

JOB DESCRIPTION
April 2025

Title & Reporting Relationships

Position Title: **Advisor Biodiversity,
Parks, Open Space and Environment Team,
Customer and Community Group.**

Warranted role

Grade: SP 15

Reports to: Team Leader Environment and Ecological Services

**Direct/Indirect
Reports:** Nil

Purpose of the Group and the Position: **The Customer and Community Group** plays a key role in Councils' daily customer interactions, providing support at our Customer Service desks, assisting local business and customers with environmental standards, and helping residents and visitors access our facilities, services, and programs at locations such as swimming pools, libraries, museums, parks, and events. This group fosters connections between the community and the services we offer to enhance everyday life in the district.

Within this Group, the Parks, Open Space and Environment team provides a dedicated and coordinated service that ensures the planning, design, and management of the Kāpiti Coast's parks, reserves and open spaces meets community and mandated expectations through delivering asset management programs and community projects.

The role will support the Team Leader - Environment and Ecological Services, and work alongside the Advisor/Senior Advisor Biosecurity to deliver projects and programmes that enhance the biosecurity and biodiversity outcomes for Kāpiti.

The role will have a primary focus on:

- the management and improvement of biodiversity services on Council owned or administered parks and open spaces;
- the development, delivery and support of districtwide biodiversity activities and projects as well as provide subject matter advice to Council and the community;
- support to community stakeholder and volunteer interest groups that contribute to successful project

and programme outcomes as they relate to biodiversity; and

- work to achieve positive biodiversity and wider ecological outcomes by working with the Advisor/Senior Advisor Biosecurity on biodiversity projects as required.

The role will identify priorities for biodiversity, work with and build partnerships with other agencies involved in biodiversity and biosecurity management on the Kāpiti Coast and support community and landowner biodiversity initiatives. This role will provide subject matter expertise and be expected to provide both internal and external stakeholders with biodiversity advice on queries and contribute towards biodiversity and biosecurity policy development.

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

Internal Customers:

- Team Leader – Environment and Ecological Services
- Parks, Open Space and Environment Manager
- Property and Facilities Maintenance team
- Property and Parks Asset Planning team
- Staff from across other council teams in particular: Climate and Sustainability and Infrastructure Asset Managers, Customer Engagement Manager, Regulatory Services, Policy and Planning staff
- Occasionally the Senior Leadership Team
- Occasionally the Mayor, Councillors, Community Board Members Professional and community groups

External Customers:

- Community groups and representatives
- Contractors, suppliers, service providers
- Local iwi / hapū
- Community leaders/ Community Board
- External interest and business groups and individuals
- Department of Conservation and other government agencies
- Local authorities, particularly Greater Wellington Regional Council
- Ratepayers and users of Council parks and open spaces

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

The Advisor Biodiversity, having a specialist knowledge in planning and implementing restoration projects, will play an integral part in delivering positive biodiversity outcomes through the production of site-led restoration and maintenance plans and leading a coordinated approach to ecological restoration across Council owned properties:

- Work closely with the Greater Wellington biodiversity team to deliver on restoration programmes, including the Key Native Ecosystem and Wetland programmes.
- Work closely and collaboratively with the rest of the Parks, Open Space and Environment Team to produce better environmental sustainability outcomes for the district through biodiversity activities and landscape management and maintenance.
- Work comfortably across a range of ecosystems, including dunes/coastal, wetlands and forests.
- Provide support in designing and implementing ecological monitoring as capacity allows.
- Support the coordination of the Council's activities regarding the maintenance, enhancement and protection of biodiversity on private land throughout Kāpiti, through the Heritage Fund Grants, Riparian Fund, Rates Remission, Ecological Sites review, and resource consent processing.
- Work effectively with the likes of QEII National Trust, LandCare Trust NZ, Greater Wellington Regional Council, Department of Conservation, iwi and other relevant groups in the identification of biodiversity protection priorities.
- Ensure biodiversity (and biosecurity – in collaboration with Subject Matter Expert) related issues are kept up to date by providing the supporting information required to the Council website.
- Provide advice on resource consents and subdivision plans as appropriate.

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

- Hold relevant qualification (i.e. Bachelor of Science in Ecology, Environmental Science, etc) with at least three years of relevant experience.
- Proficient knowledge of ecological principles and processes and restoration ecology
- Experience managing planting projects, including but not limited to planning, procurement, logistics and maintenance
- Experience working on threatened species recovery
- Demonstrated to a high level a consistent track record in addressing biodiversity issues.
- Demonstrated success in working with the community, interest groups and landowners on projects.
- Ability to safely and effectively undertake tasks of a physical nature, ie: lifting, digging.
- Good working knowledge of relevant local and central government legislation, in particular, the Greater Wellington Regional Pest Management Plan, the Reserves Act 1977, the Wildlife Act 1953, the Resource Management Act 1991, and the Local Government Act 2002.
- Robust knowledge and experience working with the Health & Safety at Work Act 2015, particularly how it applies to contract management and work site safety.
- 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 organisation.
- Demonstrated analytical skills which include problem solving, the ability to understand and to come to terms quickly with a very wide range of often complex material and the ability to identify relevant information and present it effectively and concisely in a presentation or written report.
- Demonstrated effective project management skills by having managed assigned projects and ensured on time and within budget delivery, while monitoring risks and providing updates to key stakeholders.

- Holder of a valid and current Full NZ Driver Licence.

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.