

Severn Estuary Partnership



Placement and Personal Specification

Job Title:	LFCS Evaluation Placement Student
Salary:	£21.5k (pro rata)
Responsible to:	Litter Free Coast and Sea Project Officer
Location:	Cardiff (with hybrid working)
Work with:	Litter Free Coast and Sea Somerset Litter Free Dorset – Land, Coast & Sea Severn Estuary Partnership Wessex Water Somerset Wildlife Trust
Contract Length:	Fixed Term: Commencing summer 2024 – 30 th April 2025 (35 hrs/week) with 25 days annual leave (pro rata)

Background and Job Purpose

Litter Free Dorset (LFD) and Litter Free Coast & Sea Somerset (LFCSS) are community-based campaigns aiming to protect bathing water quality and litter in Dorset and Somerset.

Litter Free Dorset – land, coast, and sea (LFD) aims to create better local environments for everyone, exploring and realising the social, economic and environmental benefits of reducing the impacts of litter and pollution in the county's towns, beaches and open spaces. The purpose of LFD is to add value to existing efforts by taking a strategic, preventative approach to countywide problems; working collaboratively with a local focus to create, implement and review tailored solutions to each community's issues. Litter Free Dorset launched in 2011 and following its success the LFCSS project was rolled out in Somerset in 2016.

The projects, funded by Wessex Water, encourage and empower local communities to consider and reduce their own impacts on water quality and marine litter through the delivery of behaviour change

and engagement campaigns for schools, businesses and the community. Delivery is focused on designated bathing waters.

Both projects have established a number of campaigns within their focus areas, including award schemes for local schools, support for litter picking groups and targeted campaigns to reduce litter and waste at designated bathing waters as well as travelling up stream to tackle issues at source. Examples include artwork at entrance points, toy libraries and installing refill points at high footfall areas. This placement will evaluate the LFD and LFCSS projects and examine the impact of the campaigns they have delivered.

The placement will be primarily based within the Severn Estuary Partnership, which hosts the LFCSS project. The Severn Estuary Partnership is an independent, estuary-wide non-statutory initiative led by local authorities and statutory agencies, hosted by Cardiff University. The role will require travel to both Dorset and Somerset for primary data collection.

The role is fixed term, starting in summer 2024 – 30th April 2025 and you will be expected to commit to 35 hours per week.

Principal Responsibilities

Working with key partners the Evaluation Officer will:

- Undertake quality assurance and analysis of existing data and data collected in the field, on litter and bathing water quality, as well as survey and questionnaire results
- Data collection and accurate data entry
- Conduct interviews with project stakeholders, e.g. local authorities, beach clean groups, schools etc.
- Undertake desk-based research to further evaluate progress against project milestones, such as Bathing Water Quality (BWQ) in the media and behavioural change
- Analyse the Somerset School Coastal Champions award, to include analysis of questionnaire data from students and staff at schools taking part in the school award
- Compile final evaluation report with results, presented to the Litter Free Coast and Sea Officer and wider Litter Free Team, including Wessex Water
- Create video content for evaluation video
- Support the development of the next phase of the LFCSS and LFD projects
- Assist with creation of social media posts
- Support the organisation and running of events
- Provide support for Severn Estuary Partnership projects and events
- Other duties of a similar level as required

Personal Specification

To be successful in this role you will be studying towards a BA/BSc. You will be well organised, able to manage and prioritise your own workload and be comfortable lone working safely across office

and in the field environments. You will also hold IT skills including word processing and spreadsheets.

Essential:

- Good communication skills
- A good understanding of environmental, economic, cultural issues facing coastal communities
- Proven experience of data analysis in both quantitative and qualitative data sets
- Effective IT skills, competent use of office applications and ability to acquire new skills as required
- Self-motivated, with the ability to work without direct supervision at times
- Flexibility, resilience and self-discipline to work effectively remotely if required
- Ability to use/comfortable using social media platforms.

Desirable:

- Familiarity with and knowledge of the Somerset and Dorset Coastlines, including key environmental, social and economic features.
- Understanding of the key factors affecting bathing water quality.
- Knowledge of relevant coastal policies and strategies.
- An understanding of behaviour change theory
- Current driving licence / access to a vehicle

Job descriptions and person specifications are subject to change from time to time to remain in line with business needs.

How to apply

To apply for this position please submit a CV and covering letter, detailing how you meet the role specification to severn@cardiff.ac.uk by Friday, 22nd December 2023. Interview dates will be confirmed after the closing date but are likely to take place week commencing 15th January 2024.

Interview

You will be required to attend an interview before receiving an offer. The purpose of this interview will be to get to know you while determining a rough plan for your placement year. At the interview you will be given an overview of the project, give a 10-minute presentation and complete a short task, and take part in a Q&A session. There will be an opportunity to ask any questions you may have. The initial interview will last approximately one hour; you may be called for a further interview.