NATURAL INFRASTRUCTURE OFFICER





	Natural Infrastructure Officer		
Grade	E, F, H, I		
Reference:	N569		
Reports to:	Head of Service		
Work style Definition	Office based hot-desk/touch down worker		
Job Type:	Semi-professional (E&F) - Professional (H&I)		
Primary	Grade E & F		
purpose of role	To promote, protect and enhance Plymouth's Natural Infrastructure in a manner that delivers maximum benefits for people and nature.		
	This role will support the delivery of a robust and resilient network, which provides the natural services required to enable the sustainable growth of the City and surrounding areas and encompass land, water and marine resources.		
	The balance of these outcomes will depend on the overall priorities of the Service, although the post is designed to offer maximum flexibility in the deployment of staff resources in order to meet evolving business needs and offer staff development opportunities.		
	The role holder will have no formal management responsibilities but th holder above C grade may be given delegated responsibility for the sup mentoring of more junior staff.		
	Role Outcomes		
Kev	Role O	ıtcomes	
Key accountabilities	Role Or	utcomes Grade F	

- and utilising social media to promote natural spaces and facilitating community involvement in natural space improvements. 10%
- Optimising the potential of natural spaces to help address deprivation and inequality; 5%
- Managing a process of change around the profile, the perception, and the quality of Plymouth's natural spaces; 5%
- Providing specialist input and advice to strategic planning and planning applications on natural infrastructure, including supporting the preparation, delivery, monitoring and review of the Joint Local Plan; 10%
- Development and delivery of the European Marine Site management scheme, Green Infrastructure Delivery Plan and Joint Local Plan objectives; 10%
- Securing environmentally sustainable plans and projects through specialist environmental advice to teams within the Strategic Planning & Infrastructure department; 5%
- Securing the effective stewardship of the natural environment through the provision of specialist environmental management advice to Council departments, external organisations and individuals; 5%
- Facilitate improvements to the City's water quality driven by the Water Framework directive and Bathing Water Directive; 5%
- Work to secure capital and revenue funds to support natural infrastructure delivery. Including the negotiation and management of \$106 contributions towards natural spaces, play spaces, and playing pitches; 5%
- Project manage the delivery of

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- Work to secure capital and revenue funds to support natural infrastructure delivery. Including the negotiation and management of \$106 contributions towards natural spaces, play spaces, and playing pitches; 5%
- Project manage the delivery of

- natural infrastructure projects across the City; 10%
- Establishing new ways of working and delivery mechanisms for the long term management of natural infrastructure assets; 5%
- Coordinate, mentor, and enable local stakeholders to deliver natural infrastructure projects through the provision of a local link to national best practice and disseminate the learning from the project via regional and national forums; 10%
- Supporting research development to record high quality education, health and well-being evidence for Natural Infrastructure project outcomes and initiatives to academically review the other benefits of delivering a high quality network; 5%
- Planning for future allotment and food growing provision and supporting community food initiatives. This will include supporting the client function for the management of allotment tenancy agreements, waiting lists and ensuring the high quality maintenance of the City's allotment sites; 10%
- Carry out other duties appropriate to the grade of the post

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Role Measures			
	Grade E		Grade F
-	Achieving the strategic targets as set out in the annual SP&I Business Plan	•	Achieving the strategic targets as set out in the annual SP&I Business Plan
ŀ	Positive feedback achieved through annual review of customer and stakeholder feedback Responding to customer,	•	Positive feedback achieved through annual review of customer and stakeholder feedback
	member, colleague and/or volunteer queries to a high standard in the timeframes specified.	•	Responding to customer, member, colleague and/or volunteer queries to a high standard in the timeframes

- Sites achieve the required standards and comply with all relevant health and safety requirements and legislation.
- Standards of communication are maintained in line with PCC and project expectations.
- Budget responsibilities are managed effectively to achieve financial targets set out annually.

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- Standards of communication are maintained in line with PCC and project expectations.
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Key activities

Grade E

- Provides specialist NI advice and guidance on a variety of queries, and exchanges orally and in-writing information on natural infrastructure issues with a range of audiences, including the public, community leaders, contractors, developers, planning officers, management and members. 10%
- Assists with making the Council's input to the Joint Local Plan, Plans of other local authorities, into the formulation of planning strategies, and strategies for engaging communities with natural spaces. 10%
- Ensures advice and information complies with key pieces of legislation including the Habitats Regulations, Wildlife and Countryside Act, NERC Act, Natural Environment White Paper, together with National Planning Policy and community development best practice. 10%
- Administration of and assistance at public engagement and consultation and events e.g. to prepare agendas, newsletters, display materials, activities etc. 10%
- Supports the representation of the NI team and partnerships through a technical support role. Maintains a natural environment database to provide evidence for the team's role in relation to planning advice, project delivery, and environmental

