

DÚN LAOGHAIRE - RATHDOWN COUNTY COUNCIL
Comhairle Contae Dhún Laoghaire-Rath an Dúin

CLIMATE ACTION OFFICER (OPEN)
TEMPORARY 5 YEAR CONTRACT
(COMP. I.D. 008468)

QUALIFICATIONS

1. CHARACTER:

Candidates shall be of good character.

2. HEALTH:

Candidates must be in a state of health such as would indicate a reasonable prospect of ability to render regular and efficient service.

3. EDUCATION, TRAINING, EXPERIENCE, ETC.

Candidates shall:

- (a) hold an honours degree (level 8 in the National Framework of Qualifications) in Engineering, Planning, Environmental Science, Architecture or other relevant discipline.
- (b) Have at least seven years satisfactory relevant experience.
- (c) possess a high standard of administrative and management experience; and.
- (d) have satisfactory knowledge of public service organisations.

The ideal candidate shall also be able to demonstrate:

- A high level of technical competence in the Climate change area and experience in formulating, implementing and managing strategies, plans, studies or processes including stakeholder engagement.
- An understanding of the aims and objectives of the *Climate Change Action Plan* and the *All of Government Climate Plan to tackle Climate Disruption* together with knowledge and understanding of fostering and maintaining productive working relationships with government departments and EU agencies and an understanding of climate change policies and legislation.
- A successful track record in managing and motivating staff including strong judgement and problem-solving skills and a proven track record in effecting or influencing behavioural change.
- Demonstrate an excellent knowledge of health & safety legislation and regulations, their application in the workplace and competence and experience of financial and budget management.
- Demonstrate a high level of negotiation, influencing and communication skills and influence multi-stakeholder processes.

It is also highly desirable that the candidate would hold a full Irish/EU driving licence free from endorsement.

4. THE ROLE:

The Climate Action Officer will be required to lead a team and to provide technical and managerial support across the service area and to liaise with external agencies and support the democratic process. He/She will be required to report to their appropriate line manager, assist the management team as may be required and deal with elected members in respect of the County and to attend Council meeting as required. He/She may also be required to deputise for the Senior Executive Officer/Senior Engineer.

The person/s appointed will work under the direction and control of the Senior Executive Officer or other officer designated by the Director of Services or the Chief Executive.

Main Responsibilities:

- Co-ordinate, manage and develop the implementation of the local authority's response to the challenges of climate change mitigation and adaptation, through the Actions listed in the CCAP and through any additional actions identified over the period of the Plan
- Leading a dedicated Climate Change Action team made up of members from across all DLR Directorates.
- Formulation of strategies to meet the objectives and aims of the Climate Change Action Plan. This will include developing and implementing relevant projects and identifying additional sources of funding to progress these projects. Working with the Climate Action Regional Offices (CARO).
- Ongoing engagement with all stakeholders (i.e. environmental organisation, business and community groups) including the elected members of local authorities.
- Promote and support a greater understanding of Climate Change issues in the general community including supporting relevant community initiatives, public outreach programmes and business initiatives
- Provide effective leadership, management, interpersonal and strong communication skills;
- Lead and work with a multi-disciplined team and demonstrate the ability to motivate, empower and encourage personnel under their control to achieve maximum performance;
- Financial management, budgeting and resource allocation skills;
- Ensure detailed reports are submitted in a timely manner.
- Contribute to the identification of new areas of research related to climate action and the local government sector.

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PARTICULARS OF THE POSITION

1. The office is temporary and whole-time.

2. **SALARY:**

€65,678; €67,694; €68,657; €70,619; €72,587; €74,547; €76,524 max pt.; €79,005 1st LSI; €81,480 2nd LSI.

Entry point to this scale will be determined in accordance with Circulars issued by the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government.

In accordance with Departmental Circular letter EL 02/2011, a person who is not a serving local authority employee on or after 1st January 2011, will enter the scale for the position at the minimum point.

Rate of remuneration may be adjusted from time to time in line with Government Policy.

The salary shall be fully inclusive and shall be as determined from time to time. Holders of the office shall pay to the Local Authority any fees or other monies (other than their inclusive salary) payable to or received by them by virtue of their office or in respect of any services, which they are required by or under any enactment to perform.

3. **SUPERANNUATION CONTRIBUTION:**

Persons who become pensionable officers of a Local Authority who are liable to pay the Class A rate of PRSI contribution will be required in respect of their superannuation to contribute to the Local Authority at the rate of 1.5% of their pensionable remuneration plus 3.5% of net pensionable remuneration (i.e. pensionable remuneration less twice the annual rate of social insurance old age contributory pension payable at the maximum rate to a person with no adult dependent or qualified children).

Persons who become pensionable officers of a Local Authority who are liable to pay the Class D rate of PRSI contribution will be required in respect of their superannuation to contribute to the Local Authority at the rate of 5% of their pensionable remuneration.

