# Environmental health officer profile(Environmental health practitioner)

Environmental health officers make sure people's surroundings are safe, healthy and hygienic.

## Becoming an Environmental Health Officer: What does it take?

Environmental health officers need to have superb attention to detail and a good understanding of the science that backs up their assessments, as well as the tact and communication skills to explain their findings to less well-informed people.

It’s important that you’ve got the determination to do a good job even when it means enforcing the law, and that you’re willing and able to keep up with the latest legislative developments.

# Environmental health officer: job description

# Environmental health officers monitor, maintain and protect environmental and health standards according to current legislation.

**What does an environmental health officer do?** [**Typical employers**](https://targetjobs.co.uk/careers-advice/job-descriptions/279457-environmental-health-officer-job-description#employers)**|**[**Qualifications and training**](https://targetjobs.co.uk/careers-advice/job-descriptions/279457-environmental-health-officer-job-description#training)**|**[**Key skills**](https://targetjobs.co.uk/careers-advice/job-descriptions/279457-environmental-health-officer-job-description#skills)

**They are responsible for investigating incidents that affect health such as pollution, accidents at work, noise control, toxic contamination, pest infestations, food poisoning,disease prevention & control and waste management. They work with government agencies, individuals, businesses and specialists. A large amount of time is spent away from the office visiting properties such as farms, shops, food outlets, private/public accommodation, commercial premises, manufacturers and industrial organisations. In addition to inspections, responsibilities include:**

* compiling reports
* providing training courses
* gathering samples to be tested
* investigating complaints
* serving legal notices
* providing evidence in court
* liaising with other organisations

Promotional opportunities are reasonable, as there is a structured career path for employees with local authorities.

### Typical employers of environmental health officers

* Central government
* Local authorities
* Consultancies
* The Armed Forces
* Commercial organisations
* Supermarkets and large food retailers

Relevant paid or voluntary work experience, possibly gained as a technician, can be beneficial. Jobs are advertised in local, regional and national newspapers, local authority jobs lists, relevant publications and their accompanying websites including **mwanzacity website**(**www.mwanzacc.go.tz .)**

