



June, 2022

The Centre for Sustainable Healthcare is recruiting Nature Recovery Ranger, Homerton Hospital

- Location: Homerton Row, London E9 6SR
- Full time: August 2022 (or asap thereafter) for 10 months.
- Salary: £30,000 pa (plus contributory pension; includes London weighting).

Context

The Centre for Sustainable Healthcare inspires and empowers people to transform healthcare for a sustainable future. We collaborate with partners inside and outside healthcare to engage professionals, patients and the wider community in understanding the connections between health and environment, and to reduce healthcare's carbon footprint.

Our Green Space for Health Programme helps to realise the value of green space for physical and mental health, both at healthcare sites and in the wider community. We support and encourage NHS sites in developing their green space for the benefit of patients, staff and communities, while also improving biodiversity and combatting climate change. To find out more about our work, see the [NHS Forest](#) website.

In 2021, we began embedding [Nature Recovery Rangers](#) to develop programmes of green space activities and community engagement at specific NHS sites. To find out more about the rangers and what they do, watch our short [Nature Recovery Rangers video](#). This new post is partially supported by a development grant from the Greater London Authority's Green and Resilient Spaces Fund and consequently focuses both on delivery of ranger activities for staff, patients and community members, and on work to consult on and develop a wider green space programme for the hospital.

Homerton University and East London NHS Foundation Trust are employing WSP landscape architects to produce plans for a large-scale landscape and community engagement project, which will form the basis of a funding application to the Greater London Authority. This GLA grant bid will be submitted in December 2022. The project will include green space infrastructure development and community engagement, and it is planned that WSP will be running community consultation as well as designing landscape developments. This design work needs to be combined with a plan, created

by the ranger, for therapeutic horticulture, nature engagement and nature recovery and social prescribing for people experiencing mental health problems. The Ranger will pilot some of the planned therapeutic engagement through a bespoke programme of activities. The ranger, in consultation with Centre for Sustainable Healthcare colleagues, will be responsible for reviewing the WSP site plan to assess the extent to which it achieves the project brief of biodiversity, sustainability and carbon reduction.

The role

The appointed Ranger will work with Homerton University and East London NHS Foundation Trust, Core Landscapes, North East London Integrated Care Board (ICB) and the London Borough of Hackney to develop a plan for a bespoke programme of activities at the NHS site and green spaces linked to them. Activities will be designed to engage patients, health staff and local residents and, if aligned with the overall site plan, may include managing food growing projects, supervising tree planting with local residents, conducting habitat and species surveys, running community events to support biodiversity – for example, through creation of ‘hedgehog highways’ and wildlife homes – and leading on other green space enhancements such as the creation of meadow areas, green on-site walking routes and pollinator-friendly planting schemes. This participation plan will be submitted as part of the funding application for the wider project.

The work will include making improvements to the existing green spaces in and around Homerton and engaging local people in that work. There will be a strong emphasis on green space work for the benefit of mental health. There may be an opportunity to pilot green social prescribing. There will be the chance to implement baseline recording and surveying, against which future project outcomes can be measured.

For the first four months of the role, you will work with closely Homerton University and East London NHS Foundation Trust, Core Landscapes, North East London ICB and the London Borough of Hackney, to support the development of the application to the Greater London Authority to run the large-scale landscape and community engagement project mentioned above. This application will be submitted in December 2022, and the programme will include the ongoing work of the CSH Nature Recovery Ranger post for Homerton Hospital and in the surrounding area.

The Nature Recovery Ranger will advise the project developers on sustainability, biodiversity, climate mitigation and other improvements to green spaces, as well as how to plan green space community engagement with local people and NHS staff and patients, including green social prescribing. This will involve working closely with the development Project Manager (appointed in May 2022) and also Core Landscapes who are a social business dedicated to engaging mental health service users in horticultural projects in the Homerton area. The development project will include close consultation with the London Borough of Hackney, healthcare teams and organisations, Core

Landscapes, Friends of green space groups, WSP landscape architects, the local community and community engagement specialists.

