

JOB DESCRIPTION
Approved July 2025

Title & Reporting Relationships

Position Title:	Ākonga Mātauranga Pātītī , Turf Specialist (Apprentice), Operations Team, Infrastructure and Asset Management Group.
Grade:	SP X
Reports to:	Team Leader Turf
Direct Reports:	Nil
Indirect Reports:	As may be required pending the nature of a project or specific section of work programme

Purpose of the Group and the Position:

The Infrastructure and Asset Management Group comprises: Development Control; Project Management Office; Operations; Access and Transport; Stormwater and Coastal Assets; Water and Wastewater Services; Property and Facilities Maintenance; and Emergency Management. The Group is responsible for developing, implementing and maintaining the appropriate infrastructural and asset management processes and practices to achieve the Council's required levels of service in an efficient, effective sustainable and customer friendly manner.

The Operations team is the largest team within the Infrastructure Services Group. It manages the delivery of a wide variety of maintenance activities including keeping our parks and recreation areas as great places for people to enjoy. The Environmental Restoration Officer role is part of the Horticulture team within the larger Parks and Recreation team.

The Turf team has responsibility for the delivery and maintenance of the Council's amenity and sports turf to the high standards required by sports clubs and other users of these amenities. The team undertake a wide variety of duties associated with keeping the District looking great and being a place that people can enjoy. Sub-teams are allocated specific areas of activity ensuring levels of service are provided in the most efficient manor and to the best possible standard.

Reporting to the Team Leader Turf for day to day activities, the Turf Specialist (Apprentice) assists the Turf team in fine

turf and sports field mowing and preparation as specified by the Leisure and Open Spaces Service Level Agreement

This role is responsible for establishing and maintaining effective, co-operative, and professional working relationships with all stakeholders including:

Internal Customers: This role is responsible for establishing and maintaining effective, co-operative and professional working relationships with all stakeholders including:
Team Leaders (Turf, Mowing and Horticulture, Arboriculture)
Operations Manager
Manager, Parks Open Space and Environment
Other members of the Operations team
Staff from across Council teams

External Customers: Members of the public
Citizens
Ratepayers
Volunteer groups
Community groups
Sporting groups

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES AND OUTCOMES

In the current local government environment, Council must be well positioned and supported to meet the current and future needs of our communities for good quality local infrastructure, local public services, and performance of regulatory functions in a way that is cost-effective for businesses and residents. The Council needs to be ready for, and respond appropriately to, changes in external operating environments (such as shifts in government policy), which in turn influences how we do things. The Council is working to be well-positioned not only to see what is coming but also to take opportunities to influence the shape of these externally driven changes.

We require all staff to demonstrate behaviours that underscore our commitment to build and maintain an organisation that is acknowledged and respected for being:

- Caring – we understand our customers' needs, share information and work as a team;
- Dynamic – we bring a can-do attitude to make it happen; and
- Effective – we get it right and deliver consistent, value for money services.

Staff will be aware of political sensitivities, support equal employment opportunities, and demonstrate an understanding of Te Tiriti o Waitangi within the context of a local authority.

Functional Key Requirements

- Uses tractor mounted cutting decks and other suitable machinery to prepare grass sports playing surfaces to sports codes requirements and as prescribed by the Leisure and Open Spaces Service Level Agreement.
- Uses tractor mounted cutting decks and other suitable machinery to prepare grass Croquet lawns in accordance with code standards and as prescribed by the Leisure and Open Spaces Service Level Agreement.
- Assists in the preparation and maintenance of clay based cricket wickets, including the renovation of cricket wicket blocks (Autumn/Spring).
- Assists in setting out sports markings and undertaking re-marks of turf areas ensuring the appropriate and relevant sporting codes are captured.

- Assists in the provision of turf preparation for various community events within required timeframes.
- Assists in developing schedules for mowing and general ground maintenance.
- Identifies fertilizer and wetting agent requirements and applying as required.
- Identifies pests and diseases of turf and applying suitable control methods.
- Ensures that plant and machinery used is maintained to full working order by arranging regular servicing
- Ensures that necessary repairs to plant and machinery is undertaken.
- Ensures that all paperwork including spray diaries, tailgate sheets and timesheets are completed in an accurate and timely manner.
- Achieves any other tasks in conjunction with the role as may be required from time to time.

