

GETTING PLACES WORKING

Regeneration manager



A regeneration manager's job is a diverse one, which touches on health, planning, design, community work, arts, crime prevention, finance, architecture and local government. It's about transforming the places where people live and, if you like variety, this might be for you. You'll be dealing with people with a wide range of concerns, including residents, developers, local businesses and public bodies, so diplomacy and negotiation skills are a must. You'll also need to think strategically, lead teams and manage projects to completion. People come into regeneration management from both private and public sectors, some with degrees in geography or town planning, and some via graduate traineeships.

Degree needed

There are many graduates working in the sector. Humanities subjects like geography and history are popular, as are degrees in built environment areas like town planning and design. There are postgraduate courses in regeneration and on-the-job training is also available.

Good courses

- BA Urban Studies (University of Kent)
- MSc Regeneration Studies (University of Cardiff)
- MSc/Graduate Diploma in Urban Regeneration; BSc in Urban Studies (University College London)
- BA Urban Studies (University of Sheffield)
- BSc Urban and regional planning/public policy, government and management (University of Birmingham)
- MSc Housing and Regeneration (London School of Economics and Political Science)
- Foundation Degree/BSc Regeneration (Neighbourhood Renewal) (University of Salford)



Briony Turner at work
Olympic Delivery Authority / English Partnerships



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Facts and figures

Starting salary

Anything from £25,000 upwards.

Working hours:

Usually around 35 per week.

Days' holiday per year

About 25 to 30.

Skills and experience

Regeneration managers need to be able to communicate well with people with a wide range of interests and concerns, including residents, developers, local businesses and a range of public bodies.

Would suit

People who are passionate about improving places, keen to learn and good at communicating.

Likely employer types

- Local authorities
- Housing associations
- Charities and community groups
- Developers
- Area-based or national regeneration programmes
- Utility companies and supermarket chains are increasingly hiring regeneration staff

How many jobs available?

Opinion varies on demand for regeneration managers: some recruitment consultants say that demand has settled down, especially at senior levels, after several frenzied years of recruitment. Others say there is still plenty of demand but a shortage of people with the right skills.



Meet the expert

Briony Turner,
Olympic Delivery
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Visit AskWhatIf.co.uk to watch video diaries and get opinions from other real people doing real jobs.



Did you know?

If you want to regenerate a neighbourhood from the comfort of your front room, you can play the Regeneration Game, a card game sold by education organisation Niace.

Number of people employed in this field

Regeneration is such a broad field that it is hard to say with certainty how many people work in it nationally.

More information

- Details of English Partnerships' graduate training scheme are at www.englishpartnerships.co.uk
- The British Urban Regeneration Association (BURA) is running a recruitment campaign – find out more at www.regenerator.bura.org.uk
- Regeneration West Midlands (Regen WM) has a job placement service for new graduates www.regenwm.org

“We think laterally across disciplines to deliver what a community wants, and it's great to see our work take a physical form. Without us, places would just sit there derelict.”