



Department
for Transport

The Department for Transport

The UK's transport system is used by most of the population every day, whether travelling to and from work, school, shops, hospitals, or just meeting friends and family. The international freight industry ensures that there are food and goods in the shops, and prompt delivery of parts and raw materials. Most of the transport industry is in the private sector: much of it is subject to safety or economic regulation, often under international agreement; some of it – especially public transport – is subsidised by the taxpayer.

The Department for Transport (DfT) is investing to make journeys better: simpler, faster and more reliable. Our plan will support jobs, enable business growth, and bring our country closer together.

We are supporting a record £70 billion investment in rail, roads, ports and airports. We are funding the biggest rail modernisation since Victorian times, and the most extensive improvements to roads since the 1970s. We are making transport safer and more sustainable. We will leave a lasting legacy for future generations.

The Role of Economists

Our analysis gives ministers fresh ideas about big, complex issues and deep insight into policy options. We advise which investments are best value for money. We analyse the wide ranging economic impacts of transport schemes. We assess the social and environmental benefits and costs, to get a full picture of the impact of a scheme.

We look ahead at key trends in society, such as population growth or the number of trips people take, to forecast how demand for transport will change in the future.

Our analysts are currently influencing a wide range of programmes, for example:

- Analysis to support key decisions on the future scope of Crossrail 2
- Cost benefit analysis on the development of clean air zones regulations
- Developing the evidence base around connected and autonomous vehicles
- Estimating the likely carbon footprint of various transport modes

Working in DfT

Our roles offer the chance to put your academic knowledge and skills into practice and gain experience in government economics, in an organisation that genuinely values sound analytical thinking. There are opportunities to apply economics expertise to live policy issues, use econometrics, develop cutting-edge appraisal guidance, use economics to support the development of transport schemes and comparison of options, and more.

The roles offer high levels of responsibility, with the chance to manage your own projects. Experienced Assistant Economists often get the chance to manage a summer student. Work can be a mix of fast paced analysis and longer term projects which aim to build on our evidence base, providing an ideal opportunity to develop the key analytical skills required for promotion.

You'll be able to collaborate with and learn from peers, senior economists and other analyst professionals including statisticians, operational researchers, transport modellers, social researchers and scientists.

All of our posts provide excellent on-the-job learning, supported by your manager. We also offer extensive training catered to individual needs; workshops, seminars, mentors and more. Support and guidance is given to economists applying to complete the Fast Stream Assessment process.

Salary and Benefits

You'll get £27,000, increasing to £33,990 after a year and completion of probation. We support flexible working: part-time; flexi-hours; occasional working from home.

Further Information

Contact Kirstie Burgin, tel.: 020 7944 4355, email: kirstie.burgin@dft.gsi.gov.uk

"I've thoroughly enjoyed how varied this role can be. It's such great exposure across the Department." (Assistant Economist)

"I enjoy applying my degree skills to real-world scenarios. Plus I've expanded my knowledge to new areas like carbon emissions" (Economist Intern)