Personal Key Results

- Demonstrate commitment to organisational values through behaviour that is consistent with our caring, dynamic and effective approach to customer service.
- Establish and maintain effective and efficient working relationships with all stakeholders.
- Contribute collaboratively, positively, and effectively to the operation of the team, the Group, and the organisation as a whole.
- Take responsibility for your own self-development to enhance skills and knowledge applicable to current and future positions.
- Exhibit behavior which is consistent with the understanding of Te Tiriti o Waitangi and its application for the Council.

Health and Safety

All employees have a responsibility to work towards keeping a safe and healthy work environment by following all safe work methods, identifying work place risks and hazards and using appropriate safety equipment. This includes but is not exclusive to demonstration of the following:

- Taking all reasonable steps to ensure your own safety at work, and that no action or inaction of yours while at work causes harm to any person or the environment;
- Reporting any risks and/or hazards you become aware of in the workplace;
- Observing all safety policies, procedures and precautions, including wearing and using the protective clothing and equipment;
- Notifying your manager/Group Manager/H&S Advisor immediately if you have an accident/incident/near miss at work and completing the required forms within 24 hours;
- Notifying your manager/Group Manager/H&S Advisor within 24 hours of filing any ACC claim for a work related accident or gradual process injury, and provide your manager/Group Manager/H&S Advisor with copies of relevant medical information specific to your claim; and
- Complying with all policies and procedures that are in place.

At the discretion of the Council, as part of a rehabilitation programme, you may be required to return to work to undertake such alternative duties as are available and are as reasonably within your capability and level of fitness as determined in consultation with a registered medical practitioner.

Essential Skills, Knowledge and Experience

- Effective interpersonal skills with a demonstrated commitment to customer service and willingness to and capability for working with a wide range of people within and outside the organization.
- Demonstrated ability to build and maintain effective professional working relationships with all key stakeholders, including with other council staff members based on a collaborative, collegial and cooperative working style.

- Effective time management skills and ability to work effectively without supervision and collaboratively as an effective team member.
- Holder of a current and valid NZ Drivers' licence.
- Demonstrates an understanding and appreciation of the importance of efficiently and effectively maintaining the open space, public land and reserve areas within the Kāpiti District.
- Is willing to train towards and achieve a National Certificate in Sports Turf – Level Four or equivalent.
- Has practical experience in maintaining a similar facility.
- Has experience in the preparation of cricket wickets, other summer sports and winter sports pitches.
- Is able to operate and maintain mowing equipment including tractors, ride-on mowers, pedestrian mowers, weed eaters and line marking systems/equipment.
- Holds a current and valid NZ Driver Licence for class 1.
- Demonstrates ability to use a range of plant and machinery associated with turf maintenance in a proficient and safe manner.
- Has the reading, writing and numeracy skills required to accurately complete administrative tasks and records.
- Demonstrates strong effective interpersonal skills with a commitment to customer service and the capability to deal with a wide range of people within and outside the organisation.
- Is able to be flexible with working hours to accommodate occasional turf preparation for various community events, outside of normal working hours.

Preferred Skills, Knowledge, and Experience

- Holds a current and valid NZ Driver Licence for the class(es) of vehicle that may be required in this role eg: HT (Heavy Trade) W (Wheels) and R (Rollers) endorsement.
- Holds a current and valid GrowSafe Certificate and HSNO Approved Handler (as mixing and spraying of chemicals is a requirement of the role).
- Holds a current First Aid Certificate.
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OTHER INFORMATION

From time to time, the position holder may be required to perform other duties in conjunction with the role and which are reasonably within their experience and capabilities.

Te Tiriti o Waitangi

Kapiti Coast District Council has a responsibility to contribute to meeting obligations under Te Tiriti o Waitangi. Meeting our commitment to Te Tiriti will contribute towards creating an organisation that is grounded, dynamic and resilient and supports our organizational values of being Caring, Dynamic and Effective in how we work.

Staff will contribute to the promotion of Te Tiriti o Waitangi and the involvement of Māori within the decision-making process for matters related to and important to them within the Council management processes and procedures.

Inclusion of Te Tiriti o Waitangi within all aspects of the role and its outcomes is necessary, while ensuring the engagement processes include appropriate mechanisms to meet the needs and aspirations of our hapori Māori, informed by our mana whenua partners – in an appropriate and safe manner.