All persons who become pensionable officers of a Local Authority will be required in respect of the Spouses and Children's Contributory Pension Scheme to contribute to the Local Authority at the rate of 1.5% of their pensionable remuneration in accordance with the terms of the scheme.

RETIREMENT:

New Entrants recruited to the Public Service on or after 1 January 2013

Pensionable public servants (new joiners) recruited to the Public Service for the first time on or after 1 January 2013 (the commencement date of the Single Scheme) will be members of the Public Service Pensions (Single Scheme and Other Provisions) Act 2012.

Pension age

Minimum pension age of 66 (rising to 67 and 68 in line with State Pension age changes).

Compulsory retirement age

Scheme members must retire at the age of 70.

In all other cases, staff recruited on or after 1 January 2013 who were employed in the Public Service on 31 December 2012 or within a period prior to 31 December 2012 not exceeding 26 weeks will retain their existing pension scheme terms and conditions.

In certain circumstances, e.g. where the public servant was on secondment or approved leave or remains on the same contract of employment, the 26-week rule does not apply.

Incentivized Scheme for Early Retirement (ISER)

It is a condition of the Incentivized Scheme for Early Retirement (ISER) as set out in Department Finance Circular 12/09 that retirees, under that Scheme, are debarred from applying for another position in the same employment or the same sector. Therefore, such retirees may not apply for this position.

4. HOURS OF WORK

All new entrants to the Local Authority sector and any individuals on new appointments or promotion will work 37 hours per week. The standard working week is 37 hours on a five-day week basis. However, the position of Climate Action Officer may involve additional hours in excess of the standard working week, without additional remuneration

5. PROBATION:

When a person is not already a permanent officer of a Local Authority and is appointed to a permanent office the following provisions shall apply, that is to say

- a) There shall be a period after such appointment takes effect during which such person shall hold office on probation;
- b) Such period shall be one year, but the Chief Executive may, at her discretion, extend such period;
- c) Such person shall cease to hold such office at the end of the period of probation unless, during such period, the Chief Executive has certified that the service of such person in such office is satisfactory.

6. DUTIES

The duties of the office are to give the local authority and

- (a) such other local authorities or bodies, for which the Chief Executive for the purposes of the Local Government Acts 2001 and 2014, is Chief Executive, and
- (b) to any other local authority or body with which an agreement has been made by the local authority or by any of the authorities or bodies mentioned in sub-paragraph (a) of this paragraph, under the direction and supervision of the appropriate professional officer, such engineering services of an advisory, administrative, supervisory or executive nature as may be required by any Local Authority or body hereinbefore mentioned in the exercise and performance of any of its powers, functions and duties including the duty of assisting the Director of Services or other authorised officer, as appropriate, in the supervision of the engineering and cognate services of any of the foregoing local authorities or bodies and, when required to do so, to perform the duty of acting for the appropriate professional officer of higher rank during the absence of such officer of higher rank.

7. LOCATION & RESIDENCE

Holders of the office shall reside in the district in which their duties are to be performed or within a reasonable distance thereof. Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council reserves the right to assign Employees to any premises in use by the Council, now or in the future subject to reasonable notice.

8. RECRUITMENT:

Pursuant to article 8 of the Local Government (Appointment of Officers) Regulation, 1974, the Minister has given directions as follows:

- i. Selection of candidates for appointment shall be by means of a competition based on an interview conducted by or behalf of the Local Authority. The County Council **will not** be responsible for any expenses a candidate may incur in attending for interview. The merits of candidates shall be assessed by reference to their suitability for appointment, relevant knowledge and experience.
- ii. Panels may be formed on the basis of such interviews. Candidates whose names are on a panel and who satisfy the Local Authority that they are otherwise suitable for appointment may within the life of the panel be appointed as appropriate vacancies arise. The life of the panel will not be more than one year reckoned from the date of the formation of the panel unless extended.
- iii. The Local Authority shall require persons to whom appointments are offered to take up such appointments within a period of not more than one month and if they fail to take up the appointments within such period or such longer period as the Local Authority in its absolute discretion may determine, the Local Authority shall not appoint them.
- iv. Completed applications, on the official form, should be emailed to careers@dlrcoco.ie and should reach Human Resources, County Hall, Marine Road, Dun Laoghaire, Co. Dublin not later than **4pm on Thursday 28th November 2019**. Applications received after this date will not be considered.
- v. An applicant who withdraws his/her application at any stage of the competition will not be permitted to re-enter the competition at a later stage. Any claim in relation to the late receipt of application forms will not be entertained.

