

JOB DESCRIPTION



Job Title Farming & Land Use Manager

Reports to Senior Farming & Land Use Programmes Manager, Scotland

Location Edinburgh based with some home working

Job summary	<p>Working with farmers across Scotland to increase the use of low-input and sustainable approaches to build both financial and environmental resilience in a changing climate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Deliver knowledge transfer and skills development events, and related on-farm demonstrations• Assist in the dissemination of information from these events to a wider audience• Assist in evaluation of programme activity, using this information to improve delivery
Key responsibilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Design and deliver farm-based knowledge exchange events that:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Demonstrate best practice actions for sustainable farming○ Encourage peer-learning and knowledge exchange between all participants○ Build networks and foster collaboration• Identify the needs of farmers, examples of best practice, and relevant and interesting speakers through:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Use of information and evidence gathered through evaluation○ Farmer engagement, i.e. attendance at monitor farms, Scotsheep, etc.○ Engagement with relevant industry stakeholders and researchers• Deliver the activities of the programme by:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Planning events○ Selecting and briefing speakers○ Facilitating the events, using a participatory approach○ Selecting relevant information for dissemination• Work with the project officer to ensure events are set-up well (e.g. selection of venues, catering, efficient promotion)• Work with the evaluation officer to ensure change is captured, and that information is used to drive improvements in delivery• Work with the communications officer to produce information sources that reflect event findings for dissemination across a range of media• Work with the Senior Farming & Land Use Programme Manager and Deputy Director to keep abreast of evolving policy and research affecting farming and land use, to inform programme activities
Additional responsibilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Integrate the programme with other Soil Association activities where relevant• Other duties as agreed with line manager
Qualifications	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Educated to degree level or equivalent experience

Knowledge & experience	<p>Essential</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Experience of facilitation and knowledge transfer • Excellent knowledge of practical farming and growing, including low-input and agroecological production • Knowledge of agricultural practices that mitigate climate change and benefit biodiversity • Project management and reporting experience • Event organisation experience • Full driving license and able to commit to regular travel <hr/> <p>Desirable</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understanding of the principles of organic food and farming • Knowledge of agroforestry • Partnership building across a range of wide range of industry, NGO, and statutory stakeholders • Knowledge of current agricultural and forestry policies and research
Personal qualities & skills	<p>Personal qualities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Able to work on own initiative and as part of a team • Flexible and adaptable • Excellent relationship builder • Confident communicator and public speaker • Proactive approach to taking projects and ideas forward • Able to prioritise and meet deadlines • Empathy and understanding of challenges faced by farmers • Empathy with the aims and objectives of the Soil Association <p>Skills</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Excellent communication skills, both verbal and written • Ability to translate technical information to a wider audience • Excellent facilitation skills • Excellent interpersonal skills • Excellent organisational skills • Excellent time management skills • Excellent IT skills
Key relationships	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Soil Association Scotland Farming & Land Use team • Wider Soil Association Scotland team • Funding partners: Quality Meat Scotland and Scottish Forestry • Soil Association’s Producer Support team (based in Bristol)
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