

Job description

Department: Waste & Environmental Services	Location: Oakington / Waterbeach
Job title: Watercourse Operative	Post number:
Grade: 3	SCP range: 15-20
Responsible to: Watercourse Supervisor	Responsible for: NLMR
Health Considerations/ Risk/ Surveillance Required: <i>Current driving license, Manual handling, use of hand-held power tools (HAVS / Noise)</i>	

Description of duties and responsibilities

To be responsible for direct works, with three other staff members, on approximately 275 km of open watercourses, culverts, pipes and associated structures within the District of South Cambridgeshire, In accordance with the requirements of the Land Drainage Act 1991

Key result areas / overview

Responsible for ensuring that watercourses are maintained to 'Award' standard'; that plant and equipment is adequately maintained; that annual maintenance programme is achieved. Complying with safe working practices both on the public highway and on private land.

Key contacts / communication links

Internal

Workforce, Watercourse Supervisor, EO Team Manager, POM Environmental Operations.

External

Local landowners, members of the public/residents
Disposal site and other contractors



Key responsibilities / specific duties

- To undertake flail mowing and dredging / scouring works along awarded watercourses within South Cambridgeshire District Council's area covering various locations including the manual removal of large items.
- To undertake ditch maintenance by hand and using power tools along approximately 22 km of drains that are inaccessible with wheeled/tracked plant.
- To carry out specialist environmental projects in conjunction with the Ecology Officer including river bank and bed restoration as well as specialist maintenance work practices.
- To carry out repairs or reconstruction works to headwalls, manholes or other structures as well as piping/re-piping of culverts.
- To carry out improvement works and adaptations to watercourse infrastructure involving small fabrication works.
- Take responsibility for allocated work and ensure this work is carried out within the prescribed timescale, remedying any failures.
- Drive and be responsible for any vehicle allocated, ensuring all daily and weekly maintenance and operational checks are carried out, make any running adjustments to equipment as necessary, including cleaning.
- To use safe working practices and procedures to comply with relevant safety codes of practice and guidelines.
- To maintain a current driving licence and advise South Cambridgeshire District Council management of any penalties administered to the licence.
- To provide on call emergency cover for maintenance works during periods of heavy rainfall and flooding throughout the District and to help with the provision of sandbags as protection against flooding to domestic properties.
- To assist with the servicing and repairs of the Council's maintenance plant where specialist contractors are not required.
- To undertake such other work as may be required from time to time by the Head of Service, consistent with the duties and grading of the post.



General to all job descriptions

To comply with the Council's Equal Opportunities policy, Code of Conduct and other relevant policy, procedures and legislation.

To comply with / ensure compliance with the Council Data Protection Policies and the Data Protection Act and other relevant legislation.

This post carries specific responsibilities for Health and Safety in particular the carrying out/updating of Risk Assessments.

South Cambridgeshire District Council's Safety Policy and other safety procedures and guidelines are deemed part of this job description. Employees must look after their own health, safety and welfare and be mindful of other persons who may be affected by their acts. Employees must co-operate and comply with management instructions regarding Health and Safety issues and report all accidents, incidents and problems as soon as practicable to their supervisor, manager or other senior members of staff available.

The responsibilities outlined above cannot totally encompass or define all tasks that may be required of the post-holder. The outline of responsibilities given above may, therefore, vary from time to time without materially changing either the character or level of responsibility or grade.

Job Description Last Reviewed: January 2021