambitious, evidence-based and deliverable sustainability targets.
- Developing corporate or departmental climate action plans or sustainability strategies and running workshops to raise awareness internally.
- Reviewing climate action plans across the council and ensuring these are embedded throughout the planning and development process.
- Identifying funding sources and delivery partners to support the implementation of climate action plans.
- Developing frameworks for measuring impacts of climate action plans.
- Promoting active travel and modal shift by engaging with local communities and organisations across all sectors.
- Raising sustainability standards for Authorities' own development programmes.
- Establishing and managing programmes retrofitting existing public sector housing and other buildings.
- Embedding green and blue infrastructure in new developments using policy and the planning process.
- Establishing sustainability strategies and behavioural change programmes at the scale of town centres to reduce carbon emissions, encourage modal shift and improve air quality.
- Developing policies and guidance to adopt circular economy principles across departments or Authorities.
- Promoting a green local economy and green skills, in partnership with local businesses and educational institutions.