

The Loch Lomond and Trossachs National Park Authority – prepare for COP26



Sneak preview 🙈

COP26 Project Manager



All eyes are on Glasgow as the UN's Climate Change Conference, COP26, comes to the city this November. We're looking for a climate-savvy, super-organised project manager to lead a team who will be bringing to life opportunities to tackle the climate emergency and the nature crisis here in Scotland's first National Park, right on the doorstep of the host city.

Job Title: COP26 Project Manager

Salary: £32,067 - £38,601 (Band D) per annum

Working Hours: 37 hours per week (happy to talk flexible working)

Contract: 4 months fixed term (to December 2021)

Location: Balloch - with working from home provisions in place while COVID restrictions remain (once restrictions are lifted hybrid working will be an option).

Loch Lomond & The Trossachs and 9 others

Anna @Plannnna · 22 Jul

! Heads-up...@lomondtrossachs is going to be advertising an awesome #COP26 climate and nature fixed term #ProjectManager role tomorrow.

Let me know if you'd like me to ping you the link when the job ad goes live.

At the June

meeting of the Loch Lomond and Trossachs National Park Authority (LLTNPA), Board Member Ronnie Erskine repeated the suggestion he had made in March, that they should prepare to showcase the work they are doing for the Climate Change summit that begins on 31st October. The political need to prepare for the COP conference should have been pretty obvious. Scottish Ministers present at the conference will want to be able to direct delegates to local examples of what the Scottish Government is doing to combat Climate Change and, if the display in Glasgow Airport is still there, thousands of incoming delegates might well ask anyway:



Arrivals Glasgow airport 2018. For delegates to COP 26 who have no choice to fly but wish to reduce carbon emissions, there is still no direct route from the airport to the National Park

It appears that the LLTNPA belatedly decided that none of their existing managers were capable of leading the team working on this, hence the need for an “awesome” temporary project manager. They will have 8-10 weeks to prepare, getting to know *“relevant partners with any official presence at COP26”* and *“presenting work to senior stakeholders and ensuring they are kept up to date on the project’s progress throughout”*. There is nothing in the Job Description ([see here](#)) about understanding what the LLTNPA is actually doing to combat climate change, not that that would take long to find out. The Project Manager then has 4-6 weeks to finish the project. Is this to draft a report stating what a success the whole project has been?

This money could have been far better spent. Cameron McNeish came close to the truth when he explained ([see here](#)) why he had resigned from the SNP at weekend:

“The party has done absolutely zilch on land reform and the environment since Nicola Sturgeon came to power, and I have had a deep frustration over issues like raptor persecution, grouse moors all over

Scotland, and what muirburning is doing to the environment.”

The LLTNPA has also done practically zilch for the last ten years when it has come to tackling the major land-use issues which have been feeding the climate and environment crises. For example:

- the overgrazing that has helped turn the National Park into the landslip capital of Scotland ([see here](#));
- the industrial forestry that has wrecked so much of the National Park and driven rural depopulation ([see here](#));
- promoting unsustainable developments such as the Cononish goldmine ([see here](#)) while failing to tackle blighted land, such as the former torpedo site at Arrochar ([see here](#));
- the failure to appraise critically the development of run-of-river hydro schemes ([see here](#)) many of which are likely to have released more carbon into the atmosphere than they will ever save ;
- the failure to help visitors arrive or get around the National Park by public transport ([see here](#)).

The list could go on.

The LLTNPA's record is such that, apart from a few minor projects, it has very little to showcase to delegates to COP26. What's more, any delegate who shows an interest in those projects and is in possession of their critical faculties, is likely to quickly see through the greenwash. So why not then take COP26 as an opportunity to ask delegates from across the world what should be done to tackle the way that land is currently being mis-managed in the National Park?

Among those delegates will be those with considerable scientific expertise who could, for example, be asked how they would address the problems of the A83 at the Rest and Be Thankful. As important, are the decision-makers, the people who have experience of how to change planning law, for example, or how to reform subsidies for agriculture and forestry so that these help address the climate and environmental crises. In other words, there will be hundreds of people coming to conference from whom the LLTNPA and the Scottish Government could learn, who could help replace policy spin with action. It would be well worth the LLTNPA employing a Project Manager to seek out that expertise, but not a temporary spin doctor.

Category

1. Loch Lomond and Trossachs

Tags

1. climate change
2. conservation
3. LLTNPA
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