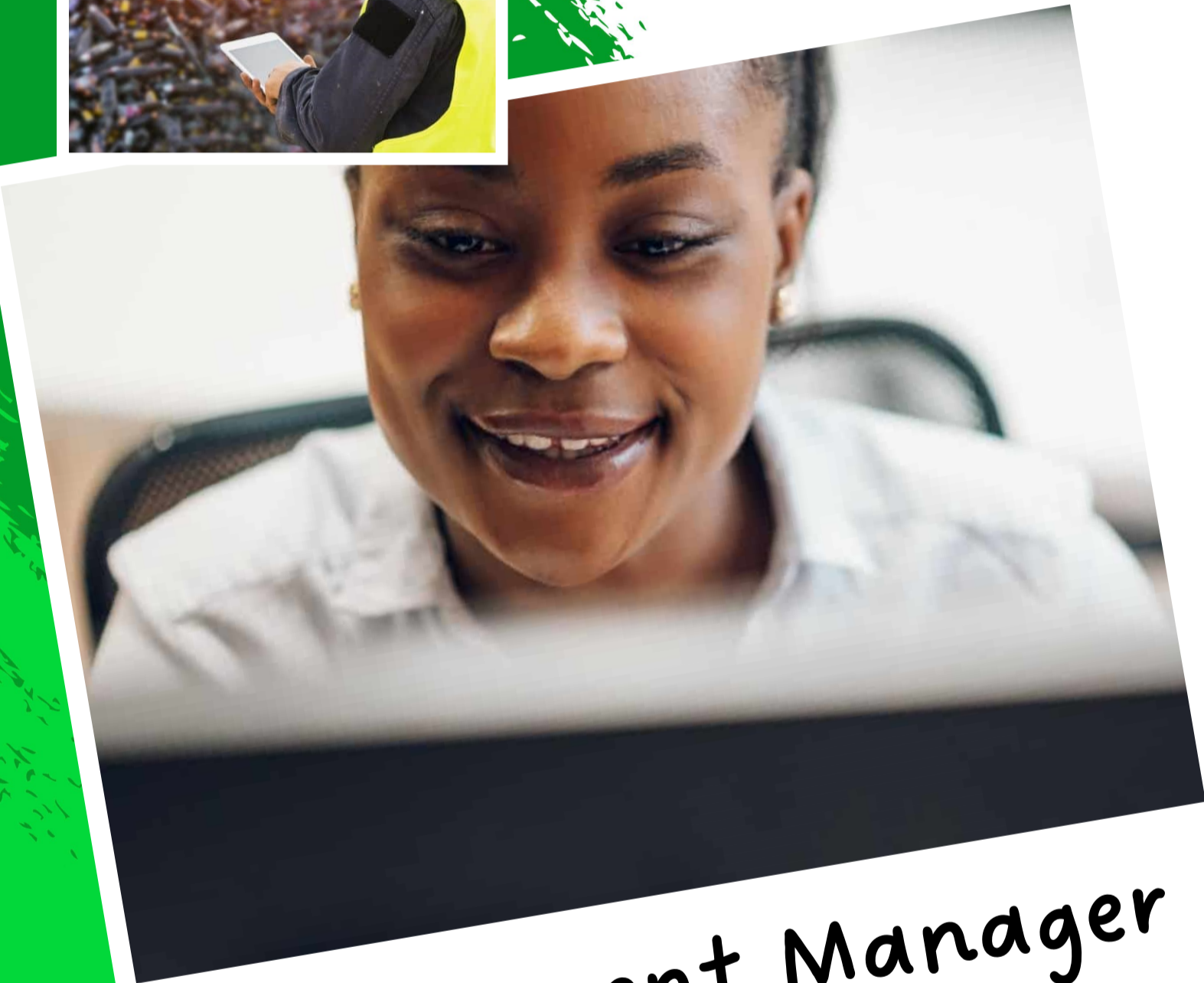


CAREERS

#GREENCAREERSWEEK

JOB OF THE DAY



Environment Manager
Salary range: £25k-£30k



JOB PROFILE

The role of an **Environment Manager** is increasingly important as the urgency associated with environmental and climate change issues is recognised and addressed by organisations in all sectors and of all sizes. An Environment Manager is responsible for ensuring that the organisation meets its environmental policy commitments and improves its environmental performance.

Not only do they monitor performance against and ensure compliance with relevant laws and regulatory requirements, but they are also proactive in identifying and promoting opportunities to reduce the environmental impact of the organisation's activities, products and services.

HOW DOES THIS ROLE ALIGN TO THE GREEN AGENDA?

Environment Managers work with organisations to reduce the environmental impact of their direct operations, as well as their product/services and supply chains; championing good practice and promoting sustainable practices. They also engage with wider stakeholders, such as suppliers, regulators, customers, employees and the local community, to build partnerships that support the green agenda.

A DAY IN THE LIFE

A day in the life of an Environmental Manager will vary significantly depending on the specifics of the role and the organisation or sector in which they are working.

Typical duties and responsibilities include:

- Keeping up to date with appropriate legislation, regulations, permits, consents etc., to keep the organisational policies and procedures up to date and compliant
- Implementing the organisation's environmental management system
- Reviewing environmental data and ensuring the wider business is aware of any developments or issues
- Liaising closely with senior management to ensure environmental considerations are considered in decision-making
- Working closely with specialist consultants and contractors on specific projects
- As part of a wider sustainability / health and safety team, contributing to initiatives such as the organisation's sustainability report and the communication of relevant initiatives to external stakeholders such as investors, customers and local communities etc.
- Liaising with other departments to ensure environmental issues are given due prominence in all aspects of the organisation's operations.

SKILLS AND CAPABILITIES

A mix of technical, interpersonal and analytical skills are required in the role of Environment Manager.

Technical knowledge

- Requires a strong technical knowledge of the relevant regulatory frameworks, national and international standards, and best practices
- Sector experience relevant to the organisation is often advantageous to be able to interpret the regulations and best practice for the business to develop and implement appropriate environmental policies and procedures
- Knowledge and experience of relevant sustainability reporting frameworks will be useful.

Transferable skills:

- Analytical thinking is important to be able to understand and interpret complex data
- Project management skills will be valuable in ensuring environmental improvement projects are managed to agreed timeframes and budgets
- Effective communication and interpersonal skills are crucial to allow successful interaction with internal and external stakeholders, and to be able to present often complex information to a variety of audiences in a clear and concise manner
- Management: broader business management skills such as business case preparation and people management are often useful to ensure alignment with the rest of the organisation.

ENTRY ROUTES

There is no one route into this role. In many organisations, an understanding of the business or sector is crucial and can often be as, or more, important than academic qualifications, particularly if this is supported through professional certifications. Academic qualifications are usually the starting point for a role in Environment Management, with a bachelor's degree in a science, engineering or sustainable business-related topic being most common .

POTENTIAL CAREER PROGRESSION

There are several potential paths for an Environment Manager, which could include:

- A more senior Environment Management role or one with a more complex/diverse or less-advanced organisation.
- A role with wider responsibilities such as for broader health and safety, sustainability, corporate social responsibility or environmental, social and governance activities.
- A consultancy role either as an independent specialist or as part of a larger consulting organisation.
- A leadership role, either using their specialist knowledge and experience (e.g. as Chief Sustainability Officer) or taking a broader business management role.