

Kent County Council
Job Description: Senior Flood Risk Officer

Directorate:	Growth, Environment and Transport
Division / Team:	Environment and Circular Economy / Flood and Water Management
Location:	Maidstone
Grade:	KR10
Responsible to:	Flood and Water Management Team Leader

Purpose of the Job:

The post holder will work in the Flood and Water Management Team and support the delivery of Kent County Council's statutory surface water drainage planning consultee function and the delivery of flood risk management projects. They will provide expert flood risk and drainage advice in response to complex planning applications, consultations and enquiries according to their interpretation of the site and the relevant policies.

Using their knowledge and experience, they will support the development and review of appropriate planning policy for drainage and flood risk management for Local Plans and Kent County Council.

They will manage developer and Local Planning Authority engagement and support the development and delivery of sustainable drainage training to stakeholders.

Main duties and responsibilities:

1. Support Kent County Council's statutory surface water drainage planning role by providing expert technical responses and advice, in accordance with their interpretation of the proposal, the local conditions and the appropriate policies, on the drainage and surface water implications of:
 - Strategies, plans, development proposals and consultations.
 - Planning applications including those relating to County matters.
 - Public enquiries.
2. Undertake Peer reviews of responses and consultation advice provided by other team members in relation to the Statutory Consultee function.
3. Provide expert surface water drainage and flood risk advice for the development of Local Plans, Strategic Flood Risk Assessment, Local Flood Risk Management Strategies and other strategic documents in the county.
4. Provide support for the delivery of flood risk management and sustainable drainage projects as part of KCC's role as Lead Local Flood Authority. That we ensure stakeholders are briefed and updated on the project.

5. Provide expert flood risk and drainage advice to KCC departments on drainage strategies for their projects to ensure compliance with the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) and best practice surface water management.
6. Provide training, where required, for KCC staff, local planners, developers and consultants on flood risk, drainage and KCC's role.
7. Provide expert advice on general issues relating to flood risk and drainage in planning internally and externally and proactively raise awareness of these issues as appropriate.
8. Actively coordinate with other partners involved in flood risk and drainage in planning, including the Environment Agency and Internal Drainage Boards, regarding planning advice and policy to influence and inform multi-agency working and ensure a coordinated response across the county.
9. Lead and facilitate educational sessions on LLFA responsibilities with regards to assessment of planning applications and surface water flood risk and how these are considered with regards to both National and KCC policy with wider stakeholders in order to share expertise, influence decision-making, and contribute to sustainable development goals.
10. Provide support to other tasks necessary to the functioning of the Flood Risk Management Team.

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

Kent County Council
 Person Specification: Senior Flood Risk 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	Relevant professional qualification to degree level or equivalent.
EXPERIENCE	<p>Experience in a relevant field demonstrating an excellent understanding of flood risk and drainage issues.</p> <p>Proven track record of providing effective advice on flood risk and drainage matters to a range of customers in relation to complex issues.</p> <p>Proven track record of delivering complex projects on time and on budget</p>
SKILLS AND ABILITIES	<p>Excellent verbal and written skills, demonstrating an ability to communicate flood risk and drainage issues to professional partners, elected members and the general public.</p> <p>An ability to adopt an organised and methodical approach to work.</p> <p>An ability to persuade and influence at all levels</p> <p>A demonstrated working knowledge of GIS, as well as an ability to operate a range of other computer programs relevant to the design and operation of surface water drainage schemes.</p> <p>Demonstrated ability to work both independently and within a team</p>
KNOWLEDGE	<p>An understanding of flood risk and drainage principles.</p> <p>A detailed knowledge of the legislation and guidance relevant to flood risk and drainage.</p> <p>Knowledge and understanding of the planning framework, NPPF, development control and the plan making process.</p>

KENT VALUES AND CULTURAL ATTRIBUTES

Kent Values:

- 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

Our values enable us to build a culture that is:

Flexible/agile - willing to take (calculated) risks and want people that are flexible and agile

Curious - constantly learning and evolving

Compassionate and Inclusive - compassionate, understanding and respectful to all

Working Together - building and delivering for the best interests of Kent

Empowering - Our people take accountability for their decisions and actions

Externally Focused - Residents, families and communities at the heart of decision making