
ADVERTISEMENT

HORTICULTURE PROJECTS OFFICER

Horticulture Department

Introduction

The National Botanic Garden of Wales (NBG Wales) has an opportunity for a keen horticulturist with enthusiasm and ability to become part of our skilled and committed team. The Horticulture Projects Officer will be tasked with developing and managing horticultural projects which aim to generate profit and support the Department's charitable activities. NBG Wales already has a strong reputation for working with commercial partners to deliver horticultural support and botanical expertise to ecological mitigation and plant conservation projects.

The post holder will manage, deliver and identify further opportunities for contract growing and consultancy on behalf of NBG Wales. Horticultural skill, business acumen and the ability to manage relationships with commercial partners will be important attributes for the post. Applicants will be required to demonstrate that they are experienced and qualified horticulturists, have a keen interest in the work and mission of NBG Wales and are capable of working to a high level of personal responsibility.

Organisation

NBG Wales is accredited by Botanic Garden Conservation International and delivers world-class research, conservation, education and horticulture for Wales. The 568-acre botanic garden features diverse botanical collections, grown in a range of environments including the largest single-span glasshouse in the world, the Great Glasshouse. The formal garden areas are surrounded by the Waun Las National Nature Reserve. The Reserve is a mixed landscape including Soil Association certified organic farmland and heritage parkland, which is currently being restored as part of a Heritage Lottery funded restoration project.

As a national organisation, NBG Wales works collaboratively with a range of partners across Wales and internationally to advance the charity's mission. NBG Wales are actively engaged in nationwide projects related to their research and conservation programme and through projects such as *Growing the Future* and *Biophillic Wales*.

To learn more about the mission and current projects visit botanicgarden.wales.

Summary

Post title	Horticulture Projects Officer
Department	Horticulture
Reports to	Horticulture Supervisor
Line management	None
Responsible for	Students and volunteers

Key responsibilities

The post holder will be responsible for the management, delivery and identification of commercial horticulture projects. Growing facilities will be provided to facilitate the propagation and maintenance of plant materials and office space will be allocated for desk-based work. The aim of the role is to generate profit to support NBG Wales' charitable activities, provide expertise to projects being delivered in Wales and further the charity's mission.

1. Propagate and maintain plant materials cultivated for commercial horticulture projects
2. Keep accurate and detailed plant records on the Iris BG plant collections management system
3. Label plants consistently and ensure nomenclature is accurate and up-to-date
4. Ensure high standards of bio-security are practiced and developed
5. Liaise with commercial partners and external stakeholders to ensure the successful delivery of projects
6. Identify new opportunities for contract growing, consultancy or other horticultural projects
7. Monitor income and expenditure and aim for horticultural projects to be profitable
8. Recruit and manage a team of volunteers who will support horticultural projects
9. Collaborate with colleagues to support the Horticulture Department and NBG Wales
10. Any other reasonable task assigned

Person specification

Specified below are the criteria considered necessary to fulfil the role. The information is made openly available to applicants and will form the basis for the recruitment and selection process. Only those applicants who meet the essential criteria adequately will be considered.

Criteria candidates are expected to evidence:

Essential criteria

1. Credit and Qualification Framework for Wales level two qualification in horticulture, related subject or equivalent
2. Evidence of competence, skill and an interest in botanic garden horticulture
3. Experience of working with students and volunteers
4. The physical capacity to undertake strenuous tasks
5. An understanding of the theory and practice of bio-security
6. The ability to maintain accurate plant records and labelling
7. The interpersonal skills required to liaise with commercial partners and external stakeholders
8. The ability to understand contractual obligations and monitor budgets
9. The ability to work as a member of a team and contribute to the collective aims of NBG Wales
10. A commitment to and understanding of the mission and objectives of NBG Wales

Desirable criteria

11. Experience of commercial horticulture
12. Proficiency in written and spoken Welsh

Position details

This is a permanent position starting from the soonest date which can be arranged. Hours of work are 37.5 per week, typically working from 8 am to 4 pm. Weekend work is expected on a rota basis. The salary is £19,038.00 per annum.

Informal enquiries are welcome and should be directed to Will Ritchie, Curator of Horticulture at will.ritchie@gardenofwales.org.uk.

How to apply

Applications consisting of a current CV and cover letter, clearly explaining how you meet the essential criteria and what benefits you could bring to the charity, together with the full contact details of two referees, should be sent to Anne-Maria Nicholas <Anne-Maria.Nicholas@gardenofwales.org.uk>. The closing date for applications is 30 October 2020.