

Kent County Council

Job Description: *Sustainable Business Projects Officer*

Directorate:	Growth Environment and Transport
Unit/Section:	Sustainable Business & Communities
Grade:	KR8
Responsible to:	Sustainable Business Programme Manager

Purpose of the Job:

In order to facilitate the successful completion of the range of mainly EU-funded projects under the Low Carbon Kent portfolio, the Sustainable Business Team at Kent County Council are recruiting maternity cover for an experienced Projects Officer that will be responsible for business development and day-to-day operation of its activities in this pivotal time for both the wider team and our business communities.

We have a vacancy for a hands-on Projects Officer to help us deliver key priorities and actions identified in the Kent Environment Strategy to grow interest in and enable growth within the Low Carbon & Renewable Energy Economy (LCREE) and Environmental Goods & Services Sector (EGSS). In this role, you will help deliver and administer aspects of all projects in the Low Carbon Kent portfolio. This means the EU-funded LoCASE, Inn2POWER, Upcycle Your Waste, BLUEPRINT, C-Care and South East New Energy. It also means legacy work on the pilot CRF project Growing Green and Clean Growth South East as part of new project development. You will work to increase SME competitiveness by providing advice, support and grants to reduce operational costs through resource efficiency and business resilience and to enhance their eco credentials.

The role will provide you opportunity to deliver a fantastic range of projects that really will make a difference to communities across the South East LEP area and beyond, touching all of the major themes in sustainability.

The Sustainable Business Team is part-funded by the European Structural Investment Funds (ESIF) and ERDF Interreg programmes. The successful postholder, based within the Accountable Body at Kent County Council, will help further realise the programme's ideals of A Shift to a Low Carbon Economy across multiple sectors and areas.

We are looking for a competent individual who has a track record of supporting all aspects of project delivery including finance and claims, monitoring and reporting of performance and outputs as well as contract management support. The aim is to reach high value outcomes across multiple LEP areas through uncovering relatable sustainable business propositions during the project's remaining life-span up to Autumn 2023.

Main Duties and Responsibilities:

- Provide comprehensive administrative support to the Sustainable Business programme of activities, including co-ordination of information relating to the project expenditure, deliverables, outputs and results; liaising with external partnership agencies where appropriate; and evaluating evidence as required to ensure the Sustainable Business Programme Manager is able to make fully informed decisions concerning future developments and delivery of the Low Carbon Kent projects.
- Deliver agreed aspects of the Sustainable Business programme communications plan to effectively engage, raise awareness and build capability of stakeholders at a local level. Continually seek opportunities to expand and maintain the stakeholder network to ensure all key sectors are represented and good practice is shared within and across the public and private sectors.
- Assist with and deliver specific aspects of Sustainable Business projects and activities; liaising with internal and external partners as necessary, and facilitating good partnership working internally, across Kent and across the wider partnership.
- Monitor and record progress against established project plans; preparing summary reports from research, evaluating processes, and making conclusions from the analysis.
- Prepare evidence and documentation for financial claims and activity reports; working with the Project Manager and finance team to ensure the funding body requirements are met and only eligible expenditure is claimed in accordance with EU (or other relevant) regulations.
- Analyse and present information using a variety of techniques and tools; including written reports, oral presentations, spreadsheets, databases, and other technical tools.
- Supervise the Project Support Officers in the processing, maintenance and monitoring of financial records relating to expenditure and income (e.g. invoices, expenses, and timesheets) to ensure that financial information and procedures are accurate, up to date and conform to both KCC and the funders' procedures
- Carry out any other duties as might be required commensurate with the responsibility and grading of the post.

Footnote: This job description is provided to assist the job holder to know what his/her main duties are. It may be amended from time to time without change to the level of responsibility appropriate to the grade of post.

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Person Specification: *Sustainable Business Projects Officer*

The following outlines the criteria for this post. Applicants who have a disability and who meet the criteria will be shortlisted. Applicants should describe in their application how they meet these criteria.

	CRITERIA
QUALIFICATIONS	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• NVQ level 3 or equivalent
EXPERIENCE	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Experience of project compliance and monitoring• Experience of assisting with projects using external funding (ESIF, Interreg or similar)• Experience of working as part of a team
SKILLS AND ABILITIES	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Excellent communication skills (both verbal and written) to communicate with people at all levels• Strong organisation and administration skills• Excellent skills in Word, Excel, PowerPoint and other Microsoft packages• Highly motivated and able to work as part of a team and individually to meet strict deadlines and targets• Able to work outside of the immediate work environment if required across Kent and including foreign travel• Ability to give advice relating to new situations with a full understanding of the background relating to your decisions and their long term impact
KNOWLEDGE	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Good knowledge of a wide range of business and project administrative processes and procedures• Good understanding of customer care• Interest in and knowledge of environmental sustainability and the wider green agenda
BEHAVIOURS AND KENT VALUES	<p>Kent Values:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• We are brave. We do the right thing, we accept and offer challenge• We are curious to innovate and improve• We are compassionate, understanding and respectful to all• We are strong together by sharing knowledge• We are all responsible for the difference we make

	<p>Empowerment and Enterprise:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Have a 'can do' attitude, be positive, deal with things here and now <p>People and Partnerships:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Be customer-focused• Co-operate with partners and colleagues to achieve common goals <p>Outcomes and Delivery:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Understand the priorities and work within the agreed timescales• Tools and Professionalism• Speak and act professionally at all times
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