


Profile Title:	Planning Ecologist	 BARNSLEY Metropolitan Borough Council			
Reports to:	Group Leader, Planning Policy				
Employee Management:	None	Grade:	09	Profile Ref:	60804
Purpose of the Post					
To lead on biodiversity and geodiversity issues in relation to plan making, development proposals and nature conservation sites.					
Responsibilities					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide professional advice, guidance and recommendations to internal and external stakeholders including Members and external bodies. • To ensure that biodiversity potential of greenspace and nature conservation sites is preserved and enhanced. • Interpret legislation, plans, policies and guidance and make recommendations. • To contribute to work relating to the Local Plan, including the development of policy and the preparation and supervision of guidance documents in relation to biodiversity and geodiversity. • Participate in all types of planning appeals including providing proofs of evidence and representing the Council under cross examination at Public Inquiries. • Liaise, negotiate and collaborate with internal and external stakeholders. • To advise on whether or not it is expedient to take enforcement action and, where necessary, act as a witness during any subsequent enforcement proceedings. • To report as necessary on policies and initiatives • To assist in the development of biodiversity and geodiversity information resources (including databases and Geographical Information Systems) with the Biological Records Officer. • To carry out site visits, (in accordance with Health and Safety guidance), in connection with the processing of applications, development enquiries and appeals. • To undertake such other duties of a similar nature, appropriate to the Grade of the post, as may be requested. 					
Education and Training					
					Measure
					Rank
• Relevant professional Level 7					A
• Associate Member of CIEEM or higher.					E
• Evidence of significant continuing professional development relating to the planning and biodiversity/geodiversity professions.					A/I
					E
Relevant Experience					
					Measure
					Rank
• Significant post professional qualification experience within a relevant team.					A/I
					E

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Experience of undertaking ecological assessment and developing and implementing biodiversity and/or Geodiversity Action Plans, or equivalent 	A/I	E
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Experience of working in a Local Government environment 	A/I	D
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be competent in use of the Defra Biodiversity Metric 2.0 calculation tool Beta version and be able to evaluate habitats to the UK Habitats Classification level. 	A/I	E
General and Special Knowledge	Measure	Rank
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Knowledge and understanding of development plan process and planning legislation. 	A/I	E
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thorough demonstrable knowledge and understanding of biodiversity and geodiversity best practice and statutory requirements. 	A/I	E
Skills and Abilities	Measure	Rank
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Good project management skills and ability to working in partnership and as part of a multi-disciplinary team. 	A/I	E
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ability to apply innovative and creative thinking and resolve complex challenges associated with biodiversity and geodiversity. 	A/I	E
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Influencing and negotiating skills: ability to reconcile conflicting issues and to handle sensitive situations 	A/I	E
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ability to make biodiversity and geodiversity decisions and deliver work streams independently with minimal or no supervision 	A/I	E
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Highly developed communication skills with Members, professional officers, developers, organisations and members of the public. 	A/I	E
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ability to manage workload effectively to meet performance targets. 	A/I	E
Additional Requirements	Measure	Rank
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Willing to work flexibly in accordance with policies and procedures to meet the operational needs of the council. 	A/I	E
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Willing to undertake training and continuous professional development in connection with the post. 	A/I	E
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work in accordance with the council's vision, priorities, values and behaviours. 	I	E
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Able to undertake any travel in connection with the post. 	A/I	E