



Careers in local government

All three levels of government employ many differently skilled people who work together to maintain and improve our society. Local government is no different and it takes a lot of people working together to keep our communities running smoothly. Working at a council is more than just a job – it's an opportunity to make a real difference in your community. There are many different roles or career opportunities within local government. These are in areas such as:

- Asset and property management
- Building and trades
- Business services in administration, customer service and governance
- Communications, marketing and media
- Community services
- Community arts and festivals
- Economic development
- Environment and sustainability
- Human resources
- ICT and cyber security
- Planning
- Sport and recreation
- Tourism and culture

Councils also employ people in contract roles, where a person or company is brought on temporarily to work on a particular project. Councils offer apprenticeships, which bring people into a trade and teach them how to do a particular job. Volunteering and work experience with councils are also rewarding ways to give your time and skills to help the community and council.

There are many benefits of working at a council in South Australia. Councils offer flexible working arrangements and provide opportunities to learn and grow your skills. They offer access to wellbeing programs that encourage you to thrive in your chosen career. You can search for work in local government based on the council area you want to work in, or the job you want. Available jobs are advertised on South Australia's Local Councils website or the website of your chosen council.

Become an elected member

Council elected roles, such as mayor and councillors are important community leadership roles. Councils encourage people to become active in our communities and stand for council in local elections. When elected to council, council members are provided with a council member allowance and some resources and support to assist in their role. Councillors come from all walks of life, cultural backgrounds and have one thing in common – they want to make a difference for the good of the community. No specific qualifications are required, other than being an Australian citizen and eligible to vote in the elections. Qualities like working with a team, leadership skills and being able to listen are important.



Careers in local government

References:

'Careers in Council', Local Councils SA, Jan 2024,

<https://www.localcouncils.sa.gov.au/careers>

'Council Jobs in South Australia', Careers at Council, Jan 2024,

<https://www.careersatcouncil.com.au/south-australia/>