

Job Description

Job Title: Community Nature Engagement Officer

POSCODE: CCC2819

Grade: SO1

Overall purpose of the job

Our Community Led Nature Restoration Project will provide the catalyst for a County-wide scale, community led nature recovery approach. The project aligns with the Council's ambition to support our communities and natural environment to adapt and thrive as the climate changes.

To support the achievement of our ambitions, the Community Nature Engagement Officer will work to develop our strong commitments to nature's recovery through work with local communities, engaging them in the development of Community Nature Recovery Plans (CNRP) that will allow for the provision of better green spaces that:

- Meet the health and wellbeing needs of local communities
- Identify habitat restoration/creation opportunities that deliver local improvements for nature and for local residents appreciation of it.

The post holder will develop a network of practitioners and produce a guidance framework resource that is appropriate for practical testing, refining, and scaling up.

Main accountabilities

	Main accountabilities
1.	To identify, develop and support clusters of Parishes/communities to complete a pilot Community Nature Recovery Plan for open spaces, supporting local people to identify restoration opportunities that deliver the greatest impact.
2.	Work with a wide range of stakeholders, including local communities, to lead on the development of a Community Led Nature Recovery Plan network, associated guidance and resources required to realise the strategic aspiration of connecting communities to deliver for nature conservation and climate change resilience projects
3.	To work within relevant environmental policies, legislation and planning regulations to plan small-scale projects for green space and habitat enhancement. Implement and evaluate these projects, including the setting of goals, timelines, resource planning and progress monitoring.
4.	Identify funding opportunities from internal and external sources for the delivery of green space and habitat enhancement projects, writing grant proposals, and supporting community groups with bids for funding.
5.	To engage with communities to establish new groups of resident-led volunteers to manage and enhance their local greenspaces following the principles of inclusivity and representation. Where groups already exist, support them in their activities and provide connectivity between communities.
6.	Use experience of nature restoration and analysis of available data to identify and support opportunities for setting up activities in green spaces that encourage better health and wellbeing among residents.
7.	Develop and deliver educational programs and outreach activities to raise awareness about nature including designing and leading workshops, organising events, and creating educational materials for different audiences
8.	Be an advocate for nature conservation, working with our internal communications teams to develop various written promotional materials, press releases etc to engage with communities and the local media.

9.	Procure and manage consultants and specialist teams brought in to support the development of Community Nature Recovery Plans.
10.	Demonstrate an awareness and understanding of equality, diversity and inclusion.
11.	Ability to contribute to our organisational commitment to becoming a Net Zero organisation by 2030.

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

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

Identify	Describe	Essential/ Desirable
Knowledge		
Taking positive action for nature conservation	A good understanding of nature conservation and how people can take positive action for nature and the associated benefits.	Essential
Community engagement	A good understanding of community engagement and facilitation. Awareness of the barriers and opportunities for involving individuals and communities in delivering nature recovery	Essential
Environmental policy and legislation	Familiarity with relevant environmental policies, legislation, planning regulations and environmental impact assessments	Desirable
Data analysis and monitoring	Knowledge of basic data analysis techniques and experience in monitoring and evaluating conservation projects	Desirable
Skills		
Communication	Excellent communication skills, both verbal and written, are necessary to engage with various audiences. This includes preparing and delivering presentations, drafting reports, and using different communication channels to disseminate information and raise awareness about nature recovery efforts.	Essential
Developing partnerships	Ability to build relationships with diverse stakeholders and develop partnerships that make possible collaborative decision making and co-creation of projects with different local authorities, contractors, and community groups	Essential
Education and outreach:	Ability to develop and deliver educational programs and outreach activities to raise awareness about nature including designing	Desirable

	and leading workshops, organising events, and creating educational materials for different audiences.	
Flexible and agile	Ability to meet the transport requirements of the post and adapt to changing circumstances, needs, and priorities within the community, and adjusting engagement strategies accordingly.	Essential
Experience		
Community Engagement	Experience of community engagement and organising public events across a diverse audience in an environmental field.	Essential
Motivation	Experience of motivating and leading communities into new ways of thinking and working, supporting and empowering them to deliver successful outcomes	Essential
Negotiating	Confident negotiator able to navigate conflicts or disagreements in a constructive manner, finding common ground, and facilitating dialogue to reach mutually beneficial solutions.	Desirable
Fundraising and grant writing	Identifying funding opportunities, writing grant proposals, and supporting groups bid for external money.	Desirable
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.	Essential
Net Zero (applies to all roles).	Ability to contribute towards our commitment of becoming a net zero organisation.	Essential
Safeguarding (applies to all roles working with children/vulnerable adults).	Demonstrate an understanding of the safe working practices that apply to this role. Ability to work in a way that promotes the safety and well-being of children and young people/vulnerable adults.	Essential
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
--	-------	----------	-------	--------	--------