We are looking for an outdoor conservation professional, with excellent skills in community engagement. You will have a good background knowledge about wildlife and habitat management in the context of urban sites and a range of methods to engage people positively with them. You will be a passionate advocate for biodiversity and nature recovery and an engaging communicator, with the ability to manage and inspire volunteers and to involve them safely in a wide variety of exciting outdoor projects. You will be well organised and able to plan, promote and deliver a programme of on-site conservation-focused activities in consultation with our NHS partners. You will be able to scope activities and provide explanations and costings to the Project Manager for the bid proposal.

You will be situated in the Homerton University Hospital's Estates department and be supervised by a member of the Department. You will attend regular Project Steering Group meetings and Project Management Office meetings and will be expected to provide updates to the meetings through highlight reports.

The Homerton ranger will be line managed by CSH's Green Space for Health Ranger Manager.

Job specification

As a Nature Recovery Ranger your role is expected to include:

1. Working with the design team, including Core Landscapes, WSP, Homerton University Hospital NHS Foundation Trust, East London Foundation Trust and London Borough of Hackney, to devise a plan for service user and community engagement in nature-based activities that support the use and maintenance of the newly developed green spaces set out in the design. This plan will be submitted as part of any bid for future funding. Some aspects of this plan may be piloted as part of the 2022-23 scheduled activities.
2. Working with the Development Project Manager and WSP landscape architects to contribute to the development of the GLA bid, with a view to ensuring that it embodies a programme of green space development that promotes biodiversity and carbon capture and will facilitate the nature recovery and nature engagement work of the Nature Recovery Ranger.
3. Working with WSP to engage the local community in the development of the proposed programme, so that they are fully represented and participatory in the bid.
4. Planning, promoting and running a programme of green space activities, including the development of social prescribing activities in collaboration with NHS partners and Core Landscapes.

5. Organising, carrying out and reporting on site biodiversity surveys and other baseline recording measures as agreed with NHS partners and CSH.
6. Taking responsibility for and operationalising health and safety arrangements, such as risk assessments, Covid-19 related restrictions and protocols on the use of tools and machinery, as agreed with NHS partners and CSH.
7. Acting at all times in accordance with your responsibility to safeguard the health and wellbeing of children and vulnerable adults in line with CSH's Safeguarding Policy, and being willing to undergo a DBS check.
8. Facilitating the monitoring and evaluation of the ranger programme, through the collection of data as directed by CSH.

Person specification

We are looking for someone with the following skills and experience:

1. Knowledge and understanding of wildlife and habitat management
2. Knowledge of horticulture (including vegetable growing) as an aspect of promoting biodiversity and engaging people
3. Knowledge of sustainability issues and ways to facilitate environmental resource reductions and mitigations
4. Experience in contributing to grant applications and reports
5. Experience in leading enjoyable environmental engagement activities with groups of participants
6. Experience in recruiting and managing volunteers
7. Experience of working with diverse local communities
8. Experience in ensuring the safety of engagement activity participants
9. The ability and commitment to act as a passionate advocate for environmental conservation and its importance for physical and mental health, and to share this passion and explain to people why it is important
10. The initiative and ability to design and document a long-term work programme that will engage participants from a range of groups both within the hospital and in the wider community
11. Understanding of initiatives to improve wellbeing
12. The ability to cope with working in an environment that can be emotionally charged
13. The ability to use tools safely
14. The ability to work both independently and collaboratively, engaging well with both NHS partners and CSH team members.

Location

The post will be based at Homerton Hospital, Homerton Row, London E9 6SR, but will require travelling throughout the local area covered by the project. There may also be

occasions when the ranger will be requested to visit the CSH office in Oxford, and/or take part in other site visits, for which travel expenses will be reimbursed.

We encourage the use of sustainable travel where this is feasible and meets with Covid-19 restrictions.

To apply please email your CV and a cover letter, explaining how your skills and experience match this role, and including the details of two referees, to info@sustainablehealthcare.org.uk

- Closing date: midnight on Sunday, 26 June 2022
- Interviews: w/c Monday, 4 July 2022
- Proposed start date: Monday, 1 August 2022 (or asap thereafter)

For any questions please contact info@sustainablehealthcare.org.uk