Grade F

- Independently, processes, analyses and assesses planning applications and collects additional data as necessary to objectively evaluate the application. 15%
- Independently assesses project strategies that are more complex in relation to their NI and/or community impacts and mitigation measures. 10%
- Uses developed problem solving skills to find solutions for problems which can at times be of a complex nature. Negotiation skills are required to come to agreement over problems or situations where the post holder will have to encourage others to adopt a course of action that they may not initially agree with. 10%
- Appraises proposals against legislation, policy, and best practice and where there is a conflict, works with interested parties.
 This involves negotiating a solution which meets natural environment interests and/or community needs and satisfies other practical considerations such as funds available etc. 10%
- Delivers partnership initiatives that promote and support Natural Infrastructure outcomes; 10%
- Delivers public consultation, events and information exercises; 5%
- Supports the City Council's representation, as appropriate, in

- management advice. This will cover a sub-regional area. 10%
- Support the monitoring of project and partnership budgets. 10%
- Provides administrative and technical support for funding applications. Supports others in preparing the City Council's case for informal hearings and public inquiries. 10%
- Contributes to achieving NI team and partnership priorities ensuring that deadlines and quality standards are met. 10%
- Demonstration of duties to more junior staff, with occasional requirement to support students, administration and temporary staff. 10%
- Responsibility for maintenance teams and external contractors whilst on site including Health and Safety responsibilities. 10%

- regional and sub-regional meetings relating to Natural Infrastructure issues; 5%
- Significant role in supporting the development of the NI evidence base and community engagement best practice; 5%
- Identifies potential funding streams and prepares bids that could support the delivery of NI priorities; 5%
- Represents the department and/or partnerships at public meetings, Area Committees, Delegation Meetings, Scrutiny Panels and informal hearings and assists in presenting evidence as expert witness; 5%
- Proactively seeks improvements to the delivery of specific NI and partnership priorities; 5%
- May organise and oversee the work of project teams and consultants as required; 5%
- Develops NI policies within the Joint Local Plan, other local planning / policy documents and community benefit strategies; 5%
- Undertakes analytical reviews such as Habitats Regulation appraisals;
 5%

Essential qualifications/ knowledge

Grade E

- Knowledge and understanding of natural environment legislation and Government and local guidance on natural environment improvements.
- Knowledge and understanding of the Interrelationship between planning policy and/or community development best practice and natural environment, policies and legislation.
- Evidence of working towards eligibility for Professional Membership of an appropriate Institute.
- Full driving licence.

Grade F

- Degree or equivalent in natural environment or a related subject plus significant relevant experience in the management and stewardship of the natural environment including in relation to the planning process and/or community engagement.
- Degree or equivalent in natural environment (or a related subject) or community development.
- Extensive knowledge and understanding of legislation, policies, procedures and practices relating to the natural environment, wildlife law and management and demonstrable experience of applying that knowledge.

		 Evidence of working towards eligibility for Professional Membership of an appropriate Institute. Developed knowledge and understanding of wider sustainability, regeneration, community, and biodiversity issues and related strategies. Full driving licence.
 Desirable	Grade E	Grade F
qualifications/ knowledge	 Knowledge of Natural Infrastructure principles and delivery options. Knowledge and understanding Project Management techniques. 	 Knowledge of Natural Infrastructure principles and delivery options. Knowledge and understanding Project Management techniques.
Essential	Grade E	Grade F
experience	 Experience of using a range of IT based applications 	 Experience in conducting communication and consultation exercises. Extensive experience of developing and sustaining good relationships and working with external organisations, elected members, land owners, members of the public and development interests
Desirable	Grade E	Grade F
experience	 Experience of supporting the development of and participating in communication, and consultation exercises. 	 Experience of developing and sustaining good relationships and working with external organisations, elected members, land owners, members of the public and development interests. Experience of supporting the development of and participating
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Essential skills	Grade E	Grade F
	 Relevant demonstrable ICT skills (e.g. PC based skills, MS Office software and GIS systems) to the position as determined by the NI Manager. Ability to use GGP and GIS plotting and mapping systems. 	 Evidence of communicating effectively on complex Natural Infrastructure issues both verbally and in-writing to a varied audience including ward councillors, amenity societies, Government Inspectors, local people etc.

- Advising and guiding skills to clearly convey varied information to internal and external customers and colleagues.
- Analytical skills used to make reasonable decisions.
- Periodic requirement to prepare, transport and assemble presentational and exhibition materials as required.
- Ability to carry out site inspections and other related on-site assessments.
- Plans events / activities up to a month in advance.

