



We are recruiting! Net Zero Manager

Do you have the passion and persuasive skills to guide the Council, its community, and businesses on a path to carbon net zero?

We are looking for a strategic manager to lead our award-winning low carbon team and champion corporate and community awareness and involvement in a wide range of low carbon initiatives.

We are serious about change. We have committed to reaching Net Zero by 2030 with an 80% real carbon reduction to our emissions. We will work with partners and communities to achieve a carbon neutral County Durham by 2045.

About the council

The council is made up of an elected assembly of 126 councillors accountable to nearly 530,100 people in County Durham. We are responsible for providing a wide range of public services to the people of the county.

We also represent and promote the interests of County Durham when dealing with regional, national and international affairs. Through effective local government, we allow local people to look after their own affairs and to decide how and where money is best spent in their area.

[Read more](#)

Neighbourhoods and Climate Change

As the name implies, this service grouping has climate change at its core. Led by a Corporate Director, many of its services including waste management, highways, environmental health, allotments, parks and open spaces are not only important to the communities we serve but also have a bearing on carbon footprint.

Service functions such as managing strategic partnerships and community safety, plus strong links with partners from the University to Town and Parish Councils all provide robust networks for collaboration.

Guided by our Climate Emergency Response Plan, we are well underway with a programme of building decarbonisation, renewable energy schemes, fleet adaptations, and charging infrastructure, alongside improvements to our environment from peatland restoration to tree planting schemes.

Net Zero Manager

As Net Zero Manager you will strategically develop and implement the County's Climate Emergency Response Plan, and lead and guide the work of the low carbon team.

You will play a key role in driving and influencing performance, as well as supporting countywide reductions in emissions. You will embrace partnership working and maximise opportunities through devolution.

You will take the lead responsibility in ensuring that the latest developments in national and regional climate change policies are understood, communicated at Corporate level and opportunities taken for adapting or initiating projects where appropriate.

You will strategically guide and foster education and awareness programmes for residents, communities, businesses and staff aimed at carbon reduction.

You will innovate and explore new carbon reduction opportunities, working with a wide range of external stakeholders in piloting schemes, developing collaborations and fostering new partnerships.

You will play an active role in supporting and facilitating of the Net Zero Board and the County Durham Environment and Climate Change Partnership.



Climate Emergency Response Plan

In 2009 Durham County Council began investing in action against Climate Change by establishing a dedicated team to focus solely on this issue.

In 2019 the Council declared a climate emergency and pledged to:

- Reduce carbon emissions from Durham County Council's operations by 80% from 2008/09 levels by 2030, making significant progress towards making Durham County Council and County Durham as a whole carbon neutral.
- Investigate what further actions are necessary to make County Durham Carbon Neutral by 2050 and pledge to achieve this.

To ensure that we meet our goals we have drawn up two fully costed action plans, one for the council's target and one for the countywide target.

Each plan is written in detail for the first two years and presents an outline of what will be required for the rest of the process and will be updated on an ongoing basis. An updated version of the Response Plan will be made public every two years.

The Response Plan was submitted to and approved by Cabinet on 12 February 2020, and can be downloaded at durham.gov.uk/climatechange

We're now in the second phase of our Climate Emergency Response Plan. This was adopted by our Cabinet in June 2022.



Join us!

We can promise you a rewarding career in one of the most forward-thinking councils in the country.

As the largest local authority in the North East we offer excellent opportunities for career progression too.

We are proud of our supportive team! We want every team member to feel valued and recognised for their individual contribution. We are committed to providing a working environment where everyone can continuously develop and thrive.

Take a look
at our
rewards!

You will need

We are looking for an experienced strategic manager, with considerable knowledge of climate change, able to advocate across a wide range of stakeholders.

You will have experience of oversee successful delivery of a wide range of projects and have proven experience of shaping the future through policy and plan development.

You will need:

- A degree level qualification or equivalent in a relevant subject; or able to demonstrate equivalent experience as outlined in the person specification
- Experience of working at a senior level in an environmental management/climate change field

Take a look at the person specification for the full criteria.

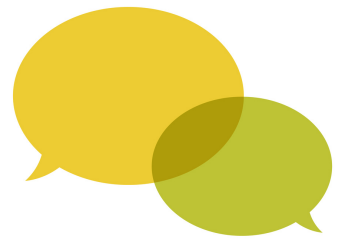
The recruitment process

We close for applications on 4 June 2023.

Interviews are expected to be held on 15 June 2023.

Further information

We encourage you to contact Oliver Sherratt (Head of Environment) for an informal discussion about the role. Please email O.Sherratt@durham.gov.uk to arrange this.



Useful links

durham.gov.uk/climatechange

climatecountydurham.org.uk