

Kent County Council

Job Description: Coastal and Marine Officer

Directorate:	Growth, Environment and Transport
Unit/Section:	Environment and Waste – Natural Environment and Coast
Grade:	KR9
Responsible to:	Natural Environment and Coast Team Manager

Purpose of the Job:

To develop, manage and co-ordinate projects and programmes that will shape the future of Kent's coastal and marine environment, working with key partners in the county.

To support and advise those working for the sustainable development of Kent's coastal and marine environment.

Kent County Council is the Responsible Authority for the development of the Kent and Medway Local Nature Recovery Strategy. The Making Space for Nature in Kent and Medway project will develop this important strategic document for the county. The Local Nature Recovery Strategy will agree and map our most valuable areas for nature, priorities for its recovery and opportunities for wider environmental benefits. It will be collaborative and locally led, with a large emphasis on stakeholder engagement.

Much of the Coastal and Marine Officer's initial time will be spent leading on the development of the coastal and marine elements of the Kent and Medway Strategy, ensuring that priority areas and actions to recover marine biodiversity are identified in consultation with all relevant stakeholders. As such, they will be a key member of the Making Space for Nature project team and will be instrumental in ensuring that the strategy provides for the iconic coastal and marine habitats of Kent.

Main duties and responsibilities:

1. Lead on the development of the coastal and marine elements of the Kent and Medway Local Nature Recovery Strategy, including:
 - a) Manage focused work on coastal and marine habitats, including the working group.
 - b) Establish a comprehensive stakeholder group to support the work and work with these stakeholders to pull in necessary evidence and information to inform the various stages of the LNRS development.
 - c) Map all existing and planned nature recovery and nature-based solutions work delivered in coastal and marine habitat to identify where action is already taking place and where opportunities exist to join up and extend efforts.
 - d) Review collated information and data for development of the strategy area description and the development of potential opportunities, priorities and measures.
 - e) Working with stakeholders, lead and facilitate work to identify opportunities, priorities and measures for coastal and marine nature recovery and associated nature-based solutions.
 - f) Support the public consultation process and advise on finalisation of the strategy's coastal and marine based on outcomes of consultation.
 - g) Manage a record of the stakeholder engagement.

2. Work with partners across the county to deliver on the coastal and marine actions identified within the Kent and Medway Local Nature Recovery Strategy.
3. Establish, and manage, monitoring and reporting on the coastal and marine priorities and actions of the Kent and Medway Local Nature Recovery Strategy.
4. Work with partners across the county to secure the funding and investment necessary to drive nature recovery in coastal and marine habitats.
5. Develop a better understanding the nature-based solutions provided by Kent's coastal and marine habitats, in particular carbon storage, and work with partners to deliver management that realises this value.
6. Review the need for better joint working, and opportunities for greater collaboration, on coastal and marine matters not addressed by the Kent and Medway Local Nature Recovery Strategy. Develop a suitable strategic approach to delivering this.
7. Represent KCC strategic interests on a variety of partnerships, groups and forums including (but not limited to) the Medway Swale Estuary Partnership; Thanet Coast Project; Bird Wise; Standing Environment Group for marine oil pollution; and LGA Coastal Issues Special Interest Group.
8. Lead the development of KCC responses to consultations relating to the coastal and marine environment.
9. Engage and contribute to coastal and marine based projects and related work, as required.
10. Act as a lead for coastal and marine issues, information and advice within Kent County Council.

The post holder will be required to travel throughout the county and, at times during the LNRS development, may need to work evenings.

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.

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Person Specification: Coastal and Marine 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.
EXPERIENCE	<p>Experience of working within the coastal and marine sector/agenda and a practical understanding of the issues and pressures facing this environment.</p> <p>Proven track record in effective partnership working and facilitation, engaging stakeholders in dialogue and participation.</p> <p>Experience in the development of strategic plans and actions.</p> <p>Proven track record in pursuing funding and managing collaborative projects.</p>
SKILLS AND ABILITIES	<p>Strong partnership working skills.</p> <p>Bid writing.</p> <p>Methodical, organised worker with project management skills.</p> <p>Confident facilitator.</p>
KNOWLEDGE	<p>Demonstrable and excellent knowledge and understanding of the coastal and marine environment and its associated issues and pressures.</p> <p>Understanding of the natural capital value of coastal and marine environment and how management can maximise their potential benefits.</p> <p>Excellent understanding of key coastal and marine partners and their roles.</p> <p>Knowledge of key legislation and policy relating to the coastal and marine environment and how this applies at the local level.</p> <p>Knowledge of Kent's specific coastal and marine habitats and associated wildlife.</p>
KENT VALUES AND CULTURAL ATTRIBUTES	<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

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