

HELPING PEOPLE LIVE TOGETHER

Housing manager



Housing isn't all about bricks and mortar. It takes people to make houses homes and, in the public sector, housing managers to make sure that people are getting the type of homes and communities they want. If you have good inter-personal skills and want a job with real social value, joining a local authority or a housing association as a housing manager could be for you. Your job would involve liaising with tenants on housing applications, benefits and tenancy agreements and checking housing is fit to live in. Or you might have a broader role, working on regeneration projects or measures designed to tackle anti-social behaviour.

Degree needed

A career in housing management is open to graduates from any discipline. However, the following subjects are considered particularly relevant: housing; facilities management; land, estate and property management; urban studies; planning; business management; politics; government; public and social administration; economics; sociology; and law.



Chloe Porter at work

Development assistant, Metropolitan Housing Trust



Good courses

- BA Hons Housing Studies (London South Bank University)
- BSc Hons Real Estate Management (Oxford Brookes University)
- BA Hons Business and Social Administration (University of Wales, Bangor)

Starting salary

£17,500 to £25,000, depending on location.

Working hours

Generally 9 to 5, but meetings often take place in the evening.

Days' holiday per year

25 on average.

Skills and experience

The emphasis is on personal skills such as customer care and an interest in work with a social value is important.

Would suit

Someone who is comfortable dealing with members of the public, extrovert and with good communication skills.

Likely employer types

- Housing associations
- Local authority housing departments and arm's length management organisations
- Housing trusts and co-operatives
- Voluntary organisations
- Private housing management companies
- Regeneration agencies
- Government departments and agencies

How many jobs available?

There is a steady demand for housing management staff among local authorities and housing associations. Recent years have seen extra resources ploughed into the construction of affordable homes.

Number of people employed in this field

The Chartered Institute of Housing (CIH) has almost 20,000 members working mainly in local authorities, housing associations, arm's length management organisations and in the private sector in the UK and overseas.

Did you know?

The Beacontree estate in the London Borough of Barking and Dagenham is the largest council estate in the world. More than 25,000 houses were built there between 1921 and 1932.

More information

- Find out about qualifications and training in housing management from the Chartered Institute of Housing www.cih.org
- The National Housing Federation represents housing associations and has information about housing policy and good practice www.housing.org.uk
- The Housing Corporation is the government agency which funds and regulates registered social landlords www.housingcorp.gov.uk



Meet the expert

Chloe Porter,
Metropolitan
Housing Trust

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"It's a long process to regenerate an estate but, ultimately, the end product is great. It's satisfying to know you're helping to turn social deprivation around."

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