



# Sustainability Manager

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*With the help of my team, I embed sustainability within the whole University, which is varied and exciting! Our students are the generation that will have to tackle the world's environmental challenges so universities are perfectly placed to help teach them more about sustainability issues and help them develop skills to solve the problems.*

## Why I chose my job

I love my job for two reasons:

1. No two days are the same. I get to work with lots of (great) interesting people, learn about new topics and I am always challenged. It's never dull!
2. I get to make a difference. I can point to things around campus that are making a difference and know that I helped make that happen. Last year we engaged with thousands of students who all go back to their corner of the globe and their chosen career knowing and caring a bit more about the environment. In my job a small effort can make a huge difference.

## The day-to-day

My job includes making sure we manage our carbon footprint responsibly, build greener buildings and teach students the environmental knowledge and skills they will need. It's an office-based job but I run around a lot! We always seem to have events, workshops and meetings. Some days I am trying to be creative and come up with exciting marketing campaigns to convince staff or students to get involved in something, other days I'm in meetings presenting a business case to get approval to do something new.

## Key skills

The main skill is to be good at communicating with different types of people, in writing and face-to-face, and persuading them to do things that they might not want to do at first! You also need to be able to see 'the big picture' and come up with project ideas that will help get your organisation where you want it. Other key skills include:

- IT skills
- Ability to learn new subjects and skills quickly
- Ability to analyse data and pull the most interesting facts from it
- Ability to turn facts and figures into concise, interesting reports, press releases and tweets
- Good organisational & time management skills and the ability to deal with lots of projects at once
- If you want to lead a team then the ability to inspire and motivate people is also important.

## Qualifications

Good grades in the core subjects (Maths & English & Science) are essential. Most people in my profession studied an environment-related field, e.g. Geography, Geology, Environmental & Earth Sciences or other Humanities. I also did a PhD in Behaviour Change, although not essential, many people in my position have done a post-graduate qualification in a specialist area such as Environmental Management.

## Salary & Progression

A typical entry level salary for a graduate is typically £20-25,000, rising to £40-60,000 with experience.

## Where to find out more

<https://www.prospects.ac.uk/job-profiles/environmental-manager>

<http://www.endsjobsearch.co.uk/article/job-description-sustainability-manager/>