

Job Description

Job Title: Ecology Officer

POSCODE: CCC0435

Grade: SO2

Overall purpose of the job

To promote and co-ordinate Council policy and action for the natural environment, including the provision of specialist advice on ecology planning and nature conservation issues. Working closely with other Departments such as Planning, Rural Estates, Flood Risk, Highways and Education on the assessment of council owned land for delivery of biodiversity gain and local nature recovery projects.

Main accountabilities

Please list the accountabilities in descending order of priority. Please include 6-9 accountabilities.

	Main accountabilities
1.	Biodiversity planning, implementation and promotion - provide comprehensive advice and support on ecology and nature conservation issues to colleagues and partners, through the land-use, strategic planning and flood & water management processes, policy development and review, ensure all County Council operational functions, where appropriate, protect and enhance biodiversity
2.	Promoting biodiversity - take an active role in promoting the County Councils biodiversity strategy throughout the council, ensuring that the County Council supports biodiversity and nature conservation on its own sites and landholdings. Promoting positive management of Sites of Special Scientific Interest, County Wildlife Sites, Local Nature Reserves and Protected Road Verges that are owned or maintained by the County Council.
3.	Biodiversity Projects and Schemes - contribute to the future direction of partnership projects and strategies that improve the natural environment, by developing and implementing biodiversity projects and schemes, in accordance with the County Council's Climate Change & Environment Strategy, Biodiversity and Tree & Woodland Strategy and the Council's statutory duty to conserve and enhance biodiversity.
4.	Partnerships - Represent the County Council and support partnerships, including the County Wildlife Sites Panel, Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Environment Record Centre and Biodiversity Working Group.
5.	Biodiversity and Nature Conservation advice - ensure appropriate technical input for protection and enhancement of the environment are embedded into policies, plans and projects for new development and infrastructure,
6.	Information, interpretation and monitoring - ensure that information on progress towards biodiversity targets and up-to-date ecological information is available and interpreted within and beyond the Council, Local Nature Partnership through monitoring of the condition of nature conservation sites (e.g., Protected Road Verges Local Nature Reserves & County Wildlife Sites), supporting local record centre to provide up-to-date ecological information and promoting key messages on biodiversity and nature conservation issues. Keep an overview of the Council's responsibilities in biodiversity action planning and maintain knowledge of data available from other sources.

7.	Close working with the Flood Risk & Biodiversity Assistant as will liaison with other sections of the Council e.g., Planning, Highways, Education and Asset Management will be essential in achieving positive biodiversity gains
8.	The ability to drive is essential as the work will involve visiting sites which are not readily accessible by other means (the post holder will have access to a pool car).
9.	Demonstrate an awareness and understanding of equality, diversity and inclusion.

Safeguarding commitment *(Include for roles involving work with children/vulnerable adults)*

We are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people/vulnerable adults. We require you to understand and demonstrate this commitment.

Person Specification

Qualifications, knowledge, skills and experience

Minimum level of qualifications required for this job

Qualifications Required	Subject	Essential/ Desirable
Degree/degree level diploma	Ecology, Biodiversity or Zoology	E
MIEEM membership	Ecology	D

Minimum levels of knowledge, skills and experience required for this job

Identify	Describe	Essential/ Desirable
Knowledge		
A sound and broad understanding of a wide range of environmental issues.		E
In depth knowledge of ecology planning process		E
An understanding of the breadth of functions of a Local Authority.		E
An understanding of how biodiversity relates to the quality-of-life agenda.		E
A broad knowledge and understanding of the planning system		E
Knowledge of funding sources for biodiversity work.		D
Skills		
An enthusiasm in advocating biodiversity and ability to motivate others.		E
Excellent written and verbal communication skills.		E
Competence in IT packages, including Word, Excel, Outlook and GIS.		E
An ability to work on own initiative as well as part of a team.		E
A flexible approach able to identify and react to opportunities		D
Experience		
Experience of managing habitats for nature conservation.		E
Experience of working in or with local government.		E

Experience of working across departmental boundaries in a large organisation.		E
Experience of publicity and promotion work		D
Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (applies to all roles.	Ability to demonstrate awareness and understanding of equality, diversity and inclusion and how this applies to this role.	

Disclosure level

What disclosure level is required for this post?	None X	Standard
	Enhanced	Enhanced with barred list checks

Work type

What work type does this role fit into? (tick one box that reflects the main work type, the default work type is hybrid)	Fixed	Hybrid X	Field	Remote	Mobile
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