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| HR reference | 0000002952/ |

**Belfast City Council**

Application for appointment as:

**Biodiversity Officer (Grade 7)**

**(There is currently one permanent full-time post. Other full-time, part-time, temporary and permanent posts may be filled from a reserve list.)**

**Neighbourhood Services Section**

**City and Neighbourhood Services Department**

|  |  |
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| Name of Applicant: |  |
| Address: |  |
| The closing date for applications is **4pm on Monday, 24 February 2025.**  Completed application forms should be emailed to [jobs@belfastcity.gov.uk](mailto:jobs@belfastcity.gov.uk) and you will receive an automatic acknowledgement reply when your application has been received. If you don’t receive an automatic acknowledgement reply within 30 minutes, please email [jobs@belfastcity.gov.uk](mailto:jobs@belfastcity.gov.uk) again to query this and, or confirm receipt of your application form (office hours are normally Mon-Thurs 8.30am-5pm, Fri 8.30am-4.30pm). You must receive an automatic acknowledgement reply **before** the closing date and time as we will not be able to accept applications that are sent but not received before the closing date and time.  **Please note we are unable to issue or receive any hard copy application forms either by post or hand delivered. All application forms must be emailed to** [**jobs@belfastcity.gov.uk**](mailto:jobs@belfastcity.gov.uk) | |

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| **If you have a disability and require any reasonable adjustments, or your first language is not English and you require any assistance with any aspect of our recruitment and selection process, please email jobs@belfastcity.gov.uk** |
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| **Belfast City Council is an equal opportunities employer and we welcome applications from all sections of the community** |

In addition to filling the immediate vacancy, we also intend to create a reserve list of successful applicants, in strict order of merit based on performance at interview. We anticipate that this list will last for 12 months or until it is exhausted, whichever is sooner.

Therefore, should a similar post to the immediate vacancy become available within this time we may offer it to those on the reserve list, in order of merit, without further interview.

**These posts may be either on a permanent or temporary (including fixed term) and may be working full-time, part-time or job share hours.**

Please indicate below whether you would be interested in a permanent or temporary (including fixed term) post working full-time, part-time or job share hours by ticking the appropriate box.

**If you are interested in both permanent and temporary (including fixed term) positions, please tick *(*🗸*)* both boxes.**

**Contract type:**

**Permanent Temporary (including fixed term)**

**Hours of work:**

**Full-time Part-time Job share**

You can apply for all positions and, if appointed to the reserve list, you will be considered for permanent and temporary (including fixed term) vacancies and for full-time, part-time and job share hours.

If you apply for all positions, you can accept an offer of temporary or fixed term employment without giving up your right to be considered for a permanent post. Similarly, you can accept a post working part-time hours without giving up your right to be offered a post working full-time or job share hours.

**It is important to note: If you are placed on the reserve list, you will only be offered vacant posts on the basis of the information you have provided above. For example, if you have ticked that you are applying for a permanent position only and a temporary position becomes available, we will not offer you this temporary post. Similarly, if you have ticked that you wish to be considered for full-time hours only and a part-time post becomes available, we will not offer you this part-time post.**

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| **Section 1: Personal details** | | | | | | |
| Are you currently employed by Belfast City Council? | | | Yes |  | No |  |
| If yes, please enter your staff number: | | |  | | | |
| Have you been previously employed by Belfast City Council? | | | Yes |  | No |  |
|  | | |  |  |  |  |
| If yes, please state your reason for leaving: | | | | | | |
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| **1.** | **Your details** | | | | | |
| (a) | Title: (Mr, Mrs, Ms, Miss, Mx, Dr etc) |  | | | | |
|  |  |  | | | | |
| (b) | Forenames: |  | | | | |
|  |  |  | | | | |
| (c) | Preferred name: |  | | | | |
|  |  |  | | | | |
| (d) | Surname: |  | | | | |
|  |  |  | | | | |
| **2.** | **Contact details** | | | | | |
| (a) | Telephone number: |  | | | | |
|  |  |  | | | | |
|  |  |  | | | | |
| (b) | Email address: |  | | | | |
|  |  |  | | | | |
| (c) | Address 1: |  | | | | |
|  |  |  | | | | |
| (d) | Address 2: |  | | | | |
|  |  |  | | | | |
| (e) | Town: |  | | | | |
|  |  |  | | | | |
| (f) | County: |  | | | | |
|  |  |  | | | | |
| (g) | Postcode: |  | | | | |
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| **3.** | **Other information** | | | | | |
|  | National insurance number: |  | | | | |

