



**Ribble Life
Together**



LOTTERY FUNDED

Job Description

Senior Farm Advisor

Ref: RLTJD006

Job Title:	Senior Farm Advisor
Purpose:	To deliver a farm advisory & training programme
Reports to:	Programme Manager
Location:	Clitheroe
Hours:	Full-time 37.5 hours per week, Part-time considered
Salary:	£26,000 - £29,000 p.a.
Contract:	30 month fixed term contract

The Ribble Rivers Trust (RRT) is the lead partner in the Ribble Life Together project, which as a catchment scale project is delivering a range of activities to improve the condition, management, and awareness of the Ribble Catchment. The project brings together over 20 stakeholder and interest groups to deliver a catchment action plan that will bring immediate and lasting benefits for people and the environment.

As part of this project the Trust is looking to recruit a technically competent, dynamic and enthusiastic person to deliver farm advice and training courses aimed at improving partners and farmers knowledge around diffuse pollution and how to reduce it.

The Ribble Life Partnership have identified a range of activities that are required to improve the management and physical condition of the Ribble Catchment. As part of the development of the Catchment Action Plan the partnership identified a 'skills gap' within the environment sector, and a social divide between conservation and agriculture. The role will develop a training course to provide the necessary skills to environmental students and environmental professionals to engage with farmers and land managers effectively, enabling better land management and farming practices that will provide benefits to people and the environment whilst maintaining farm business sustainability.

Additionally, the role will provide farm advice and training direct to farmers to identify potential opportunities for delivery that will aid in reducing diffuse water pollution, and work alongside partners to create a central hub for farmers to access information such as training, grant schemes, events, issues and solutions.

We are therefore looking for a confident and clear communicator with extensive experience in engaging and working with farmer and landowners and delivering diffuse pollution training. The successful candidate will have experience of landscape-scale conservation, ecosystem services, agriculture and land management (including catchment management), agri-environment schemes (applying for, amending and delivering) and the Water Framework Directive.

The post holder will be responsible for:

- Working with partners and colleges to deliver a series of short duration training courses that will provide skills to reduce diffuse pollution from agriculture
- Evaluation of the training
- Delivering farm advice and producing “Pinpoint plans”
- Working with the Capital Works Officer to deliver capital improvement projects
- Working with partners to create a central hub for farmers to access key relevant information
- Producing reports for any farm advisory visits
- Maintaining a database of farm visits and opportunities identified
- Contributing and assisting in the production of publicity and marketing materials
- Any other duties as required by the RRT.

The post holder will be based principally within RRT offices in Clitheroe and will report to the Programme Manager.

Person Description

The successful candidate will be able to demonstrate that they are exceptionally self-motivated and are passionate about managing and improving the environment. They must also be a good communicator with a strong background in environmental sector and the delivery of projects. A good knowledge of the Ribble Catchment and the functions of river catchments will also be beneficial.

Essential-

- Valid driving licence and own car, insured for business use
- Degree level or equivalent related experience in land management and conservation
- Knowledge and experience of a range of catchment processes and how they interact
- In-depth knowledge of agriculture and farming practices
- Knowledge and experience of agri-environment schemes
- Demonstrable experience of delivering training activities
- Training and experience in the use of GIS (preferably ArcGIS)
- Ability to work on the differing tasks identified in the Job Description at the same time
- Excellent presentation skills and communication skills for a wide range of audiences
- Possessing good interpersonal skills, both face-to-face and over the phone
- Reliability, good attendance and work performance
- Ability to set performance objectives and ensure these are achieved
- Excellent organisational /admin skills and attention to detail-
 - Good IT skills / maintaining a filing system
 - Keeping records of work undertaken
 - Keeping records of expenses incurred
 - Awareness of the need for confidentiality

Desirable

- FACTS / BASIS trained or working towards qualification
- Knowledge of the project area
- Based near or in the project area.