

Graduate Consultant (Local Partnerships Graduate Programme)

Job title:	Graduate Consultant
Location:	Hybrid (minimum 2 days per week in either Westminster or Cardiff office)
Employment type:	2 year fixed-term graduate programme, with opportunities for progression beyond the programme
Weekly hours:	35 hours (full time)
Salary:	£27,000 p.a.
Anticipated start date:	Summer 2026
Application deadline	TBC

ABOUT LOCAL PARTNERSHIPS

Local Partnerships is a joint venture between HM Treasury, the Local Government Association and the Welsh Government. We support the public sector to deliver value for money, improve services and drive sustainable outcomes for communities across the UK.

We work across a wide range of public sector areas, including infrastructure, housing, regeneration, net zero, commercial delivery, data analytics and public service transformation.

We are a non-political, not-for-profit organisation that focuses on delivery, not politics, and give graduates the opportunity to contribute to projects that make a real difference to communities across the UK.

ABOUT THE GRADUATE PROGRAMME

Our Graduate Programme is designed to give you a broad and practical understanding of how the public sector operates and how Local Partnerships supports organisations to deliver complex programmes and projects.

As a Graduate Consultant, you will rotate through multiple practice areas during the programme, gaining hands-on experience, exposure to real client work and the opportunity to develop both technical and professional skills.

Our graduate programme offers structured learning, mentoring and hands-on experience to help you build confidence and develop your skills from day one. We invest in your development through ongoing learning, including fully funded training to achieve an APM Project Management Qualification.

By the end of the programme, you will have developed strong consulting, project and stakeholder engagement skills, preparing you for progression into a permanent role.

During the programme, you will work alongside experienced consultants and specialists, supporting projects across multiple public sector disciplines.

You will contribute to research, data analytics, reporting and stakeholder engagement, while developing an understanding of the challenges faced by local authorities and other public bodies.

This is a learning-focused role, offering progressive responsibility as your confidence and capability grow.

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

As part of your rotations, responsibilities may include:

- supporting project teams delivering advice to public sector clients
- conducting research and analysis to inform reports and recommendations
- assisting with the preparation of client reports, presentations and briefings
- supporting data collection, modelling and evaluation activities
- attending internal and external meetings and capturing key actions
- engaging with colleagues across different departments to understand how projects are delivered
- developing an understanding of public sector policy, governance and funding mechanisms
- contributing ideas and insights to improve ways of working
- taking increasing ownership of tasks and workstreams as your skills and autonomy develop
- using research, AI, data and analytics to support insight-led work across the public sector.

LEARNING & DEVELOPMENT

The Graduate Programme will provide a structured and supportive learning environment, including:

- rotational placements across multiple departments
- on-the-job learning with experienced consultants and specialists
- formal training sessions and development workshops
- a dedicated mentor and line manager to support ongoing development
- appropriate training and the opportunity to gain a **recognised APM Project Management qualification**
- exposure to senior stakeholders and real client environments
- opportunities to build a strong professional network across Local Partnerships

Essential

- a degree (or expected degree) in any discipline
- good analytical and problem-solving skills
- excellent written report writing and verbal communication skills
- an interest in the public sector and public service delivery
- ability to work collaboratively as part of a team
- strong organisational skills and attention to detail
- a proactive and positive approach to learning

Desirable

- interest in areas such as local government, infrastructure, housing, sustainability, regeneration or public finance (a political-related degree is not required)
- experience of working in a professional environment (internship, placement, part-time role or voluntary work)
- confidence using Microsoft Excel, Word and PowerPoint
- Welsh language skills advantageous

Personal Attributes

- curious and eager to learn
- professional and adaptable
- confident engaging with colleagues at all levels
- able to manage multiple tasks and priorities
- committed to making a positive impact in the public sector
- demonstrates an interest in research, AI, data and analytics, and a willingness to develop these skills to support evidence-based decision making.
- personal values and integrity compatible with operating with public sector clients, including a commitment to valuing diversity and challenging discrimination.

WHAT WE OFFER

- a structured graduate development programme
- exposure to a wide range of public sector workstreams
- supportive learning environment
- hybrid working & fully expensed travel to office / client's offices
- opportunities for progression beyond the programme
- competitive graduate salary and excellent benefits package:
 - fully funded APM Project Management qualification
 - 28 days holiday, rising to 32 days with service + all Bank Holidays



JOINTLY OWNED BY



- Birthday day off
- generous pension scheme
- PRP (bonus) scheme
- Benenden Healthcare
- Employee Assistance Programme