

West of England - Summer Internship Programme

Length: 6 weeks

Start period: 20th July 2026

Salary: £13.72 per hour

Working hours: Full-time or part-time

About Us

The West of England Mayoral Combined Authority (MCA), exists to make a real difference for the people who live, work and study in the region.

We are investing in the things that matter most, reliable transport that helps people get around, affordable homes in the right places and opportunities to develop the skills needed for the green jobs of the future.

You will be joining the organisation at a genuinely exciting moment. You will be part of the work that shapes the future of the West of England and see the impact of your contribution in the communities around you. The actions we take now will deliver real, positive change for the people who call this region home, and you will be helping to make this happen.

About the Role

We are seeking enthusiastic and motivated interns to support our work across transport, skills, housing, innovation, and sustainability in the West of England. This is an opportunity to contribute to projects that make a real difference to local communities and businesses while gaining valuable experience in a regional public-sector organisation.

During the internship, you will work alongside experienced colleagues on projects that help shape the future of the region – from improving transport and supporting economic growth to tackling climate challenges and creating opportunities for people and communities.

You will gain hands-on experience, develop professional skills, and build insight into how local and regional government works in practice, all within a supportive and inclusive environment designed to help you learn and grow.

This role offers hybrid working, with a blend of office and home based working. Interns will be expected to attend the office regularly to support learning, collaboration and team working. Working arrangements may vary depending on the placement team, but all interns will be based at our Bristol office at Rivergate House, 70 Redcliff Street, Redcliffe, Bristol BS1 6AL.

We welcome applications from people of all backgrounds and experiences. If you require adjustments at any stage of the recruitment process, please let us know.

You'll need:

- The right to work in the UK.
- Currently studying at university, college, sixth form, or equivalent
- An interest in how public services, communities, or regional development can improve people's lives.
- Good written and verbal communication skills.
- Ability to work collaboratively with colleagues across different teams.
- Organised, reliable, and able to manage multiple tasks.
- Curious, proactive, and willing to ask questions.
- Basic digital skills, such as using Microsoft Office or similar software.
- A positive attitude and commitment to MCA's values of inclusion, fairness, and sustainability.

During the internship, you will:

- Support project teams working across MCA's core areas: transport, skills and employment, housing and planning, strategy, partnerships and environmental sustainability.
- Assist with research, data collection, and analysis to inform policy development and programme delivery.
- Contribute to the preparation of reports, briefings, presentations, and stakeholder materials.
- Participate in team meetings, taking notes and following up on agreed actions.
- Shadow colleagues to gain insight into how regional decision-making and public sector delivery work in practice.
- Support engagement activities with local authorities, businesses, education providers, and community partners.
- Help coordinate small projects or tasks that contribute to MCA's strategic priorities, such as climate resilience, inclusive growth, or digital innovation.
- Provide general administrative support to ensure smooth day-to-day operations.

What we offer:

- A structured internship with clear objectives and regular check-ins.
- Mentoring and support from experienced WECA staff.
- Exposure to real projects shaping the future of the West of England – including transport improvements, skills programmes, housing initiatives, and climate action.
- Opportunities to develop professional skills in research, communication, teamwork, and project delivery.
- A welcoming, inclusive environment committed to equal opportunities and diversity.
- A reference or certificate upon successful completion.
- Pay above Living Wage

Application Process

Our application process is designed to be simple, inclusive, and focused on your potential. We are looking for enthusiasm, curiosity, and a genuine interest in the work of the West of England Mayoral Combined Authority.

1. Submit your application

Please create an account on our recruitment system, it will ask you for some basic information before you can proceed and complete our online application form. You will be asked to upload the below:

- Your CV
- A short personal statement (300-500 words) explaining your interest in the internship, what you hope to learn, and how you feel public services or regional development can improve people's lives.

You will also be asked to complete a diversity questionnaire.

2. Eligibility and initial screening

We will review applications to ensure candidates meet the essential requirements, including the right to work in the UK and availability for the full internship period.

3. Shortlisting

Applications will be assessed against the skills and qualities outlined in this advert, including communication, organisation, teamwork, and motivation to learn. We welcome applicants from all backgrounds and experiences.

4. Interview

Shortlisted candidates will be invited to an assessment centre which will be followed by a short friendly, informal interview with members of the MCA team. This is an opportunity for you to tell us more about your interests and for us to learn how we can support your development. The assessment centre and interviews are likely to take place in person at our Bristol office or nearby week commencing 15th or 22nd June.

5. Offer and onboarding

Successful candidates will receive an offer letter and details about the internship, including working arrangements, induction plans, and your placement team. We will also provide information to help you prepare for your first day.

If you require any adjustments during the application or interview process, please let us know, we are committed to ensuring an accessible and supportive experience for all applicants.