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| **Section 2: Qualifications and employment history** | | | | | |
| **4.** | **Qualifications** | | | | |
| (a) | Details of qualifications obtained (please refer to employee specification):  Please state name, level and grade of qualification, the year attained and the examining body or university/college which awarded your qualification as this information may be needed by the selection panel. | | | | |
|  | **If applicable, applicants must, as at the closing date for receipt of application forms, have a third level qualification in a life science such as Biology, Botany, Zoology, Environmental Science or equivalent relevant qualification.**  **Please detail your relevant qualification below:** | | | | |
| Year: | | Examining body / University / College: | Level of qualification: | Subject: | Grade or mark: |
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| (b) | If you are applying for a post on the basis of a qualification which is not stated on the employee specification but which you consider to be equivalent, please list the main topics and modules below to demonstrate how you feel it is equivalent in terms of level, breadth, depth and content etc. Please also provide any further information which you feel supports your case.  (The selection panel will make the final decision on the relevance and equivalence of your qualification.) | | | |
|  |  | | | |
| Year: | Examining body / University/College: | Level of qualification: | Subject and modules studied: | Grade or mark |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| Any other support evidence as to the equivalence of the qualifications stated, for example, breadth of overlap with qualification as detailed in the employee specification: | | | | |
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| **Employment history** | | | | | | |
| (c) | Details of current employment and current position held: | | | | | |
|  |  | | | | | |
| Name and address of current employer (if any): | | | Exact date employment commenced (dd/mm/yyyy): | Position held with current employer: | | Salary: |
|  | | |  |  | |  |
|  |  | | | | | |
| (d) | Details of previous employment and positions held: | | | | | |
|  |  | | | | | |
| Name and address of previous employer(s): | | From:  (dd/mm/yyyy) | | To:  (dd/mm/yyyy) | Position(s) held: | Salary: |
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| **Section 3: Experience** | | | | | | | |
| **5.** | |  | | | | | |
| **You must complete the application form in either typescript (Arial font size 11) or legible hand-writing using black ink. You must limit your text in this section, i.e. (a) to (d), to no more than one A4 page per criterion. You must not use continuation sheets. If you submit more than one page per criterion, the short-listing panel will only consider the first page of information and you may not be short-listed.**  Applicants **must**, as at the closing date for receipt of application forms, be able to demonstrate by providing personal and specific examples on the application form, that they meet the experience as stated in the employee specification.  **Essential criteria**  Applicants **must**, as at the closing date for receipt of applications, either:-   * have a third level qualification in a life science such as Biology, Botany, Zoology, Environmental Science or equivalent **and** be able to demonstrate on the application form, by providing personal and specific examples, at least one year’s relevant work experience in each of the following areas (a)-(c):   **or**   * must be able to demonstrate on the application form, by providing personal and specific examples, at least two years’ relevant work experience in each of the following areas (a)-(c):  1. developing and implementing a local biodiversity action plan or experience of developing strategic environmental and policy documents; 2. establishing and leading working partnerships with a range of environmental organisations to deliver on common outcomes relating to biodiversity; and 3. developing and managing ecological projects which contribute directly to the achievement of business objectives.   **Shortlisting criterion**  In addition to the above qualifications and, or experience, Belfast City Council reserves the right to shortlist only those applicants who can demonstrate on the application form, by providing personal, specific examples that they have experience in (d) undertaking and managing ecological surveys.  **In boxes (a) - (c) and (d) (if applicable) below, please provide the following detail:**   1. You must clearly state the start and end dates of your relevant experience including the number of years’ experience you have in this area. You must clearly detail your role in the development and implementation of a local biodiversity action plan, detail the purpose of this biodiversity action plan and how you contributed to this or your role in the development of strategic environmental and policy documents, what were these policies or documents and outline their purpose, etc. 2. You must clearly state the start and end dates of your relevant experience including the number of years’ experience you have in this area. You must clearly detail the range of partnerships you established and led, the range of environmental organisations you worked with, how did you engage with these organisations, etc. 3. You must clearly state the start and end dates of your relevant experience including the number of years’ experience you have in this area. You must clearly detail your relevant experience of the ecological projects you developed, how did you manage this, how did such projects contribute directly to the business objectives, did you achieve these objectives, did you encounter any issues, how did you overcome these, etc. 4. You must clearly state the start and end dates of your relevant experience including the number of years’ experience you have in this area. You must clearly detail your relevant experience undertaking ecological surveys, what tools did you use to undertake these surveys, how did you manage this information and what did you use the data for, etc. | | | | | | |
| **(a)** | | Please demonstrate in this box, by providing personal and specific examples, that you have at least one year’s or two years’ (as outlined in the Employee Specification) relevant work experience in developing and implementing a local biodiversity action plan or experience of developing strategic environmental and policy documents.  Continuation sheets must not be used | | | |
| **(b)** | | Please demonstrate in this box, by providing personal and specific examples, that you have at least one year’s or two years’ (as outlined in the Employee Specification) relevant work experience establishing and leading working partnerships with a range of environmental organisations to deliver on common outcomes relating to biodiversity.  Continuation sheets must not be used | | | |
| **(c)** | | Please demonstrate in this box, by providing personal and specific examples, that you have at least one year’s or two years’ (as outlined in the Employee Specification) relevant work experience developing and managing ecological projects which contribute directly to the achievement of business objectives.  Continuation sheets must not be used | | |
| **(d)** | | **Shortlisting criterion**  If applicable, please demonstrate in this box, by providing personal and specific examples, that you have relevant experience undertaking and managing ecological surveys.  Continuation sheets must not be used | | |
| **Section 4: Other information** | | | | | |
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| **6.** | Notice required to terminate present position: | | |  | |
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| **7.** | If you are not currently employed by Belfast City Council, please provide the required information of two persons not related to you, to whom references may be sent. Both of your referees must be either your current or previous employers (if applicable). Both should be able to comment on your ability to carry out the particular tasks of the job. If you do not wish us to contact your present employer, please provide your most recent previous employer. | | | | |
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| **1.** | Current or previous employer (if any) | | | | |
|  |  | |  | | |
|  | Name: | |  | | |
|  |  | |  | | |
|  | Job title: | |  | | |
|  |  | |  | | |
|  | Name of organisation: | |  | | |
|  |  | |  | | |
|  | Address (including post code): | |  | | |
|  |  | |  | | |
|  | Contact telephone: | |  | | |
|  |  | |  | | |
|  | Email address: | |  | | |
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| **2.** | Other employer referee (or character reference if applicable): | | | | |
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|  | Name: | |  | | |
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|  | Job title (if applicable): | |  | | |
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|  | Name of organisation (if applicable): | |  | | |
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|  | Address (including post code): | |  | | |
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|  | Contact telephone: | |  | | |
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|  | Email address: | |  | | |
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| I certify that the above information is correct and understand that any false or misleading information, if proved, may result in no further action being taken on this application, or, if appointed, dismissal from the service of the council. |

