Somerset Council

JOB DESCRIPTION

Job Title	Green Estates Ranger		
Directorate	Climate & Place		
Reporting to	Green Estates Manager		
Grade	13		
Evaluation ref	SCT1449	Job Family ref	

Role purpose

To deliver the outcomes of the Green Estates Service to include ecological habitat management, site maintenance, and species monitoring of sites, owned or managed by Somerset Council

Responsibilities

Project Management and Delivery.

- Identify and implement practical solutions to resolve conflicting and competing interests in the countryside including ASB.
- Develop and encourage appropriate access, heritage or local distinctiveness, which help conserve or enhance the distinctive landscape qualities of Somerset Council's green spaces.
- Make recommendations on initiatives / projects that will enhance or conserve access, heritage or local distinctiveness of Somerset Council's green spaces to the Green Estates Manager or others as appropriate.
- Lead with delivery of access, heritage or local distinctiveness initiatives and projects within Somerset Council's green spaces including biodiversity improvements.
- Use and maintain a range of tools and equipment such as power tools, hand tools, plant, and vehicles.
- Lead on wildlife monitoring programmes to ensure habitat management works are appropriate in conserving or increasing biodiversity and protected species.
- Carry out site maintenance tasks to ensure the site is safe and accessible for visitors.
- Work to agreed management plans for the site and aiming for Green Flag standards across all aspects of site management.

Stakeholder & Community Engagement.

- Supervise and guide volunteers to deliver practical habitat management or site maintenance tasks associated with access, heritage, conservation, and visitor management.
- Supervise & guide volunteers to undertake wildlife monitoring.
- Networking with landowners, farmers, local authorities, emergency services, and other organisations and individuals with an interest in the area.
- Liaise with and work with local town/parish councils
- Work with Friends groups, supporters and other interest groups to develop and deliver projects for the benefit of the Green Space.

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 Work with the team to deliver or assist the Community Ranger to deliver an annual programme of public events and community engagement activities

Funding & Budget Management.

- Access to a revenue budget and procurement cards and can make recommendations to the Green Estates Manager on its expenditure for a variety of projects including access, habitat management, site maintenance and visitor management.
- Assist in the drafting of applications for relevant grants or corporate contributions as requested by the Green Estates Manager.

Communication.

- Liaise, with the support and expertise of colleagues e.g. Communications Officer, with media and be required to provide material for PR purposes.
- Develop and manage social media pages for a variety of Green Estate sites
- Provide up to date signage and posters as required at sites to deliver messages to visitors.

Reporting.

- Provide professional advice, together with written and verbal reports to relevant stakeholders, Members, and Somerset Council Officers.
- Assist with habitat assessments, management plan implementation and Green Flag assessments for Green Estate Sites.
- Ability to coordinate data gathering as required to ensure reporting against corporate and team KPI's.

Security.

- Ensure that sites, stores, work vehicles and any additional work spaces and buildings are kept in a good state of repair and any faults are reported to the manager.
- Liaise with Facilities Management for building repairs and maintenance.

Health & Safety.

- Oversee safety of volunteer groups, corporate work parties, work placements and work experience students.
- Ensure that the Green Estates sites are safe for visitors and adhere to any monitoring processes in place e.g. annual tree safety surveys and infrastructure inspections.
- Ensure that any outside areas around buildings are kept safe & presentable.
- Carry out tool maintenance (hand and power tools) in line with PUWER.
- Adhere to any Somerset Council or HSE policies regarding fleet, COSHH etc.
- Undertake training and technical competency assessments to ensure the highest H&S standards across working practices.
- Training in and use of Somerset Council owned fleet to travel between sites and across larger sites, in line with the Fleet Policy.

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Impact

This role has responsibility for land management to improve open spaces for people and nature. As a result of the roles delivery, a greater range and number of people will be able to physically access open spaces and they will have a more enjoyable and informed visit. Consequently, people will spend more time outside, benefitting their physical and mental health.

The role will seek to improve open spaces for biodiversity with priority species and habitats detailed in the land management plans that will be delivered. More of Somerset's habitats will be restored contributing towards the 30 by 30 target.

Knowledge / Experience / Skills					
	Essential	Desirable			
Knowledge					
Knowledge of countryside management.	x				
Knowledge of safe working practices.	x				
Practical knowledge of ecology & biodiversity	х				
Experience					
Experience of working on a busy countryside site.	х				
Experience of working with the public and user groups.	х				
Experience of working with volunteer groups.	X				
Experience of using social media in a professional setting.		X			
Experience of tool maintenance.	x				
Qualifications / Registrations / Certifications					
Relevant NVQ or equivalent qualification.	х				
First aid trained.		Х			
Relevant practical technical certificates e.g. brush cutter, chainsaw.		x			
Driving licence.	x				
Trailer licence.		х			
Skills					



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Good customer care skills.	x		
Good verbal communication skills.	x		
Good written communication skills.		x	
Ability to problem solve and prioritise work tasks.	х		

Working Conditions

Working outside in all weathers, across a variety of locations.

Working Arrangements

Somerset Council's dynamic Working Strategy will be applied to this position.

Working Monday to Friday with some evening & weekend work expected. Agile working and working from home when applicable.

Corporate Responsibilities

Understand, uphold, and promote the aims of the council's equality, diversity, and inclusion policies; health, safety and wellbeing of self and others; and Organisational values in everything you do. Equality and Diversity practice covers both interaction with staff, service users and communities and includes challenging discrimination and promoting equality of opportunity for all.

Date: 14 June 2025