



Public Services



The public service sector mainly covers the police, fire and rescue services, the armed forces as well as the private security industry. It also includes justice services, central and local government, and many voluntary organisations that work with statutory bodies. As you'll imagine, the public service sector offers a wide range of jobs and careers!

What's happening?

- The Army employs 100,000, the Royal Navy 33,500 and 45,200 work within the RAF. There are over 70 different types of job available in the armed forces. Entry and training requirements depend on the occupation and the level of entry.
- There are around 140,000 police officers employed in regional and non-geographic forces such as the British Transport Police.
- Most prison officers are employed by the Prison Service, run by the Government. In the UK there are approximately 29,600 prison officers. There are also some private prisons.
- Close to half a million people work in the UK security business sector, from security guards and door supervisors, through to close protection officers and alarm installation engineers.
- The justice sector employs approximately 560,000.

How much could I earn?

	Average annual salary (£s)
Ambulance Staff	£21,363
Army Sergeant	£28,622
Army Soldier (new entrant)	£13,012
Fire Service Officers	£26,094
Police Constable	£21,009
Royal Navy Rating/RAF Airman	£13,013
Security Guards	£19,487
Trainee Firefighter	£20,896

*Salary rates have been calculated using the average gross pay rates for full time workers. Figures are for the United Kingdom. Averages can hide higher earnings. With training and career development, higher salaries can be achieved. Source: Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings 2008, O.N.S., © Crown Copyright.

What we think will happen

- Protecting businesses against theft, data loss and terrorist activities will continue to be big growth areas, with UK wide opportunities.
- As well as the armed forces, the police and fire services and the private security industry the public services sector also includes: education; museums and libraries; health service; and local and national government departments including the Ministry of Defence.
- Employment levels in the justice sector are forecast to increase to 572,400 by 2014. The sector workforce will increase particularly in the police and law enforcement by a further 8,000 jobs and community justice by a further 4,200.

Do you want to work in Public Services? Is this you?

- Able to deal with difficult situations
- Desire to serve your community or country
- Good team member
- Physical fitness, stamina and courage

Some job suggestions

There are nearly 200 different jobs in the armed forces.

Armed Forces

Army/Navy/Queen Alexandra's Royal Naval Nursing Service/Royal Air Force/Royal Marines Officer

Army Non-Commissioned Officer/Private
Royal Air Force Airman/Airwoman
Royal Marines – Other ranks
Royal Navy Rating

Emergency Services

Coastguard Officer	Police Constable
Dog Handler	Prison Governor/
Firefighter/Fire Officer	Operational Manager/Officer

Routes into Public Services

Level 1 (Foundation)	Level 2 (Intermediate)	Level 3 (Advanced)	Level 4 (Higher)
GCSE Grades D – G BTEC Introductory Diploma NVQ 1 Foundation Diploma	GCSE Grades A* – C BTEC First Diploma NVQ 2 Apprenticeship Higher Diploma	A Level BTEC National Diploma NVQ 3 Advanced Apprenticeship Advanced Diploma	HND Foundation Degree First Degree NVQ 4

The **Diploma in Public Services** will most likely include: finding out about public services (exploring the whole spectrum of public services in the UK, including armed forces, education, law and order, health, plus local and central government), local communities (see how local public services differ from nationally delivered public services), health and well-being in communities, protecting communities, and skills needed to work in public services.

See: www.publicservicesdiploma.co.uk

Note: there are a number of ways of training for this area of work; the new Diploma is just one of these. See Routes into Public Services for the options.

Want to know more?

Army: www.army.mod.uk
Fire Service: www.fireservice.co.uk
HM Prison Service: www.hmprisonservice.gov.uk
Maritime & Coastguard Agency: www.mcga.gov.uk
Ministry of Defence: www.mod.uk/careers
Police: www.policecouldyou.co.uk
Public Services Diploma: www.publicservicesdiploma.co.uk
Royal Air Force: www.rafcareers.com
Royal Navy: www.rnjobs.co.uk
Skills for Justice: www.skillsforjustice.com
The Diploma: www.direct.gov.uk/diplomas

"This Diploma provides a real opportunity for young people to develop essential skills that will prepare them for future careers."

Steve Redhall, Chief Superintendent South Yorkshire Police, Employer.

Want to speak to somebody?

Go to www.connexionswest.org.uk for addresses of Connexions West of England local centres or contact Connexions Direct. Connexions Direct can offer you all the information and advice you need to make the decisions and choices in your life.

Connexions Direct: **080 800 13 2 19** Text: **07766 4 13 2 19**

Webchat/Email: www.connexions-direct.com