 

# Natural Flood Management Project Officer

**Part Time Position** (0.6FTE) **with a Fixed Term Contract until 31/12/2022. Salary:** £23,674 - £30,000 p/annum (pro-rata) depending on experience

**Hours & Leave:** 24 hours per week (0.6FTE) with 15 days holiday plus Bank Holidays

**Pension:** 5% employer’s contribution

**Location:** The post will mainly be home-based with travel across the River Adur catchment. Our office base is in Sompting (BN14), although this is closed for the foreseeable future.

**Responsible for:** Co-development of a Natural Flood Management project for the River Adur.

**DBS:** We may require you to undertake a DBS or other relevant checks.

# Closing Date: 23rd April 2021

**Interview Date:** 7th May 2021

The Ouse & Adur Rivers Trust (OART) is a registered charity working to protect, restore and enhance the rivers, streams, estuaries and lakes across the two catchments. Our roots lie firmly in the local area and we work closely with communities, business and partner organisations to deliver projects focused on improving the environment for both wildlife and people. OART is a member of the Rivers Trust movement which comprises over 60 local trusts. These have been described as having ‘wet feet’ because they concentrate their efforts on delivering evidence based, practical environmental enhancement works, making a real difference to the water environment.

As part of our expanding team, we are now looking for an enthusiastic, dedicated, and organised person to identify opportunities for Natural Flood Management in the Adur catchment, from the headwaters to the sea, to help reduce the risk of flooding and deliver multiple benefits for the water environment.

This is an exciting opportunity to use your existing freshwater and/or estuarine experience to develop a strategy for delivery across the Adur. For the right candidate there is the possibility of this role extending beyond the contract period and developing into a full-time role across both the Adur and Ouse river systems.

# Further Information

The role will focus on developing an NFM strategy to delivery outcomes from 2022 onwards. Some small-scale NFM interventions may be delivered by the project officer before then if opportunities arise. It is anticipated that future core funding will be attracted by a well-developed strategy covering the whole river catchment, from source to sea. The project is being managed by the Ouse & Adur Rivers Trust in partnership with the Environment Agency with input from a steering group of organisations from the Adur & Ouse Catchment Partnership.

# Key Duties Developing a Strategy

* Working with the Environment Agency and other partners to assess flood risk and identify priorities for action across the Adur catchment.
* Collating and analysing data to provide a landscape-scale approach to NFM, and project development, delivery and evaluation.
* Approaching and working with landowners to develop high quality projects that meet their needs as well as the objectives of the project.
* Producing a strategy which can be used to attract funding for further work.

# Working in Partnership

* Liaising with government agencies, land agents, funders and other bodies to develop the strategy and component projects.
* Promoting the benefits of NFM to land managers, community groups, landowners and other stakeholders through organising events and producing materials such as case studies, advice sheets, videos and leaflets.
* Organising meetings of the project steering group, liaising with its members and representing it at events.
* Managing and responding to media including via Twitter, Facebook and blogs.

# Contributing to the Work of OART

* Undertaking any other tasks as required and commensurate with the grading of the post.

# Person Specification – Project Officer

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| **Criteria** | **Essential** | **Desirable** |
| **Training & Experience** | |  |
| A degree or equivalent in a relevant subject and/or 2-years’ experience in aquatic project work and engagement with  landowners and community groups | X |  |
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| Experience of developing and delivering projects associated  with the water environment to time and budget. |  | X |
| Experience in data gathering, interpretation and  presentation and the writing of high-quality reports. | X |  |
| Experience of the principles, effectiveness and application  of different NFM measures | X |  |
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| **Criteria** | **Essential** | **Desirable** |
| **Knowledge & Understanding** | |  |
| A clear understanding of river ecology | X |  |
| A working knowledge of NFM types/techniques and their  role in the landscape | X |  |

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| A working knowledge of regulations, policies, support and  incentive/funding? schemes related to land management | X |  |
| An understanding of health and safety issues | X |  |
| A working knowledge of NFM monitoring and research |  | X |
| An understanding of natural processes within landscapes |  | X |

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| **Criteria** | **Essential** | **Desirable** |
| **Skills & Personal Attributes** | |  |
| Good at networking and building and maintaining effective working relationships with a wide variety of people and  organisations | X |  |
| Ability to present a range of ideas and objectives for discussion with organisations both at grassroots and  strategic level. | X |  |
| A good working knowledge of Microsoft Office, particularly  MS Excel | X |  |
| Friendly and approachable with the diplomatic skills to deal  with potential conflict situations and obtain a positive result | X |  |
| Willingness to work outdoors in all weathers and  comfortable with working in and around water | X |  |
| Ability to work independently and as part of a team. | X |  |
| Ability to collate and analyse data using GIS |  | X |

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| **Criteria** | **Essential** | **Desirable** |
| **Miscellaneous** | |  |
| Able to work flexibly, occasional weekend and evening work  as required | X |  |
| Full Clean Driving License and own vehicle | X |  |
| A commitment to equality of opportunity | X |  |

For more information on the Adur & Ouse Catchment Partnership, visit their website at [www.adurandousecatchment.org.uk](http://www.adurandousecatchment.org.uk/)

To submit an application please send your CV and covering letter to [peter.king@oart.org.uk](mailto:peter.king@oart.org.uk) before 17:00 on Friday 23rd April 2021.