



June, 2022

The Centre for Sustainable Healthcare is recruiting

Nature Recovery Ranger – The Newcastle Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

- Full time: July 2022 (or asap thereafter) to July 2023.
- Salary: £28,000 pa (plus contributory pension).

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. Find out more about our work on 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](#). The Newcastle Nature Recovery Ranger will join the existing ranger network and build on the "Nature Connect – Newcastle Hospitals" programme of work – a partnership between the Trust, the Northumberland Rivers Trust and the Northumberland Wildlife Trust. "Nature Connect" includes its established staff Green Gym, The Long View Project (a funding programme for nature restoration and re-wilding) and ambitions to develop a secondary care green social prescribing programme.

Funding for the post is provided by the Newcastle Hospitals Charity and NHS Charities, Together.

The role

The appointed ranger will work with The Newcastle upon Tyne Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust to extend its bespoke programme of activities, on-site, in the vicinity of and distant to Trust sites. Activities will be designed to engage patients, health staff and local residents and 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.

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, practical technical and horticultural skills, and experience in the safe use of tools and machinery. 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.

Job specification

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

1. Working with the "Nature Connect" programme of The Newcastle upon Tyne Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust to devise a programme of nature engagement and nature recovery activities for the year.
2. Increasing the scope and frequency of the programme's nature activities for staff, including maintaining and publicising off-site events and establishing on-site and near-site activities during the working week together with relevant partners, to enhance access to the programme
3. Supporting initiation and development of the trust's secondary care green social prescribing programme, through the development and delivery of green space engagement activities for patients, in consultation with clinicians
4. Promoting the programme, as agreed, to attract participation from different communities, which may include patients, health staff, local residents and schools
5. Supporting on-site green space activities through the relevant Sustainable Healthcare in Newcastle (SHINE) working group
6. Supporting and functioning as an integral part of the wider Nature Connect – Newcastle Hospitals programme, which uses themes of 'Place' and 'People' to foster human health and nature's recovery

7. Working on practical projects to implement green space enhancements to the site, for example, through tree planting, food growing, path clearance and other horticultural activities
8. Organising, carrying out and reporting on site biodiversity surveys as agreed with NHS partners and CSH
9. Managing all tools, materials and resources as needed by the programme activities
10. Taking responsibility for and operationalising health and safety arrangements, such as risk assessments, covid-19 related restrictions and protocols on the use of machinery, as agreed with NHS partners and CSH
11. Acting at all times in accordance with your responsibility to safeguard the health and wellbeing of children and vulnerable adults, and being willing to undergo a DBS check
12. 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. Experience in leading enjoyable environmental engagement activities with groups of participants
2. Experience in recruiting and managing volunteers
3. Experience in ensuring the safety of engagement activity participants
4. Background knowledge and understanding about wildlife and habitat management to inform the activities undertaken
5. Technical practical skills such as installing a bench or building raised beds
6. 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
7. The initiative and ability to design a work programme that will engage participants from a range of groups both within the hospital and in the wider community
8. The ability to act as an ambassador for the programme, and to work with NHS partners to recruit participants, in a way which encourages diversity and social inclusion
9. The ability to work both independently and collaboratively, engaging well with both NHS partners and CSH team members
10. Understanding of initiatives to improve wellbeing
11. The ability to cope with working in an environment that can be emotionally charged
12. The ability to use tools and machinery such as chainsaws and brush cutters (please indicate your experience in using a range of equipment safely, and whether you have the technical certificates to demonstrate this)

13. Experience in gardening and vegetable growing.

Location

The post will be based at one of the Trust's sites within Newcastle but will require traveling throughout the 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.

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 26th June 2022
- Proposed start date: Monday 25th July 2022 (or asap thereafter)
- Interviews: w/c Monday 4th July 2022 via MS Teams

For any questions, please contact info@sustainablehealthcare.org.uk or s.kanagasundaram@nhs.net (for details of existing Newcastle Hospitals work).