

# The Diploma

IN PUBLIC SERVICES

## How to become a... Local government graduate

Salary depends on programme: £22,122  
(London £25,309) per year

Promotion to: a variety of roles, including  
management

### Job Description:

Local councils cover over 600 different occupations, so there is something for everyone. Local government is one of the largest graduate employers in the country. Whether employed on specific graduate training schemes or recruited into particular roles, there are many opportunities for graduates to develop a career in local government.

The Improvement and Development Agency (IDeA) runs the national graduate development programme (ngdp) for local government, which offers a two-year leadership development opportunity for those who have the potential to become senior managers and chief executives of the future. The ngdp provides a variety of placements in a host council, supported by study towards a postgraduate diploma in local government management, skills training and mentoring.

There are also a great many graduate professions in local government, such as environmental health, teaching, planning and social work.



### Personal Competencies

Able to work with others

Good communication skills

Drive & determination

Motivated

Analytical

Be persuasive

Well organised & good planner

For more information try visiting:  
[Connexions-direct.com/jobs4u](http://Connexions-direct.com/jobs4u)  
[www.LGjobs.com](http://www.LGjobs.com) for current vacancies  
[www.ngdp.co.uk](http://www.ngdp.co.uk) for the ngdp

### Training and Qualifications

In order to apply for the ngdp you should have an achieved or predicted 2.1 degree in any discipline and you should be eligible to work in the UK without a permit. Requirements for other schemes vary.

Isla took the Advanced Diploma in Public Services. She went on to take a degree in social policy, 'I want to be part of a wide remit, finding new ways to combat challenges. You're accountable to the public, so you have to make it succeed.'

Isla had impressed her university tutors with her passion for the subject and her extended project in policy making is a big part of why she got onto the course. Isla never forgot about her placements during her Diploma and always wanted to get out and work with people as soon as possible, 'I worked with some really passionate people with shoestring budgets and little power to change the world, but it didn't faze them.'

Having successfully graduated Isla decided she definitely wanted to get to work so the ngdp was the perfect way to fast-track her career. 'The Diploma gave me the theory, the placements the practical. University gave me depth, insight and understanding about political situations and the history of services now I'm ready to use these skills'

The scheme will help to show Isla how she works best, how to manage stress, ensure a work life balance and manage conflict. With 600 occupations Isla will definitely have the chance to find the right one for her.