



Galloway and Southern Ayrshire Biosphere
37 Queen Street, Newton Stewart, DG8 6JR
www.gsabiosphere.org.uk

Background

Our UNESCO Biosphere designation was awarded in 2012, recognising not only the unique landscapes and environments of Galloway and Southern Ayrshire but also the array of local opportunities for sustainable development. Over the last decade, the Biosphere has delivered a wide range of projects and initiatives with partners across southwest Scotland, covering wildlife conservation, business and enterprise, sustainable tourism, heritage projects, and environmental education. We have also grown a thriving network of Proud Supporters, Biosphere Communities and Biosphere-certified businesses, which together are striving to make life better for people and nature.

Biosphere officers work cooperatively covering three local authority areas – Dumfries & Galloway, East Ayrshire and South Ayrshire. Our lead officers specialise in three main workstreams:

Land Use & Biodiversity – supporting the wildlife and habitats of the Biosphere through engagement with land managers and members of the farming community, and by working with partner organisations to develop innovative, nature-friendly approaches to land use.

Business Development & Marketing – supporting sustainable enterprise by providing marketing support, hosting workshops and networking events, and by promoting the Biosphere across digital and print media as a world class destination for sustainable tourism.

Community & Education – working within communities to increase understanding of climate change and global Net Zero goals, to promote local identity, and to support the unique natural and cultural heritage of the Biosphere.

The Role

We are seeking a confident and outgoing individual to join our existing team to support delivery of the Community Climate Action Hub for Dumfries & Galloway (The D&G Climate Hub) which is hosted by the GSA Biosphere.

The new Officer would join a team of three existing Officers led by a Senior Climate Officer, Network Officer and Engagement Officer.

Community Climate Action Hubs are a Scottish Government initiative designed to provide a strategic regional approach to climate action across Scotland, their core functions include:

- To build awareness of the climate emergency and actions local groups can take
- To help groups identify and secure funding opportunities
- To facilitate networking and shared learning
- To ensure a more joined-up approach to tackling climate change at a regional level





Person specification

You should have a good knowledge and awareness of the climate crisis and what climate action really means to communities. You'll need to have good experience of community engagement and ideally some focussed experience such as supporting biodiversity, adaptation and climate mitigation initiatives, or community energy. You should have an interest and understanding of community development, circular economy and third sector community organisations.

We hope you'll also be aware of the international UNESCO Biosphere status that we have in the region. You'll need to be used to working both on your own and also as part of a team. Most importantly you'll be flexible, noting that the national programme of Community Climate Hubs is relatively new and is still forming.

JOB DESCRIPTION

Post Title: Climate Officer

Base: Newton Stewart / Home

Reporting to: Senior Climate Officer

Gross Salary: £28,976 (FTE salary for 37.5 hours per week)

Pension Contribution: Employer contribution of 8% of salary

Contract Period: Fixed-term to March 31st 2026

Contract Hours: Part-time (22.5 - 30 hours per week).

Weekend and out of hours working are likely to be part of this role, for which time off in lieu will be given.





Job Purpose

The post holder will support the development and delivery of the Community Climate Action Hub for Dumfries & Galloway (The D&G Climate Hub).

Principal Duties:

- Identify & overcome barriers to local climate action in D&G
- Support the design and delivery of community climate mitigation projects
- Identify funding opportunities for community climate action & activity
- Identify opportunities to support a circular economy through climate action
- Facilitate opportunities to network and share skills & learning across D&G
- Engage communities not currently engaged with climate action
- Embed climate resilience into Local Place Plans
- Support the engagement of young people in climate action
- Organise and deliver learning and engagement opportunities including events, training sessions, and Carbon Literacy
- Communications to support the Climate Hub including social media content, website content and reporting.

This position will involve agile working, including a mix of working from home, utilising community meeting places or hot desks, and working in situ in communities across the entire region of Dumfries & Galloway. We welcome in particular applications from candidates with specialisms in biodiversity, climate mitigation and adaptation, energy saving advice or youth engagement.

You will need a driving license, access to a vehicle and be willing to drive.

GSAB's office is located in Newton Stewart and you will be expected to visit this office occasionally. We operate agile working so other work locations will vary and are likely to include attending events and meetings, hot desking and working with colleagues at various locations throughout D&G. You should expect to be working away from your contractual home base for a proportion of the week, although this may vary week by week depending on circumstances.

We strive to offer a flexible working environment and are open to discussion on specific situations.

No Job Description can be entirely comprehensive and the post holder will be expected to carry out other duties from time to time that are commensurate with the above responsibilities and determined by the Partnership Board.





Applications

Closing Date for Applications is midday Monday 2nd June
Proposed interview dates w/c: Monday 9th June

Application forms must be completed although you are welcome to also submit a covering letter and CV.

All applications to be submitted electronically, as PDF documents, to info@gsabiosphere.org.uk

Please save each file as the following:

- YourNameClimateApplicationForm.pdf
- YourNameClimateCV.pdf
- YourNameClimateCoveringLetter.pdf

For further information or to discuss the role:

Jenna Cains

jenna@gsabiosphere.org.uk

Tel. 07436 030223



D&G Climate Hub - Climate Officer - Person Specification

Requirements <i>Essential (E) or Desirable (D)</i>	E	D	Requirements <i>Essential (E) or Desirable (D)</i>	E	D
1. Education and Training			4. Knowledge		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Higher level qualification in a relevant subject. Ongoing commitment to continuous professional development 	D		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The global climate challenge Community led climate action UNESCO Biospheres Education for Sustainable Development 	E	D
2. Experience			5. Personality factors		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Developing & delivering community engagement initiatives. 3+ years experience of supporting community led sustainability or climate projects or actions. Delivery of learning initiatives or training. Working to deadlines 	E	D	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Confident and outgoing Team player Reliable Self-motivated Able to work under pressure Attention to detail A commitment to sustainability 	E	E
3. Skills & abilities			6. Other requirements		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Microsoft office Online meeting software such as MS Teams Social media Good written communication skills Record keeping & organisational skills Excellent verbal communication, including facilitation and networking. 	E		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Flexible approach to work duties Works well independently and as part of a team Observe requirements for confidentiality & sensitivity to community groups Driving License, access to a car & willing to drive 	E	E