



Post Title: Lead Agri-Environment Advisor, Middle Dee WEG Project

Responsible to: Head of Projects, Research and Innovation

Salary: £24,712 - £30,854 (A30-A37) pa, depending on experience

Status: Full time (37 hours per week), Fixed term appointment to March 2021

Purpose of the job: To provide specialist advice to farmers, landowners and land managers and support the design and delivery of a programme of interventions that promote water quality improvement of the Middle Dee Catchment, Cheshire, by reducing diffuse pollution from farms and rural areas.

The job-holder will:

- work with the farmers, land-owners and the agricultural community to produce water, nutrient and soil management plans
- identify and scope interventions that provide positive outcomes for the farm and the project
- support beneficiaries in preparing applications for financial support for interventions from the Middle Dee WEG project
- design and deliver a programme of farmer training events and one-to-one farm visits to promote resource protection and reduction in diffuse water pollution from agriculture, with a focus on dairy farm practices.

The job holder may be able to register and study for a fully-funded Masters by Research (MRes) qualification as part of the work.

REASEHEATH COLLEGE MISSION

“To inspire achievement by delivering outstanding education and skills”

REASEHEATH COLLEGE VALUES

Every member of staff at the College has a responsibility for and commitment to the implementation of the College Vision so that the learner experience is a valuable and memorable one.

As an important part of our team you are also required to ensure that your behaviour towards both staff and learners demonstrates P R I D E in everything you do through actively supporting our Values:

P eople **R** esponsibility **I** ntegrity **D** iversity **E** xcellence

Key Tasks and Responsibilities of your Job Role

- Identify, contact and visit farmers, land owners and stakeholders from the agricultural community, and understand their operations, environmental performance, needs and concerns
- Work with farmers and land owners to identify opportunities to deploy interventions, improve infrastructure and change land management practices, designed to reduce diffuse pollution to surface and sub-surface water
- Design and agree tailored water, nutrient and soil management plans for beneficiary farms
- Support beneficiary farmers and land owners to prepare applications for financial support for interventions from the Middle Dee WEG project
- Support farmers and land owners and encourage them to implement measures and change practices to reduce soil erosion
- Provide practical advice on soil and nutrient management and follow this up with visits to increase the likelihood of change
- Act as an account manager and maintain regular contact with farmers and land-owners and address their changing needs
- Attend regular farmer and stakeholder networking events to promote the Middle Dee WEG project
- Administer and verify scheme activity, and maintain a system of evaluation and feedback from farmers and land owners
- Prepare and submit monthly RDPE compliant progress reports to ensure adequate monitoring of the programme, engagement activity and scheme take up into a CRM Database
- Participate in relevant Reaseheath College environment initiatives, programmes and projects during the period
- Participate in relevant partner activities where these are complimentary to the core programme, assist in the development of water environment focussed groups and projects in target areas.
- Signpost farmers and landowners to relevant external funding sources or specialist advice.
- Uphold client confidentiality, comply with regional policies and adhere to business legislation and best practice.

PLEASE NOTE

Reaseheath is an education establishment within an ever changing service and all staff are expected to participate constructively in College activities and to adopt a flexible approach to their work.

Your job description will be reviewed during your annual Performance Development and Review interview, and will be varied in the light of the changing business needs of the College.

The job description is not intended to be exhaustive and is only indicative of the nature and level of the responsibilities associated with the post at the date it was drawn up. Your duties may vary from time to time without changing the general character of the post or the level of responsibility. Such variations are a common occurrence and cannot of themselves justify a reconsideration of the terms and conditions of employment associated with the post.

Please note this role constitutes 'regulated activity' as defined by the Protection of Freedom Act 2012. The successful candidate will therefore be required to undertake an enhanced DBS without barred list information prior to starting employment.



Person Specification

Post Title: Lead -Environment Advisor, Middle Dee WEG Project

Knowledge, Skills, Experience

- First degree in a relevant discipline
 - FACTS and BASIS Soil and Water qualifications
 - Minimum GCSE Grade C in Maths & English or equivalent
- In depth knowledge and understanding of farm infrastructure, farming systems, operations and practices
 - Detailed knowledge and experience of creating water, nutrient and soil management plans
 - Experience and knowledge of legislation/regulation relating to the farmed environment
 - Knowledge of pesticide products, sustainable crop protection and integrated pest management
 - Experience of advising on Countryside Stewardship applications.
- Knowledge of agricultural business management and planning
 - Good understanding of the management of financial support programmes relevant to agriculture
 - Understanding and experience of using GIS and geodatabases to record and interrogate outputs
 - Experience in producing and using Risk Assessments and Lone Working procedures
 - Knowledge of designated site protection, status and assessments.
- Highly competent with MS Office applications, notably Word, Excel and PowerPoint
 - Proven ability to plan, prioritise and organise workload
 - Proven ability to network and establish working relationships with farmers, landowners and other stakeholders.
- Excellent interpersonal and communication skills
 - Ability to provide clear, concise written material in a variety of formats for a variety of audiences
 - Self-motivated and able to work independently and as part of a small team
 - Strong work ethic and an appetite for helping businesses succeed.
- Full UK driving license
 - Some evening and weekend working may be required.