



Open competition for appointment to the position of
Conservation and Education Officer
with the Irish Peatland Conservation Council
Closing Date for applications 21st January 2023
Two positions available

The Irish Peatland Conservation Council (IPCC) is a national charity (CHY 6829, RCN 20013547) that aims to conserve a representative sample of the peatlands of Ireland for people to enjoy now and in the future.

There are two positions available and both Conservation and Education Officers will work together managing IPCC's national network of peatland nature reserves and raising the profile of peatlands through IPCC's education programmes. The first year will consist principally of training in the skilled areas of IPCC's work of conserving and managing peatlands, educating school groups, working with visitors to our nature centre and fundraising for projects and campaigns.

In the second year, the Conservation and Education Officers will be given more responsibilities, fundraising for specific projects that need to be undertaken in education and conservation as outlined in IPCC's Strategic Business Plan. The overall aim will be to build their own profile and that of the Irish Peatland Conservation Council. The work will involve the following activities to enhance both the hard and soft skills of the newly appointed Officers:

- Management of IPCC's network of six nature reserves including drain blocking, drain profiling, butterfly and bumblebee monitoring transects, species monitoring, *Sphagnum* moss transfer, vegetation mapping, vegetation surveying, managing grazing, water table monitoring, analysing field data, engaging with landowners, maintaining site diaries and annual site management reports.
- Organise and work with IPCC's network of conservation volunteers.
- To organise, promote and deliver nature studies programmes focusing on bogs and other habitats at the Bog of Allen Nature Centre to visiting primary and secondary school groups as well as special interest groups and individual visitors.
- To deliver outreach education programmes with IPCC educational partners, which will include travel to schools in the Leinster area.
- Writing and desk top publishing skills including preparing articles and designing IPCC's supporters newsletters, information leaflets, educational work sheets, advertising posters and issuing press material.
- To maintain and develop the website and social media sites of the IPCC
- Presentation skills including giving talks on IPCC open days and public events.
- Policy work including implementing the IPCC's Peatland Conservation Action Plan 2020 and 2030.
- Fundraising for specific project work through competitive grant schemes.
- To maintain the museum and resource library at the Bog of Allen Nature Centre.
- Reception duties including dealing with telephone and face to face enquiries, taking bookings and operating audio-visual and other equipment.
- To maintain all education exhibits in the gardens, museum and visitor centre.
- To maintain all education and conservation resources and equipment used at the nature centre and IPCC reserves.

- Any other duties considered relevant to the position or to be undertaken as part of the IPCC team.

Eligibility Requirements

Essential:

Candidates must have, on or before closing date for the competition:

- A recognised qualification at level 8 on the National Framework of Qualifications in zoology, biology, ecology, plant science, environmental science or a relevant qualification which is acceptable to the Irish Peatland Conservation Council as equivalent.
- Excellent communications skills both written and verbal and a proven ability to communicate with diverse audiences at an individual and group level.
- Excellent inter-personal skills, be enthusiastic and knowledgeable about nature conservation and peatlands.
- Excellent IT skills across a wide range of technologies and services.
- A full clean category B driving license and access to own car
- Flexible approach – available to work outside normal hours are required on occasional basis.

Main Contract Details

Location

The Conservation and Education Officers will be based at the IPCC headquarters at the Bog of Allen Nature Centre, Lullymore, Rathangan, Co. Kildare, R51 V293 but will be required to work on site at community venues or schools and at our reserves in Kildare, Meath, Kerry, Clare and Waterford and any other reserves acquired by the charity from time to time.

Annual Salary: €29,000

Contract duration: 24 months with potential for extension subject to funding

Probation: Six months.

Office Hours: 9-5pm Monday-Friday at the Bog of Allen Nature Centre with some weekend work.

Holidays: Annual leave entitlement is 20 days.

Travel: Costs incurred during educational outreach and reserve management will be reimbursed

Completed application and cover letter submitted for the attention of Nuala Madigan, CEO to bogs@ipcc.ie or postal application to:

Nuala Madigan
Chief Executive Officer
Lullymore
Rathangan
Co. Kildare
R51 V293

Deadline for application no later than 5pm on 21st January 2023.