

# Partnership and Expertise Manager



## Location

South West England

The post offers blended working within the South West, with a combination of virtual and office-based flexible working. The successful post holder will be expected to live within the South West Area. The parent office for this role can be either Bullers Hill, SW Area Office near Exeter or Forestry Commission National Office, Bristol. Regular travel will be required across the Area and to attend national meetings. The post reports to the Area Director.

## About the job

Never has there been a more important time for trees and forests to help tackle the climate emergency and provide a much-needed sanctuary for people and wildlife. We aim to at least treble tree planting rates in England by the end of this Parliament, reflecting England's contribution to meeting the UK's overall target of planting 30,000 hectares per year by the end of this Parliament. This acceleration in current planting rates in England will contribute to meeting the net-zero by 2050 ambitions, and to government's wider environmental targets. This is supported by the £640m Nature for Climate Fund announced in the March 2020 budget.

## Job description

We are seeking two Partnership and Expertise Managers to lead, coordinate and build capability for Forestry Commission / Forest Services delivery in the South West Area to enable the protection, improvement and expansion of the woodland resource. As a senior member of the South West Area team, you will support and prioritise the Forestry and Woodlands policy outcomes and deliver agreed business plan objectives. Activity will increasingly focus on the government's woodland creation ambitions, and the need to play a key role in supporting organisational adaptation to change at the Area level.

The post plays a critical role in supporting partnership working, taking a lead role for communications and support in strategic and/or sensitive planning and regulatory issues. Tree health is also a key part of the work of Forest Services with a key challenge being to help increase the resilience of the tree and woodland resource and supporting the sector to respond to the impacts of climate change.

The Area team has several established partnership relationships working with Natural England and the Environment Agency, the National Trust, Woodland Trust, our two Exmoor and Dartmoor National Parks, protected landscapes and Community Forest Trusts, Local Enterprise Partnerships, and wider stakeholders on the delivery of the Government's woodland ambitions.

The posts have line management responsibilities, managing Field Managers, Local Partnership Adviser and specialist roles (Ecologist, Historic Environment Advisor and Deer Officer), as well as being the Confirming Officer for operational field staff.

## KEY WORK AREAS

### Team management and development

People Management and Development –

- Provide line management, leadership, guidance and support for the Field Managers, Local Partnership Adviser and Specialist Roles within the Area Team. As part of the Management Team share responsibilities for the wider development of the team and act as the Confirming Officer for other team members. Work closely with other senior management colleagues – Operations Manager, Regional Promotions Manager and Partnership and Expertise Managers. Collaborate with Partnership and Expertise Managers in other Areas
- Vision and Culture – Support the overall work of the team to ensure the effective delivery of our vision and culture ambition and to meet our local and national Health and Safety priorities. This will include supporting appropriate blended working through the Changing the Way We Work programme. Play an active role in the

wider work of the team and its management, health and safety, and technical training communications. Proactively seek to support the wider work of the Forestry Commission by offering individual specialist knowledge to project working or seeking development opportunities where these can be sustained.

### **Operational delivery and customer service support**

- Protect, Improve and Expand South West's woodlands – Support the delivery of the Government's forestry and woodland ambitions through the effective use of FC resources and via wider strategic partnerships such as Local Enterprise Partnerships, Local Nature Recovery Strategies, the Defra group (Natural England, Environment Agency and Rural Payments Agency) and key partners such as the Community Forests, the National Park Authorities, CONFOR, RSPB and the NFU. Key priorities include the increased delivery of woodland creation to build the region's natural capital, to help tackle climate change and to support an increase in the resilience and management of the existing woodland resource.

### **Integrated working and communications**

- Integrated Working – Work with Area Team colleagues to support the delivery of the Defra 25 Year Environment Plan through local integrated working with partners. This will build on the established Defra group joint working as well as responding to the emerging opportunities from the England Tree Planting Programme and England Trees Action Plan, Local Nature Recovery Strategies, and the support from the Nature for Climate Fund and the future Environmental Land Management Scheme.
- Communications Management – lead on communicating key priorities and changes across the Area team, liaising closely with the Operations Manager and Partnership and Expertise Managers within the Area team. Support promotion and engagement activity across the Area working with the Regional Promotions Manager, Business Development Advisers and wider Area Team colleagues.

### **Benefits**

- A Civil Service pension
- A range of family friendly benefits
- An environment with flexible working options
- Learning and development tailored to your role
- A culture which promotes a diverse and inclusive work environment
- A range of wellbeing benefits including discounted Civil Service Healthcare, access to an Employee Assistance Programme 24/7, Bike to Work Scheme, plus many more.
- 25 days annual leave, with 1 additional day for each years' service up to 5 years (pro rata)
- Ability to buy or sell 5 days annual leave
- 3 days volunteering per year (pro rata)

We aim to provide a great place to work, whichever location you work from. Blended working forms part of our flexible and inclusive approach to future ways of working. It is an informal arrangement which gives you the option to work some of the week from home, and some of the week from our Forestry Commission workplaces, subject to role requirements, business needs, and regular review. Informal blended working arrangements will be available as agreed with the line manager.

Salary £43,311 - £46,949

To apply, please visit [here](#).

Closing date: Apply before 11:55 pm on Sunday 26 March 2023



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