

Low carbon industry in Coventry and Warwickshire

**National
Careers
Service**

Helping you take
the next step

The low carbon sector – sometimes referred to as the ‘green economy’ – has its feet firmly in the future. The government has targets it has to meet to play its part in reducing climate change around the world and our region is leading the way in low carbon technologies such as environmentally-friendly vehicles.

Skilled people in high demand especially qualification level 4 and above and those with **STEM* skills**

20% of the UK's energy and utilities workforce will retire within ten years requiring **21,000 new recruits**.
Some of these jobs will be in renewable energy.



Future trends

The green economy is a priority sector for the UK and we can expect to see more opportunities for jobs in: renewables includes wind and wave power; energy and waste management; sustainable construction; carbon capture; bio energy; smart meters; and plug-in electric vehicles.

Areas such as waste management are becoming more technology and science-based as companies look to find innovative ways of reusing waste products.

It's not just about engineers and technicians in this sector, many STEM specialists will be needed, including those with IT skills such as cyber security and 'big data' professionals, and scientists (physicists, biologists and chemists) who can work especially in water and waste

Skills and qualities

Some employers report that they struggle to find candidates with the right people or personal skills. Employers in these sectors are particularly looking for:

Communication
Problem solving
Team working
Leadership
Attention to detail
Maths
Science
Reliability
ICT
Design
Innovation
Analytical
Business

What could you earn?

These are the average salaries you might expect to earn in the low carbon sectors*

Wind turbine technician £28,050
Science technician £30,050
Energy plant operative £31,150
Environmental professional £33,400
Design engineer £40,100
Mechanical engineer £42,250
Electronics engineer £43,850
Research and development manager £46,600

*Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings median salary rounded to nearest £50

¹ Engineering UK ² WES



The local picture

Coventry & Warwickshire is leading the way in developing the clean air technologies of the future. Along with a number of vehicle makers with research & development facilities, locally, digital and engineering skills are very much in demand.

The Jaguar Land Rover sites at Whitley and Gaydon, together with their local powertrain supply chain, design and engineer all Jaguar and Land Rover vehicles. The National Automotive Innovation Centre (NAIC) is a new (2018) £150m centre located at the University of Warwick, employing over 1000 engineers, academics and students. The proposed National Low Carbon Centre (NLCC) at Stoneleigh will showcase and low carbon technologies.

Geely/London Electric Vehicle Company has a manufacturing and engineering centre for a range of zero emissions vehicles at Ansty. Detroit Electric in Leamington is producing iconic zero emissions sports cars.

Coventry is home to the UK's first all-electric bus fleet; Warwickshire has developed an electric vehicle strategy known as 'Leading the Charge'.

We can also expect to see local support for businesses in energy efficiency, assistive technologies, sustainability and data analysis.

Local companies include:



Jaguar Land Rover | Geely | E.ON | Potenza Technology |
Schneider Electric | Bladon Jets | Advanced Propulsion Centre |
Synergy Power Ltd | Geo Green Power | Stratford Energy
Solutions | Greenwatt Technology | Detroit Electric | Ricardo

But there are many more smaller employers offering a broad range of careers.

Routes in



There is a wide range of careers to be had in low carbon and renewable technology but there is a skills shortage for engineers including design, mechanical and environmental, and a demand for scientists such as ecologists and nuclear. Some of these roles require a degree but the apprenticeship route can also be a way into a career in this sector.

Finding out more



www.thinkpowersector.co.uk

www.myoilandgascareer.com

www.futuremorph.org

www.bconstructive.co.uk

www.semta.org.uk/careers

www.cwlep.com/business/sector-strengths/intelligent-mobility

<https://nlcc-stoneleigh.com>

www.warwickshire.gov.uk/invest-lowcarbonvehicles

Types of apprenticeships include:



smart meter installation, sustainable resource management, design engineer, engineering construction erector, electrical installation engineer, junior energy manager, thermal insulation operative, mechanical engineer.

* Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings 2016. Average full-time (median) salary rounded to the nearest £50.