To give effect to our responsibilities and achieve our respective outcomes – Tiriti training will be appropriate and organised through Te Rōpū Hononga ā-Iwi / Iwi Partnerships Group.

Civil Defence, Emergency Management and Business Continuity Duties

All staff of Kāpiti Coast District Council may be required to undertake Civil Defence and/or Emergency Management duties in the event of an emergency. (Training will be given as appropriate.) Staff will also be required to assist with maintaining business continuity in the event of a disruption to Council business and/or the impact of a pandemic by undertaking duties in accordance with how the Council responds to the interruption.

The Council likewise recognises the staff member's need to ensure their family's needs are adequately catered for.

Performance Review

Performance in this position will be assessed in terms of an agreed performance plan.

JD APPENDIX - GENERIC ORGANISATIONAL COMPETENCIES

Leadership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All employees of the Council are expected to be leaders in supporting the Council's vision, role modelling the delivery of consistent high customer service levels to internal and external customers and championing Council values. • Leaders are expected to actively contribute to achieving the Council's aspirations with respect to the relationships with Te Āti Awa ki Whakarongotai, Ngāti Toa Rangatira and Ngā Hapū o Ōtaki; and be willing and able to provide thought leadership and quality advice to enable our elected members to make good decisions. • People Leaders are expected to: effectively build and maintain an engaged, healthy, thriving and high performing team; ensure their people are current in their knowledge of legislation and training is available to keep pace with best practice. • Ensure people policy and practices are consistently observed and implemented and opportunities exist for ongoing professional growth and development; ensure their people are consistently working collaboratively with other Council teams in the delivery of operational and strategic outputs; effectively manage day to day work output and timeframes; schedule and conduct regular team meetings to enable opportunities for team members to be informed and up to date in their areas and those areas that cross over with other teams. • Ensure individual team member performance is monitored, reviewed with appropriate and timely feedback, and written performance reviews are formally completed in a timely manner; ensure adequate provision of backup/cover for team members; establish an effective performance culture within their team, including ongoing performance appraisals with clear performance indicators and consistent standards. • Team Leaders/Supervisors/Managers are accountable for the leadership, support and coaching of their team members, the fostering of a teamwork approach to the delivery of both the team and the Group's outputs, and the identification of training and development as appropriate; enable, create and encourage linkages across the Council and the region for the benefit of all, the delivery of work programmes and the achievement of strategic priorities; embed strong leadership within their team and across the wider Council leadership group that drives increased diversity, engagement, capability and performance.
Legislative Compliance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keep up to date with legislation/amended legislative frameworks and be able to demonstrate the application of such changes (in work and or communicate them to others).
Project Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Effectively manage assigned projects to ensure on time and within budget, monitor and report regularly to manage risk and provide updates to key stakeholders. • Ensure documentation is current, available as required and is prepared using Council standard templates/documentation. • Ensure Council processes and procedures are complied with.

Customer Service	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain a professional, courteous, and helpful attitude to all customers (internal and external) ensuring communication is accurate, succinct and in a manner which promotes customer service excellence and demonstrates organizational values. • Always maintain confidentiality.
Teamwork	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participate willingly and positively in the orientation, training and support of new staff in specific areas, providing coaching/buddy support as required. • Provide a contribution to or participate in any projects and initiatives within the Group/organisation where required and the opportunity arises. • Participate in initiatives and contribute suggestions as to improvements and/or efficiencies to enable ongoing quality improvement. • Demonstrate a collaborative working style and participate as a member of the team undertaking all tasks maintaining positive working relationships with other staff members and internal and external customers.
Financial Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure all financial activity is conducted in accord with current policy and procedures. • Ensure you work within your financial delegation.
Monitoring and Reporting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure any written reports are produced using Council standard templates and are provided within the required Peer Review timeframes. • Review, monitor and report on activity or projects as required by the manager.
Relationship Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Build and maintain effective professional working relationship with all key stakeholders. • Build and maintain effective working relationships with other council staff members based on a collaborative, collegial and cooperative working style.
Information Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Take responsibility for ensuring Council information is stored with the appropriate accessibility in the designated systems, using processes and tools as described in the current Information Management Policy.