

## Green Jobs and Skills

London will see rapid growth in green jobs in the coming years, as the sector becomes increasingly crucial for the capital's economy. Research carried out by WPI Economics and Institute for Employment Studies forecasts the number of green jobs in London will increase from 234,000 in 2020 to 605,000 in 2030, and over 1m by 2050. This represents an increase of almost 350% in just three decades. Job growth will be fastest in green finance and low carbon transport.

Green skills are abilities, knowledge, and expertise that help individuals contribute to environmental sustainability and include jobs or industries that undertake activities that directly contributes to - or indirectly supports - the achievement of the UK's net zero emissions target and other environmental goals, such as nature restoration and mitigation against climate risks. They include:

- Homes and buildings: Including retrofit, building new energy-efficient homes, heat pumps, smart devices and controls, heat networks and hydrogen boilers.
- Low carbon transport: Including low or zero emission vehicles, aviation and maritime, rail, public transport and walking or cycling.
- Power: Including renewables (such as wind, solar and hydropower), nuclear power, grid infrastructure, energy storage and smart systems technology.
- Industrial decarbonisation, hydrogen and carbon capture and storage: Including hydrogen production and industrial use, carbon capture, utilisation & storage (CCUS) and industrial decarbonisation.
- Green Finance: The concentration of financial activity in Central London means that in our context Green Finance could be a key area to identify separately.
- Climate change research & development: Including private sector, academic and public research.
- Climate change strategy, policy, monitoring and planning: Including public, private and NGO sector strategy and policy, outreach to citizens, environmental monitoring and use of planning system to achieve net zero.
- Climate adaption: Including flood defences, retrofitting of buildings to be resilient to extreme weather/climate events, nature-based solutions to reduce climate impacts and civil and mechanical engineering for infrastructure adaptation.
- Reducing localised pollution: Including air pollution, water pollution and noise; London has ambitious goals across all three of these areas.
- Reduce, reuse, recycle: Including waste management and circular economy.
- Green infrastructure: Within a London context this will focus on urban green infrastructure, and include activity aimed at increasing biodiversity directly or through offsetting.

Source: WPI Economics

### **These Green Skills matter to Havering because they:**

- **Address climate change:** Climate change is one of the most pressing issues of our time, and transitioning to a green economy is essential for dealing with its effects. Green jobs help us face climate change by reducing greenhouse gas emissions, conserving resources, and promoting sustainable practices.
- **Foster economic growth:** Green jobs can drive economic growth by creating new industries and market opportunities. As the demand for renewable energy, eco-

friendly products, and sustainable practices increases, green jobs will continue to expand and provide a stable source of employment.

- **Increase resource efficiency:** Green jobs contribute to the efficient use of resources by promoting recycling, waste reduction, and energy efficiency. These practices not only protect the environment but also save businesses and consumers money in the long run.
- **Promoting Biodiversity and Conservation:** Green skills foster a better understanding of how to protect local ecosystems, wildlife, and natural resources. Residents can take an active role in conservation efforts, whether it's through tree planting, habitat restoration, or waste reduction programs.
- **Enhancing Community Resilience:** Green jobs often provide quality employment opportunities and fair wages, contributing to social equity and poverty reduction. Many green jobs require diverse skill sets and education levels, making them accessible to a broad range of people.

### How can Green Skills benefit you?

- **Personal Empowerment:** Gain the knowledge to make informed decisions about your energy use, waste management, and personal consumption.
- **Cost Savings:** Reduce utility costs through energy-efficient home improvements and sustainable living practices.
- **Job Opportunities:** Develop the skills needed for emerging green industries and be part of the sustainable workforce.
- **Healthier Environment:** Contribute to a cleaner, greener, and more sustainable Havering for yourself and future generations.

### How to get involved:

- **Assess your skills and interests:** Identify what you're good at and what you enjoy. Look for green jobs that match these strengths. For example, if you like solving problems and working with your hands, consider becoming a solar panel installer or wind turbine technician.
- **Research the industry:** Learn about different sectors in the green job market and stay up to date on trends. This will help you target your job search and identify potential opportunities.
- **Pursue relevant education and training:** Depending on the field you're interested in, you may need to acquire specific qualifications or certifications. Consider enrolling in courses or degree programmes related to your chosen field, such as renewable energy, environmental management, or sustainable agriculture. You can also pursue training and employment opportunities through Generation's global network of programmes.
- **Gain experience:** Look for internships, volunteer opportunities, or entry-level environmental jobs to gain hands-on experience and build your resume. Explore our programme offerings in your region to see how we can help support your career growth! Networking with professionals in the industry can also open doors to job opportunities and valuable insights.
- **Use transferable skills:** If you're switching from another industry, identify the skills you've got that may be applicable to a green job. For example, project management, communication, and analytical skills can be valuable assets in many roles.
- **Join professional associations and organisations:** Becoming a member of industry-specific associations and organisations can provide access to job listings,

networking events, and professional development resources, giving you a competitive edge in the job market.

Green jobs play a pivotal role in addressing the environmental challenges of today and shaping a sustainable future for tomorrow. By pursuing a career in this field, you'll not only contribute to the betterment of the planet, but will also enjoy a fulfilling and meaningful profession. With a wide range of opportunities available across multiple sectors, there's never been a better time to explore the world of green jobs and embark on a rewarding career path.