

# Job Title: AONB Landscape Planning Officer

## Grade: 9

### **Our Vision**

We have a clear vision for Staffordshire - an innovative, ambitious and sustainable county, where everyone has the opportunity to prosper, be healthy and happy

### **Our Outcomes**

We want everyone in Staffordshire to:

- Have access to more good jobs and share the benefit of economic growth
- Live in thriving and sustainable communities
- Be healthier and more independent for longer

### **Our Values**

Our People Strategy sets out what we all need to do to make Staffordshire County Council a great place to work, where people are supported to develop, flourish and contribute to our ambitious plans. Our values are at the heart of the Strategy to ensure that the focus is on what is important to the organisation and the people it serves:

- Ambitious – We are ambitious for our communities and citizens
- Courageous – We recognise our challenges and are prepared to make courageous decisions
- Empowering – We empower and support our people by giving them the opportunity to do their jobs well.

### **About the Service**

The Cannock Chase AONB Partnership brings together five local authorities, statutory agencies, non-governmental organisations and community bodies. Its role is to conserve and enhance the Cannock Chase Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, an area of heathland, forest and farmland in the heart of the West Midlands. The AONB team works with partners to develop and deliver the statutory management plan for the AONB, providing input to plans and

strategies affecting the area and proactively developing initiatives to conserve and enhance its special qualities into the future. The AONB Partnership is hosted by Staffordshire County Council and is based within the Environmental Advice Team in Rural County as part of the Families and Communities Directorate.

The Landscape Planning Officer will play a key role in helping to maintain the quality and distinctiveness of the AONB's landscape character and enhance the setting of the Chase within its wider urban and rural landscape.

### **Reporting Relationships**

**Responsible to: AONB Manager**

**Responsible for: N/A**

### **Key Accountabilities:**

1. Provide landscape-related planning advice on plans and proposals affecting the AONB and contribute to plans and activities affecting the area to ensure the purposes of the AONB and its special qualities are considered.
2. Routinely review and update landscape character assessment for the AONB, including field survey and developing associated management guidance.
3. Facilitate, enable and coordinate collaborative working across the partnership, providing expertise in landscape planning and management, including preparation of guidance.
4. Support community activity and AONB volunteers for the Fixed Point Photography project.
5. To assist in the review and implementation of the AONB Management Plan and Business Plan, leading and facilitating projects and initiatives as required.
6. Support the work of the AONB Joint Committee, Officers Working Group, and Landscape Task and Finish Group and provide updates on reports as required.
7. Ensure Cannock Chase is represented at the national level by contributing to activities as part of the family of AONBs and protected landscapes. Support the sharing of expertise and experience and enable Cannock Chase to learn from other protected landscapes.
8. Undertake other duties as required, consistent with the responsibility level of the post.

**Professional Accountabilities:**

The post holder is required to contribute to the achievement of the Council objectives through:

**Financial Management**

Personal accountability for delivering services efficiently, effectively, within budget and to implement any approved savings and investment allocated to the service.

**People Management**

Engaging with People Management policies and processes

**Equalities**

Ensuring that all work is completed with a commitment to equality and anti-discriminatory practice, as a minimum to standards required by legislation.

**Climate Change**

Delivering energy conservation practices in line with the Council's climate change strategy.

**Health and Safety**

Ensuring a work environment that protects people's health and safety and that promotes welfare, and which is in accordance with the Council's Health & Safety policy.

**Safeguarding**

Commitment to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of vulnerable groups.

The content of this Job Description and Person Specification will be reviewed on a regular basis.

**Person Specification**

A = Assessed at Application

I = Assessed at Interview

T = Assessed through Test

Minimum Criteria for Disability Confident Scheme*	Criteria	Measured by
	<b>Qualifications</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Relevant degree and/or professional qualification (or equivalent) in landscape or land use planning and management or equivalent</li> <li>• A professional landscape qualification</li> <li>• Membership of an appropriate professional institute or association (e.g. Landscape Institute)</li> </ul>	A  A A
	<b>Knowledge and Experience</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Significant experience of landscape planning and management practice</li> <li>• Knowledge and understanding of legislation and national policy requirements relating to AONBs and landscape</li> <li>• Experience of land use planning</li> <li>• Knowledge and experience of survey and assessment techniques for landscape relevant to character assessment, monitoring impacts and change</li> <li>• Project development experience</li> <li>• Knowledge and experience of using GIS and general IT packages</li> <li>• Experience of working in a partnership environment</li> <li>• Experience of community involvement and working with volunteers</li> <li>• Willingness to work outside normal office hours, including occasional weekend working (essential)</li> </ul>	A/I  A/I/T  A/I/T A/I  A/I A/I  A/I A/I  A/I
	<b>Skills</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Excellent interpersonal skills with ability to understand, motivate, persuade and influence people</li> <li>• Excellent verbal and written communication skills with numeracy, literacy and interpretive skills</li> <li>• Ability to manage work programmes</li> <li>• Proven ability to plan and prioritise work and to meet deadlines with an organised and flexible approach</li> <li>• Ability to push forward new ideas and methods of working</li> </ul>	A/I/T  A/I  A/I A/I  A/I

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ability to efficiently access areas out of reach of public transport. NB The post holder will be expected to use their own vehicle on most occasions.</li> </ul>	A/I
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This post is designated as a casual car user



If a disabled person meets the criteria indicated by the Disability Confident scheme symbol and provides evidence of this on their application form, they will be guaranteed an interview.

We are proud to display the Disability Confidence Symbol, which is a recognition given by Job centre plus to employers who agree to meet specific requirements regarding the recruitment, employment, retention, and career development of disabled people.

If you need a copy of this information in large print, Braille, another language, on cassette or disc, please ask us by contacting **Liberata Employee Services Team on 01905 947446**