



Environmental
Projects In Kirklees

Landscape Development and River Steward - Role Profile

Our Values and Behaviours

EPIKS works with individuals, businesses, public sector organisations and the third sector to improve our local environment and make Kirklees a better place to live and work. Over the last 2 years EPIKS has been developing the Huddersfield Riverside Nature Park. It is now working as a partner in the CCaLL (Colne and Calder Landscape Links) project to create a long-term vision of an accessible, connected network of blue-green routes in a nature-rich landscape within Kirklees and Calderdale.

Role Title: Landscape Development and River Steward

Location: Huddersfield, Colne Valley

Salary: £25750 - £27,810 Per Annum Pro rata 0.4 FTE with the option of annualised hours. Possibility of increasing hours with additional funding. Consideration will also be given to merging this with the Landscape Access and Engagement Officer post to create one full time post.

Benefits: Pension Scheme, 20 days Annual Leave plus 8 bank holidays

Duration: 2 Years fixed contract

Role Purpose:

Background

The Colne and Calder Landscape Links (CCaLL) project is one of the top scoring applications from Round 2 of DEFRA's Landscape Recovery scheme. The most ambitious of the new Environmental Land Management schemes, Landscape Recovery is designed to encourage long-term, large-scale projects.

History has left the Pennine landscape of West Yorkshire a legacy of modified and disconnected habitats - unable to provide the ecosystem services needed for climate and biodiversity resilience.

CCaLL's ambition is to create a nature-rich, climate resilient mosaic of functionally connected habitats across 10,000 hectares, which link the valley towns with the South Pennine uplands.

By developing novel private finance access for landowners, we aim to increase local sustainable food production, alongside nature recovery for keynote species like golden plover, sphagnum and water vole, and to enhance the area's other special qualities.

Funding is for a 2 year Development Phase, during which Colne and Calder Landscape Links will work up detailed plans to:

- Improve and link protected wildlife sites in the project area, with corridors for nature;
- Explore how upland farming can become more resilient, sustainable, and nature-friendly, whilst being commercially viable
- Improve natural flood management and create freshwater habitats along the Calder and Colne river network
- Deliver benefits for the communities, who live in and visit the area
- Work out a blend of government and private sector finance to pay for the activities and improvements

We are seeking someone with a passion for nature recovery and involving people from a wide range of backgrounds in the process. This project will involve piloting the development of more diverse habitat mosaics in the valleys, for roll out at a landscape scale. It will involve working with and managing community and corporate volunteers, and also supporting the development of a river stewardship scheme for businesses, to create a longer-term funding model which can be adopted elsewhere.

Responsible for:

NA

Responsible to:

The postholder will report direct to a nominated director on the EPIKs board, work closely with the Landscape Access and Engagement Officer, and take direction on delivery objectives from CCaLL project manager.

Smarter Working Profile: The work style for this role is defined as:

Mobile Workers

The postholder will have access to a "hot desk" in the Media Centre, Huddersfield. Home working is an option.

Principal duties and responsibilities

- Manage the delivery of CCaLL project objectives including reporting to time and quality standards. Champion and contribute to CCaLL in a proactive and positive way
- Lead and manage practical woodland and riverine management along the River Colne with the help of volunteers from a wide range of backgrounds
- Plan, design, seek permissions and implement river and canal side path access improvements with a prime focus (but not exclusively) on CCaLL target groups.

- Provide an oversight, analysis, and recommendation of an appropriate volunteer model to maximise engagement and impact across the Colne and Calder valleys in the CCaLL project area.
- Enlist and secure financial support of local businesses in river stewardship and sponsorship. Contribute ideas to the development of a sustainable river stewardship business model.
- Record, report and evaluate the impact of projects making recommendations for improvement, shared learning.
- Be proactive and respond to requests for data, information and content for communications and marketing purposes. Lead and contribute to CCaLL and stakeholder events promoting Stewardship work.
- Liaising with colleagues from the comms and engagement team to foster a greater understanding of nature restoration for climate resilience, the benefits of accessible and enhanced green-blue infrastructure and the special qualities of the Lower Colne landscape.

The post will require some evening, weekend and bank holiday working.

Outcomes

Enhanced habitats

Improved accessibility

Increased engagement from all sectors of the community

Progress towards a self-financing management model

Contribute to

Delivery of Defra Landscape Recovery Round 2 contract (CCaLL)

Manage external communications including social media in coordination with project officers.

Ensuring safe data collection of volunteer and supporter information.

Ensuring EPIKs works in partnership with other groups and organisations.

Person Spec: Essential

- Considerable knowledge and practical experience of working in nature conservation, community and volunteer settings, and engaging with the voluntary, statutory and private sectors.
- Education to degree level or equivalent
- Experience in delivering capital projects and budget management (min £10,000)
- Excellent communication and organisational skills.
- Able to manage projects and priorities, organise own work schedules and achieve objectives without close supervision, paying close attention to detail.
- Ability to work inclusively, working with diverse communities and groups.
- Good working knowledge of IT and Microsoft packages.
- Experience of using social media to promote and communicate key messages.
- Experience of partnership working.
- Adherence to health and safety, safeguarding and GDPR.
- Commissioning, monitoring and approval of sub-contractors work.
- Full driving licence.