

Building control surveyors

are responsible for ensuring that building control regulations are observed in the planning and construction stages of new buildings and of most property extensions and conversions. They use their professional skill and judgement to offer advice on solutions to problems and make site visits at different stages of construction to ensure that the work is being properly carried out. On completion of the project they make a final visit and issue a certificate of satisfactory completion or enforce conditions or fines if the builder or client has not complied with the original approved plans.

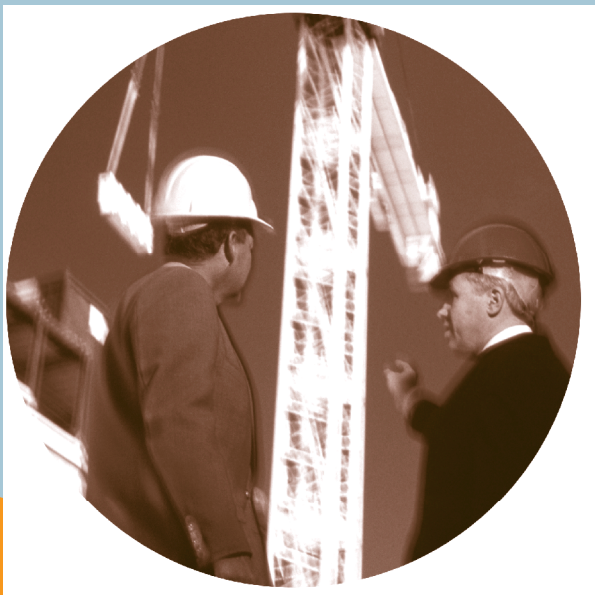
During the course of their work they will need to liaise with architects, planners, builders, local authority departments and private companies such as utility providers.

Building control surveyors organise their own work so it is important to be good at motivating yourself. Many spend the first part of the morning in their offices, dealing with paper work and arranging appointments before going out on site visits. Visits are outside in all weathers and often in very muddy environments!

Communication skills and diplomacy are important as building control surveyors are in constant contact with property owners, members of the public and builders. They have to be tactful, yet firm on occasions when they have to explain why work is not up to standard and must be re-done.

Pay

Typical starting salaries: £15,500 - £24,000 rising to £35,000 by age 40. Salaries vary with different employers and according to levels of responsibility. Some local authorities pay a scarcity supplement in order to attract staff in shortage areas.



Further Information

contact:

**The Association of
Building Engineers
Lutyens House,
Billingbrook Road
Northampton
NN3 8NW
www.abe.org.uk**

Entry qualifications and progression routes

Relevant degree and HND subjects include building control itself and related construction or civil engineering disciplines such as building studies, building surveying, civil engineering, structural engineering or construction studies.

It is the content of the course rather than the title that is important. You would need to check that the degree was recognised by either or both of the professional bodies for building control surveyors.

An alternative route into building control work is to enter the construction industry through a trade at technical level and then extend your qualifications into the building control area by part time study whilst continuing to work.

Try to get relevant work experience to assess your suitability for the work.

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