- Evidence of being able understand the interrelationship between all aspects of Natural Infrastructure delivery including Planning and community delivery of projects.
- Presentation skills to present evidence or reports at committees and public meetings.
- Developed advising and guiding skills to clearly convey complicated and sensitive information to internal and external customers and colleagues.
- Planning and organisation skills needed to manage complex and challenging projects/applications within critical deadlines and to quality standards.

Corporate standards

In accordance with Council policies and guidance on information management and security, it is your personal responsibility for data protection, client confidentiality and information governance.

Act at all times in accordance with appropriate legislation and regulations, codes of practice, the provisions of the Council's constitution and its policies and procedures.

Work within the requirements of the Council's Health and Safety policy, performance standards, safe systems of work and procedures.

Undertake all duties with due regard to the corporate equalities policy and relevant legislation.

Title	Natural Infrastructure Officer	
Grade	E, F, H, I	
Reference:	N569	
Reports to:	Head of Service	
Work style Definition	Office based hot-desk/touch down worker	
Job Type:	Semi-professional (E&F) - Professional (H&I)	
Primary purpose of role	Grade H & I To lead the NI team's role in promoting, protecting and enhancing Plymouth's Natural Infrastructure in a manner that delivers maximum benefits for people and nature.	
	This role will deliver a robust and resilient network, which provides the natural services required to enable the sustainable growth of the City and surrounding areas and encompass land, water and marine resources.	
	The balance of these outcomes will depend on the overall priorities of the Service, although the post is designed to offer maximum flexibility in the deployment of staff resources in order to meet evolving business needs and offer staff development	

opportunities.

The role holder will have no formal management responsibilities but the post holder above C grade may be given delegated responsibility for the supervision and mentoring of more junior staff.

Key accountabilitie s and key measures

Role Outcomes

Grade H

Grade I

- Leading, facilitating and empowering partnerships to enable the delivery of key NI projects and initiatives, including the Tamar Estuaries
 Consultative Forum, Plymouth
 Green Infrastructure Partnership and Plymouth Area Local Nature
 Partnership; 10%
- Leading work to build the capacity of community to engage with natural spaces. This will include the development of a programme of innovative and inclusive events, delivering interventions that encourage more people to use and enjoy natural spaces, developing new material and utilising social media to promote natural spaces and facilitating community involvement in natural space improvements. 10%
- Optimising the potential of natural spaces to help address deprivation and inequality; 5%
- Managing a process of change around the profile, the perception, and the quality of Plymouth's natural spaces; 5%
- Providing specialist input and advice to strategic planning and planning applications on natural infrastructure, including supporting the preparation, delivery, monitoring and review of the Joint Local Plan; 10%
- Development and delivery of the European Marine Site management scheme, Green Infrastructure Delivery Plan and Joint Local Plan objectives; 10%

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- Development and delivery of the European Marine Site management scheme, Green Infrastructure Delivery Plan and Joint Local Plan objectives; 10%

- Securing environmentally sustainable plans and projects through specialist environmental advice to teams within the Strategic Planning & Infrastructure department; 5%
- Securing the effective stewardship of the natural environment through the provision of specialist environmental management advice to Council departments, external organisations and individuals; 5%
- Facilitate improvements to the City's water quality driven by the Water Framework directive and Bathing Water Directive; 5%
- Work to secure capital and revenue funds to support natural infrastructure delivery. Including the negotiation and management of \$106 contributions towards natural spaces, play spaces, and playing pitches; 5%
- Project manage the delivery of natural infrastructure projects across the City; 10%
- Establishing new ways of working and delivery mechanisms for the long term management of natural infrastructure assets; 5%
- Coordinate, mentor, and enable local stakeholders to deliver natural infrastructure projects through the provision of a local link to national best practice and disseminate the learning from the project via regional and national forums; 10%
- Supporting research development to record high quality education, health and well-being evidence for Natural Infrastructure project outcomes and initiatives to academically review the other benefits of delivering a high quality network; 5%
- Planning for future allotment and food growing provision and supporting community food

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and ensuring the high quality		
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sites; 10%		

