



New to Nature Placement

Nature 2030 Policy and Engagement Officer

CLOSING DATE: 12.00pm on Friday 17th February 2023

Wildlife and Countryside Link | Charity
Registration number 1107460

N101C Vox Studios, 1 – 45 Durham Street,
Vauxhall, London, SE11 5JH

Telephone: 0203 855 4265
Email: enquiry@wcl.org.uk
www.wcl.org.uk

Wildlife and
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ABOUT NEW TO NATURE

Thank you for your interest in this New to Nature placement.

New to Nature is an exciting programme of paid work placements in nature-focused roles. This is one of 70 roles that will be created across the UK to encourage young and diverse talent into the Natural Environment sector.

We're particularly interested in receiving applications from young people (aged 18-25) who are from ethnically diverse backgrounds, who are living with a disability or are from low-income households.

You'll get paid a good wage from a placement that helps the environment, learn loads of skills to boost your CV and get access to a Youth Employment Coach to help you plan your future career. There'll also be opportunities to learn about potential careers in the natural environment, and (should you wish to) connect with the other young people working in New to Nature roles across the country.

This is a unique opportunity to try something new, and to take a first step on a career path where you can make a real difference. The natural environment needs you!

We hope you will join us on this exciting journey!



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ABOUT WILDLIFE AND COUNTRYSIDE LINK

[Wildlife and Countryside Link](#) (Link) is the largest environment and wildlife coalition in England, bringing together 69 organisations to use their strong joint voice for the protection of nature.

Our members work to conserve, enhance and access our landscapes, animals, plants, habitats, rivers and seas. Together we have the support of over eight million people in the UK and directly protect over 750,000 hectares of land and 800 miles of coastline.

Our joint vision is 'to secure and shape a healthy, enhanced and accessible natural world'. We work with our members, and others, to embrace a new, restorative approach which rebuilds nature and creates a more resilient natural environment for the benefit of wildlife and people. Please see our [strategy](#) for more detail.

We also have a core aim to help deliver a more diverse and representative nature sector, working with partners on a major [5 year project](#) to increase the ethnic diversity of the sector.

Our Nature 2030 project is our core focus for the next year. And you will be an essential part of our work to engage with policy makers and Parliamentarians to ensure nature is on the road to recovery by 2030 and that 30% of land and sea is protected for nature by 2030.

We have a small and friendly core [team](#) of 10, but you'll get the opportunity to create a network of contacts across our wonderful [member organisations](#) working to achieve a more nature-rich future by 2030.

Benefits of working with us:

- ✓ Flexible working
- ✓ Holiday entitlement of 25 days per year, plus public holidays
- ✓ Nest pension scheme
- ✓ Training and support provided, on the placement and formal training
- ✓ Mentor programme
- ✓ Disabled access to offices



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RECRUITMENT PROCESS

APPLICATION

You can apply for this placement via the following link:

www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/NTNPlacementApplication22

This is hosted by Groundwork UK who will check the suitability of applicants, before passing the application on to the placement organisation, who will shortlist applicants to an informal interview process.

Please ensure you carefully select the correct role from the drop-down list, to ensure your details are passed to the correct placement organisation.

If you have any questions about the application form, contact Groundwork UK at:

newtonature@groundwork.org.uk

INTERVIEWS

We will contact you to let you know whether you have been shortlisted for interview.

We expect to conduct interviews by video call **the week beginning 27 February**.

If you have any questions about the role or interview process please contact us at:

enquiry@wcl.org.uk



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PLACEMENT DESCRIPTION

Placement title:	Nature 2030 Policy and Engagement Officer
Organisation:	Wildlife and Countryside Link
Contract type:	12 Months, Fixed term
Number of hours per week:	35 hours per week. Will consider part time role as a reasonable adjustment.
Working pattern:	Usually 9am-5pm but flexible hours considered
Hourly rate of pay	£11.95
Responsible to:	Hannah Conway, Policy Officer
Location:	Hybrid with home-working and at least one day per week in our office in Vauxhall, London
Accessible by public transport:	We are just a few minutes' walk from Vauxhall tube, train and bus stations
Anticipated Start Date:	Monday 17 th April 2023

ROLE DESCRIPTION

We're offering an exciting trainee position working on a major project to support and influence Government to deliver on its nature recovery targets. This is a development role, so enthusiasm and interest in nature and Government policy is much more important than previous experience.

It involves working as part of a small, friendly team at Wildlife and Countryside Link, the biggest environmental coalition in England. You'll also have the chance to work with colleagues from CEOs to nature experts across big organisations like National Trust and RSPB, through to specialist organisations like Plantlife and Whale and Dolphin Conservation, alongside working with MPs and Government officials.

You'll work with experts in nature policy, research and political engagement, to support you to develop your skills and experience in these areas. You'll then get to focus on your main area of interest for a further 6 months, being supported to deliver your own work on nature's recovery.

The successful candidate will gain experience in influencing for the benefit of nature, including:

- being part of a team working to influence Government policy around nature recovery
- working with MPs and officials to secure their support on policy
- strengthening creative thinking, research, presentation and leadership skills
- developing collaborative working practices and a strong network of contacts



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PERSON SPECIFICATION

- ✓ An interest in working on nature issues or on policy development or political engagement
- ✓ A good communicator
- ✓ Strong organisational and problem-solving skills
- ✓ Self-motivated and able to multi-task
- ✓ Computer and social media knowledge including Excel, Twitter and preferably website content management is desirable.
- ✓ Respectful and cooperative working is vital.

SUPPORT AND TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

This placement is part of a national programme - New to Nature - funded by the National Lottery Heritage Fund. This will include additional elements of training and personal development support provided by Groundwork UK and partners, as well as on the job training and support from Wildlife and Countryside Link.

Each young person will complete an in-depth induction programme with input from The Prince's Trust, along with tailored advice and guidance from a Groundwork Youth Employment Coach at key points during the placement. This may include identifying skills and training opportunities or help with your CV and job search skills.

Wildlife and Countryside Link will also be providing support for participants, including: a shadowing programme, a mentor, and training on parliamentary and stakeholder engagement, policy development, research design, and internal communications.

All young people on the New to Nature programme, will be invited to participate in a learning Network. This will create opportunities to take part in different talks, workshops and discussions focused on the environment sector, hosted by Groundwork and our partners.



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