ADDITIONAL RELEVANT INFORMATION FOR APPLICANTS

- The National Vetting Bureau (Children and Vulnerable Persons) Act 2012 to 2016 came into effect on 29th April 2016. The Act places a statutory obligation on DLRC to ensure that 'any work or activity which is carried out by a person, a necessary and regular part of which consists mainly of a person having access to or contact with children or vulnerable persons will be subject of Garda Vetting'.
- Subject to the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act 2014, applications will be treated in strict confidence.
- It is important to remember that this is a competitive process for a role where integrity is paramount. Sharing information on the selection / interview process e.g. through social media or any other means, may result in a candidate being disqualified from the competition.
- DLRC does not allow the unsanctioned use of any type of recording equipment on its premises. This applies to any form of sound recording and any type of still picture or video recording, whether including sound recording or not, and covers any type of device used for these purposes.
- An applicant who is found to be ineligible at any stage of the competition will not be further considered. Provision of inaccurate, untrue or misleading information will lead to disqualification from the competition, withdrawal of employment offer or dismissal.
- A candidate who does not attend for interview when and where required by the Council, or who does not, when requested, furnish such evidence as Dun Laoghaire Rathdown County Council require in regard to any matter relevant to his/her candidature, will no longer be considered for selection.

- Any claim in relation to the late receipt of application forms will not be entertained unless such claim is supported by certified evidence of postage from the appropriate postal authority.
- Based on information supplied on the application form, Dun Laoghaire Rathdown County Council reserves its right to shortlist candidates in the manner it deems most appropriate. The Council may decide, by reason of the number of persons seeking admission to a competition, to carry out a shortlisting procedure.

Applications on the official form should be e-mailed to careers@dlrcoco.ie not later than **4pm on Thursday 28th November 2019**. **An automated reply will be delivered to the applicant by return.**

Note Re Canvassing:

Any attempt by a candidate himself/herself, or by any person(s) acting at his/her instigation, directly or indirectly by means of written communication or otherwise, to canvass or otherwise influence in the candidate's favour, any member of the staff of the County Council, or person nominated by the County Council to interview or examine applicants will automatically disqualify the candidate for the position he/she is seeking.

Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council is committed to a policy of equal opportunity and encourages applications under all nine grounds of the Employment Equality Act.

COMPETENCY FRAMEWORK

<p>Strategic Management and Change</p>	<p>Strategic Ability Displays the ability to think and act strategically. Can translate strategy into operational plans and outputs. Evaluates capacity and performance against objectives. Demonstrates innovation and creativity to secure successful strategic outcomes.</p> <p>Political Awareness Have a clear understanding of the political reality and context of the organisation.</p> <p>Networking and Representing Develops and maintains positive and beneficial relationships with a range of stakeholders. Builds networks of technical and professional contacts. Promotes and sustains an appropriate, positive, and cohesive image for the organisation it represents.</p> <p>Bringing about Change Demonstrates flexibility and an openness to change. Develops and initiates change management programmes to meet end objectives. Influences others and fosters commitment to change.</p>
<p>Delivering Results</p>	<p>Problem Solving and Decision Making Can pinpoint critical information and address issues logically. Understands the context and impact of decisions made. Acts decisively and makes timely, informed and effective decisions.</p> <p>Operational Planning Contributes to operational plans and develops team plans in line with priorities and actions for their area of operations. Delegates, tracks and monitors activity. Establishes high quality service and customer care standards.</p> <p>Managing Resources Manages the allocation, use and evaluation of resources to ensure they are used effectively to deliver on operational plans. Drives and promotes reduction in cost and minimisation of waste.</p> <p>Delivering Quality Outcomes Promotes the achievement of quality outcomes in delivering services. Organises the delivery of services to meet or exceed the required standard. Evaluates the outcomes achieved, identifies learning and implements improvements required.</p>
<p>Performance through People</p>	<p>Leading and Motivating Motivate others individually and in teams to deliver high quality work and customer focused outcomes. Develops the competence of team members and helps them meet their full potential. Leads by example in terms of commitment, flexibility and a strong customer service ethos.</p> <p>Managing Performance Effectively manages performance including underperformance or conflict. Empowers and encourages people to deliver their part of the operational plan.</p> <p>Communicating Effectively Recognises the value of communicating effectively with all employees. Actively listens to others. Has highly effective verbal and written communication skills. Presents ideas effectively to individuals and groups.</p>
<p>Personal Effectiveness</p>	<p>Relevant Knowledge Keeps up to date with current developments, trends and best practice in their area of responsibility. Demonstrates the required specialist knowledge, understanding and training for the role. Has strong knowledge and understanding in relation to statutory obligations of Health and Safety legislation and its application in the workplace.</p> <p>Resilience and Personal Well Being Demonstrates appropriate and positive self-confidence. Remains calm under pressure and operates effectively in an environment with significant complexity and pace.</p> <p>Integrity Behaves in an honest, trustworthy and respectful manner and is transparent, fair and consistent in dealing with others.</p> <p>Personal Motivation, Initiative and Achievement Be enthusiastic about the role and sets challenging goals to achieve high quality outcomes. Is self motivated and persistent when faced with difficulties. Engages in regular critical reflection in order to identify how own performance can be improved.</p>