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Carry out other duties appropriate Carry out other duties appropriate to the grade of the post to the grade of the post **Role Measures** Grade H Grade I Achieving the strategic targets as Achieving the strategic targets as set out in the annual SP&I set out in the annual SP&I **Business Plan Business Plan** Positive feedback achieved Positive feedback achieved through annual review of through annual review of customer and stakeholder customer and stakeholder feedback feedback Responding to customer, Responding to customer, member, colleague and/or member, colleague and/or volunteer queries to a high volunteer queries to a high standard in the timeframes standard in the timeframes specified. specified. Sites achieve the required Sites achieve the required standards and comply with all standards and comply with all relevant health and safety relevant health and safety requirements and legislation. requirements and legislation. Standards of communication are Standards of communication are maintained in line with PCC and maintained in line with PCC and project expectations. project expectations. Budget responsibilities are Budget responsibilities are managed effectively to achieve managed effectively to achieve financial targets set out annually. financial targets set out annually. Grade H Grade I **Key activities** Supports the NI Manager in the Develops, interprets and provide operational management of the specialist advice on a range of a team as appropriate, helping to complex NI issues ranging from ensure that the team is managed input into local plans and appropriately, the resources of the development proposals to team are allocated to meet its reviewing the ability of natural overall work targets and that the spaces to deliver health and team operates within corporate wellbeing outcomes; 15% policies. 15% Responds appropriately, within challenging timescales, to Supervises junior staff/ and or complaints which could have consultants as required and uses political implications. This may extensive experience and discussions

with

necessitate

knowledge to mentor, support and

- senior managers, members, the public or other stakeholders and may involve the exchange of complex and contentious information; 15%
- Analyses and interprets large amounts of complex information. This includes information for largescale developments, NI priority projects, research outcomes on the benefits of natural spaces and includes financial and social considerations, and partnership implications. Assesses the impact proposals have on the environment and people and solves difficult problems negotiating solutions that achieve a positive outcome that is sustainable into the future; 10%
- Lead on significant and far reaching public consultation, events and information exercises relating to Natural Infrastructure (public meetings and exhibitions) applying appropriate and innovative community consultation techniques that maximise participation; 10%
- Represents the NI team and NI partnerships, as appropriate, in regional and sub-regional meetings. Identifies opportunities and makes recommendations on how to maximise the use of budgets including the development of income streams Assess the value and validity of a potential funding stream in supporting the delivery of NI priorities; 10%
- Attends as expert witness at Public Inquiries, conferences informal hearings, independent examinations, Examinations in Public and other such hearings as appropriate to represent the Council's or partnership case. Leads on the development of NI and partnership improvement priorities; 10%
 - Lead work to build the capacity

train others, 10%

- Leads the development and implementation of Natural Infrastructure policy, planning and strategy. 10%
- Leads on the delivery of the strategic interventions to deliver NI priorities this will include master plan development, community & stakeholder engagement, options appraisal, submission of funding bids, action
- planning, gaining landowner agreements, formalising delivery partnerships, commissioning & contractual arrangements, preparation of progress and monitoring reports Drives the delivery of Natural Infrastructure priority projects through partnership coordination exercises initiative when potential funding opportunities emerge that could help fund Natural Infrastructure Delivery and coordinating funding bid submissions and initiating new
- partnership initiatives; 10%
- Ensures that the project delivers its strategic objectives, by identifying project priorities
- and delivery methods; 10%
- Champions the Plymouth Natural
- Infrastructure Delivery and shares project learning with partnerships and statutory bodies nationally; 5%
- Represents and proactively develops regional and sub-regional relationships that drive forward partnership priorities; 5%
- Manages the development and procurement required to deliver a NI evidence base that can effectively inform planning decision, project delivery and demonstrate the value of Natural Infrastructure to other sectors. 5%
- Manages partnership budgets, under the direction of the NI Manager. 5%

- of communities and the voluntary/community sector in Plymouth to develop a new approach to managing Natural Infrastructure assets and providing effective stewardship of the natural environment; 10%
- Work with green space providers and potential user groups to re brand communication and information about green space opportunities to new urban audiences; 10%
 - Facilitate the links between Public Health, Neighbourhood management/ planning teams, Plymouth University, education teams, and other stakeholders as required, to generate sustainable changes to the way organisations use natural spaces to tackle urban deprivation and health inequalities; 10%
- Long periods of concentration required e.g. when preparing documents, researching information and writing subsequent reports for project board(s) or senior management.
- Expected to attend meetings within and outside the City quite frequently to ensure relationships are maintained with partner organisations.

