



Somerset
Wildlife Trust



Wilder Somerset

2030



More space for nature where wildlife thrives
with more people on nature's side



Job description:
Wilder Wellbeing Officer

About Somerset Wildlife Trust

Somerset Wildlife Trust is a local independent charity and the only organisation uniquely focused on improving the natural environment of Somerset for the benefit of wildlife and people. We champion Somerset's stunning, diverse, and important natural environment, making the case for nature to the public and politicians. We protect wildlife and lead the recovery of the environment by example, including on our nature reserves.

Somerset Wildlife Trust is one of 46 Wildlife Trusts across Britain which together with the *Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts* collectively form *The Wildlife Trusts*. We are the biggest charity movement in the UK working solely for nature and we believe that restoring nature on a landscape scale is essential for tackling climate change and biodiversity loss.

The climate and ecological crises require comprehensive, ambitious solutions and urgent action across all sections of society. The crises are also inexorably linked so it is vital that our new strategy, '[Wilder Somerset 2030](#)' is delivered with both at its core. We recognise that people are part of the solution and everyone has a role to play in restoring nature and averting the worst of the climate change. Research suggests that if 1 in 4 people in society take action then social tipping points can be achieved and widespread positive change can happen. This underpins one of our key strategic goals and Team Wilder is our delivery approach to inspiring and empowering others to help nature recover.

Our New Vision

To deliver a Somerset wide nature recovery network creating more space for wildlife, benefiting everyone, and playing its part in helping us reverse biodiversity loss and tackle the climate crisis.

Our New Mission

To champion the change needed to rebalance our relationship with wildlife and the natural world.

Our Goals for 2030:

To ensure that nature is improving across the county, supported by restored natural processes, and is connected and protected through a Nature Recovery Network, with at least 30% of land and sea managed positively for nature.

For nature to be valued and protected by everyone, building a movement with at least 1 in 4 people taking action for nature's recovery across Somerset.

By 2030 to tell the story of nature's recovery in Somerset through a shared, live online State of Nature tool that monitors progress and informs action.



About the post

Job Title	Wilder Wellbeing Officer
Grade	Specialist Level 2
Reports To	Wilder Lives Manager
Team	Engagement
Responsible for	Volunteers/Wilder Champions
Job Purpose	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Drive, embed and promote the benefits of a connection with nature to people. - Develop and deliver resources and upskilling opportunities for communities and practitioners that support them to bring the wellbeing benefits of nature connection into their regular activities. - Support Community groups to set up nature connection specific activity - Support volunteers to creatively bring nature connection for wellbeing into their communities. - Working internally with community-based colleagues to embed nature connection for wellbeing into their practices. - Work alongside health colleagues (Public Health, NHS, Integrated Care Board) and other Green and Social Prescribing Colleagues to help develop and improve the GSP offer in Somerset. - This role will sit alongside other 'Wilder Officers' who are focused on different areas and specialisms including Youth, Volunteers and Communities.
Position	<p>Fixed Term, Ending April 2027 4 Days a Week (days negotiable) Based at our Taunton office with opportunities for home working, travel and working in the community required.</p>
Working Relationships	<p>Internal: All Staff and Volunteers</p> <p>External: General Public including new audiences for the Trust, community leaders and other conservation bodies, those working in the health and social care sector including charities, notably Public Health Somerset, Integrated Care Board, NHS in Somerset, Somerset Mind, Chard Watch and the wider nature and wellbeing network/community.</p>
Benefits of working for Somerset Wildlife Trust	<p>We offer some fantastic benefits including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7% employer pension contribution • Life insurance • An annual professional institution subscription if applicable • Flexible and agile working • Wellbeing support – EAP, wellbeing champions • Diversity networks through RSWT/TWT • Paid volunteer days • Continuous Professional Development opportunities

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 33 days of holiday (25 + bank holidays) • Staff social calendar and events <p>The opportunity to make a real and positive difference to nature, communities and the climate</p>
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Job Description – Key Responsibilities and Tasks

Responsibility 1: Developing and Maintaining Partner and Community Relationships

- Building on the legacy of previous wellbeing work, maintain relationships we have with health sector partners in Somerset as well as those supporting wellbeing through Social/Green Social Prescribing offers, including art and sports sector partners.
- Identifying individuals, community leaders and existing community groups in Somerset we are not currently working with and work to build trust and relationships.
- Working with our communications team, pro-actively provide content for external communications to highlight our work, the Team Wilder approach and the work of the communities and groups we are working with.
- Finding creative ways to reach previously underrepresented groups/individuals who may benefit from improved access to nature and who could help to take-action for nature in their communities.
- Supporting and inputting to the Local Nature Partnership Nature and Wellbeing Sub-Group, chaired by Somerset Wildlife Trust, and Somerset Nature and Wellbeing Practitioners Network.

Responsibility 2: Supporting Communities/Groups with Nature Connection for Wellbeing

- Championing the ‘Team Wilder’ approach to help create a movement for nature, sharing skills, experience, knowledge and learning about community organizing within the Trust and through the movement.
- Involving SWT and community-based volunteers to support with reaching previously underrepresented groups.
- Using in-depth knowledge of the benefits of nature connection for maintaining and improving health and wellbeing and experience in this field to community groups to embed in the services and informal support and advice they provide.
- Signposting individuals and groups to local nature and wellbeing/nature connection opportunities within their communities.
- Supporting individuals and groups with overcoming barriers to access.