- Leads on the development of funding bids to support the delivery of NI priorities; 5%
- Lead reporting of project budgets to external funders and organisations. 5%
- Develop and manage robust research alongside an evaluation framework and monitoring systems to measure success of engagement with green spaces. 5%
- Broker's consensus on improvement priorities with partners. 5%
- Develops and maintains good relationships with elected members, colleagues, and outside agencies. 5%
- Expected to attend regional and national meetings to promote and share best practice

Essential qualifications/ knowledge

Grade H

- Membership of a relevant professional institute, such as the Royal Town Planning Institute, Landscape Institute, Chartered Environmentalist or an equivalent institute that represents environmental, community or health and well-being professionals that requires an assessment process to gain membership, or an action plan agreed with your line manager by 30 June 2019 for working towards securing this membership
- Grade I

 Detailed knowledge a
- Detailed knowledge and appreciation of strategic natural space, planning and land and marine management or Demonstrable experience of delivering large scale community engagement and environmental enhancement projects, and capital work programmes
- Commitment to actively promote corporate working and support for corporate initiatives.
- Knowledge of wider economic development and urban regeneration issues.

	 at the earliest opportunity. Degree or equivalent in natural environment or a another relevant discipline plus extensive relevant experience in the management stewardship and use of the natural environment for the benefit of people and wildlife or the use of the statutory planning process to deliver positive environmental outcomes. Substantial knowledge of applying planning and environmental policies and legislation or substantial and demonstrable experience of working with communities, particularly hard to reach groups. 	 Political sensitivity and awareness including experience of working closely with and providing advice to elected members and management on a formal and informal basis.
	Grade H	Grade I
qualifications/ knowledge	 Further qualifications in relevant field, i.e. Masters Degree, project management qualifications. 	 A Certificate in Management and/or a Diploma in Management Studies.
Essential	Grade H	Grade I
experience	 Substantial experience of applying planning and environmental policies and legislation or substantial and demonstrable experience of working with communities, particularly hard to reach groups. Experience of preparing and / or presenting evidence for public inquiries and other hearings; or proven understanding of community development theory and practice of delivering inclusive community engagement programmes. Experience of presenting reports to members at Public Meetings, Committees and other forums. Demonstrable experience of inter – agency partnership working. Experience of monitoring and participatory evaluation of community development programmes or reviewing and 	 Demonstrable experience of delivering large scale community engagement and environmental enhancement projects, and capital work programmes. Proven ability to apply substantial and extensive knowledge of planning policies, procedures and practices relating to the natural environment or Demonstrable experience of effective community consultation techniques and demonstrable experience of project management and the planning, organising and running large events including the financial management of large budgets. Demonstrable experience of managing and working with multiple partners, agencies and contractors in the delivery of complex programmes of work.

	negotiating planning mitigation plans. Experience of coordinating staff / volunteers / contractors / in the delivery of programmes of work.	 Demonstrable experience of communicating to diverse audiences through different media including written and oral presentations. Demonstrable experience of working on complex and sensitive natural environment projects that have community implication that resulted in a successful conclusion. Track record of successful partnership & project management.
Desirable	Grade H	Grade I
experience	 Extensive experience of working in a Planning Department providing advice on complex development consent applications. Experience of effective partnership working with other stakeholders. 	 Line management experience, experience and experience of managing and monitoring budgets. Track record of successfully working in an external funding field.
Essential skills	Grade H	Grade I
Essential skills	 Well-developed presentation skills to present evidence, research or reports at public inquiries and examinations, as well as committee and public meetings. Excellent communication skills, including written and oral presentation skills, and an ability to provide information to audiences in an engaging and understandable way. Developed consultation, persuasion and negotiation skills to enable consensus building and delivery of project priorities. Project management skills to effectively manage natural environment projects. Support partnership projects ensuring stakeholders are positively engaged in natural infrastructure work. Expected to attend meetings within and outside the City quite frequently to ensure relationships are 	 Strong ability to demonstrate personal qualities of leadership, drive, enthusiasm, innovation, organisation and motivation. Proven ability to persuade and influence others positively at a variety of levels. Excellent presentation skills to deliver complex proposals and ideas to a range of audiences from local communities to regional and national audiences. Excellent communication skills, including written and oral presentation skills. Analytical and problem solving skills to take on complex cases and to process, interpret, evaluate and apply a wide range of complex data streams, social and financial inputs and value judgements. Excellent financial management skills. Ability to define, develop and manage multiple projects, including

- maintained with partner organisations. This could include meetings outside of working hours.
- Periods of concentration required when preparing reports.
- identifying opportunities, gaining support for ideas, progressing initiatives and delivering within time and on budget.
- Ability to lead and generate positive outcomes through partnership working. To manage project stakeholders and encourage positive joint working, and manage any conflict that may arise.
- Long periods of concentration required e.g. when preparing documents, researching information and writing subsequent reports for project board(s) or senior management.

Corporate standards

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Work within the requirements of the Council's Health and Safety policy, performance standards, safe systems of work and procedures.

Undertake all duties with due regard to the corporate equalities policy and relevant legislation.