Responsibility 3: Facilitating Events and Developing Resources

- Organising and facilitating public events and support community led events that aim to connect people to green spaces, recognizing the health and wellbeing benefits of doing so.
- Developing resources and guidance documents to support community groups, conservation sector colleagues and health practitioners to integrate nature connection/wellbeing into their regular activities.
- Working with community volunteers to ensure resources are relatable, accessible and include content that is most useful to communities and individuals we are supporting.

General

- The job holder is required to follow and comply with all policies and procedures of Somerset Wildlife Trust which includes our health and safety and safeguarding procedures, ensuring the personal safety of all staff, volunteers, young people and adults at risk involved in the project.
- To carry out other duties relevant to your post as reasonably required by your line manager.
- To reflect the Somerset Wildlife Trust Values all areas of work.
- To work collaboratively with other Wildlife Trusts to share learning and achieve greater impact collectively.
- Somerset Wildlife Trust is committed to creating a more digital culture across the organisation. We aim to become more collaborative, agile and efficient through the use of digital technology. A basic level of digital skills is expected of all staff with the opportunity to improve these skills with career progression.
- Somerset Wildlife Trust has an Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Plan and is committed to continuing to improve the equality, diversity and inclusion of every aspect of our work; we know we need to engage with everyone to live our Values and achieve our goals. We welcome applications from everyone and are happy to discuss any accommodations or arrangements that would make the recruitment process better for you, and the working environment should you be employed.



PERSON SPECIFICATION

To succeed in this role you will need to demonstrate:

	<i>Essentials</i>	<i>Desirables</i>
Qualifications	Qualifications or proven work experience in the field of mental health, environment or nature and wellbeing work.	Current First Aid Certificate Mental Health First Aid Safeguarding Certification Minibus Driving Licence
Experience/Knowledge	<p>At least two years' experience working with adults and/or young people experiencing mental health challenges</p> <p>A good knowledge of the benefits of the natural environment for maintaining and improving health and wellbeing</p> <p>A good working knowledge of local health care sector and structures</p> <p>At least two years' experience leading, directing and managing volunteers</p> <p>At least two years' experience of working within diverse communities and adults at risk.</p> <p>A good understanding of safeguarding and protection issues, legislation and best working practice</p> <p>Experience of health and safety and producing robust risk assessments.</p> <p>Proven experience of developing and delivering inspiring and engaging events and activities to connect people to nature</p> <p>Experience of, and a commitment to, tackling the barriers that may exist to nature engagement and participation and the impact on diversity.</p>	<p>A knowledge of the wildlife and habitats of Somerset and the issues affecting them.</p> <p>A good knowledge of Somerset's geography, communities, demographics and wildlife.</p> <p>Experience in the use of Social media platforms to communicate the impact of your work. Practical experience in the creation of publicity and external communications materials with a creative package such as Canva.</p> <p>Experience of using evaluation tools for assessing impact</p> <p>Working knowledge of the General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR 2018) and Data Protection Act 2018.</p> <p>Experience of volunteer line management.</p>

<p>Skills</p>	<p>Excellent interpersonal skills, able to listen, inspire, facilitate and negotiate to enable action</p> <p>Excellent organisational, administrative, communication (written and oral), report writing, and IT skills</p> <p>Competent at providing a friendly face to people who may be encountering the Trust for the first time.</p> <p>Computer literate and competent in the use of Mailchimp, Zoom, Eventbrite and other digital platforms, and website content management systems for online engagement</p> <p>Using social media as an effective engagement tool</p> <p>Good inter-personal skills, with a responsible, team-oriented approach to work</p> <p>Able to work within a team on shared programmes to deliver actions</p> <p>Current full driving licence and able to use own vehicle for work when necessary</p>	<p>Creation and editing of video and other creative content</p> <p>Good public speaker, able to communicate, enthuse and inspire others</p>
<p>Attributes</p>	<p>Ability to keep information confidential</p> <p>Innovative, resilient under pressure and self-motivated – a solution seeker</p> <p>Positive, creative & resilient – open to new ideas/learning & flexible in approach</p> <p>Good time management and able to work to tight deadlines</p>	<p>Passion and enthusiasm for wildlife and nature restoration, especially in a Somerset context.</p> <p>Demonstrate the ability to communicate enthusiastically and inspiringly, reflecting our goals as an inclusive organisation, especially to those contacting the Trust for the first time.</p>

	<p>Flexibility in working pattern, hours and location</p> <p>Able and willing to work weekends and evenings when required for which TOIL is applicable</p> <p>Willing to obtain an enhanced DBS check for working with young people and adults at risk.</p>	
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**Somerset
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SOMERSET WILDLIFE



TRUST'S WORKING VALUES AND

EXPECTATIONS

Developing Somerset Wildlife Trust

To deliver our Wilder Somerset 2030 plan we, Somerset Wildlife Trust, will need to build our charity, be clear in our priorities and ensure our own actions support our aims. We have a new set of Values that will inform all our decision-making and actions to bring about nature's recovery across Somerset.

- We are passionate about nature.
- We believe everyone can contribute to nature's recovery.
- We love Somerset - its amazing wildlife and its communities.
- We are confident and brave in standing up for nature.
- We encourage innovative thinking and action for nature's recovery.

To deliver our strategy we will:

- Support, inspire and enable others to act while leading by example.
- Develop a Climate and Environment Strategy that delivers on our own environmental commitments within the Trust covering all areas of our operation and land use including procurement, utilities, facilities, and transport to achieve carbon neutrality by 2030.
- Use our resources efficiently and effectively, harnessing the diversity, talent and commitment of our staff and supporters.
- Expand our supporter base and sources of income, including through embracing new opportunities to generate income streams that are compatible with our strategic goals and maintain financial stability.
- Embrace new ways to grow our impact and reach, with a particular focus on expanding our digital knowledge and experience.