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| Signed: |  |  |  | Date: |  |  |

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| **Equal opportunity monitoring form** | | |
|  | HR Reference number: | 0000002952/ |
| Belfast City Council is committed to ensuring that all eligible persons have equality of opportunity for employment and advancement in the council on the basis of ability, qualifications and aptitude for the work. To ensure the effective implementation of the Equal Opportunities Policy all applicants are requested to complete the following questionnaire. This questionnaire will be removed from your application form and will be strictly controlled in accordance with the Code of Practice on Monitoring agreed with Trade Unions.  **This questionnaire will not be seen by either the short-listing or interview panels.** | | |

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| **Personal details:** | |  | **Official use only:** | |
| **Date of birth:** |  |  | Dob |  |

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| **Gender Identity:** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Gender Identity |  | |
| **What best describes your gender?** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Man |  |  | Woman |  |  | Non-binary | | |  | |  | Prefer not to say | | |  | |  | |  |  | |
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| I use another term (for example, Intersex), please specify: | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |  | |  | |  |  | |
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| **Do you consider yourself to be trans\* or transgender\*\*?** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |  | |  |  | |
| Yes |  |  | No |  |  | | Unsure |  | | |  | Prefer not to say | | |  | |  | |  |  | |
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| *\** Trans can be used as an umbrella term to describe people whose gender is not the same as, nor does it sit comfortably with, the sex they were assigned at birth. Trans people may describe themselves using one or more of a wide variety of terms e.g. transgender, transsexual, gender-queer (GQ), gender-fluid, non-binary, crossdresser, genderless. The use of trans as an umbrella term may not be acceptable to all transgender people. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |  | |  |  | |
| *\*\** Someone who intends to transition, is transitioning or has transitioned from the gender they were assigned at birth. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |  | |  |  | |

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| **Family status:** | Married |  | |  |  | Single |  |  |  |  | Status |  |
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|  | Divorced |  | |  |  | Separated |  |  |  |  |  |  |
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|  | Widowed |  |  | |  | Cohabitant |  |  |  |  |  |  |
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|  | Civil partnership | | | |  | Dissolved civil partnership | | |  |  |  |  |
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|  | Prefer not to answer | | | |  |  | | |  |  |  |  |
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|  | Other, please specify | | | | |  | | | |  |  |  |

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| **Ethnic origins:** | White | |  |  | Indian | | |  |  |  | Ethnic origin | | | |
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|  | Pakistani | |  |  | Bangladeshi | | |  |  |  |  |  | | |
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|  | Chinese | |  |  | Irish Traveller | | |  |  |  |  | | |  |
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|  | Black African | |  |  | Black Caribbean | | |  |  |  |  | | | |
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|  | Prefer not to answer | | |  |  | | |  |  |  |  | | | |
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|  | Black other, please specify | | | | |  | | | |  |  | | |  |
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|  | Mixed ethnic group, please | | | | |  | | | |  |  | | |  |
|  | specify | | | | |  | | | |  |  | | |  |
|  | Other, please specify | | | | |  | | | |  |  | | |  |
| Please state your nationality or citizenship (for example, British, Irish, Polish): | | | | | | | | | |  | Nation | | |  |
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| **Persons with and without a disability:** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| A person has a disability if they have “a physical or mental impairment which has a substantial and long-term adverse effect on their ability to carry out normal day-to-day activities” (Disability Discrimination Act, 1995) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| **Do you, in accordance with the above, have** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |  | | Yes | |  | | |  | | | No | | | | |  | | |  | | | Disability | |  | | |
| **a disability?** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |  | |  | | |  | | |  | | | | |  | | |
|  | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |  | | Prefer not to answer | | | | | | | | | | | | |  | | |  | | |  | |  | | |
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| If yes, please state nature of disability: | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |  | | |  | | | | |
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| **If No, have you ever had a disability?** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |  | | Yes | | | |  | | |  | No | | | | |  | | |  | | | History | |  | | |
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|  | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |  | | Prefer not to answer | | | | | | | | | | | | |  | | |  | | |  | |  | | |
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| While the selection panel will be made aware that you have a disability for the purposes of operating the Guaranteed Interview Scheme, they will not know the nature of your disability or if you need any reasonable adjustments as part of the recruitment and selection process unless you advise them. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |  | | |  | |  | | |
|  | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |  | | |  | |  | | |
| Therefore, if you require any reasonable adjustments as part of the recruitment and selection process, please outline them: | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |  | | |  | |  | | |
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| If you wish to discuss any of this information further or you require any further clarification about the Guaranteed Interview Scheme, please feel free to contact our Helpline on **(028) 9027 0640** and we will be happy to help. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |  | | |  | |  | | |
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| In addition, if you are aware of any adjustments that you will require, should you be successful in obtaining the job, please outline them: | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |  | | |  | |  | | |
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| **Persons with and without dependants:**  **If yes, please tick the relevant box(es) below- you may tick more than one box** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |  | | |
| Do you look after or are you responsible for caring for | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |  | | Yes | | |  | | |  | | No | | | |  | | |  | | Dependants | | |
| anyone? | | | | |  | | | | |  | | |  | |  | | | | | | | | |  | | | |  | |  | | | | | | | |  | |  |
|  | | | | |  | | | | |  | | |  | |  | | | | | | | | |  | | | |  | |  | | | | | | | |  | |  |
| **If yes, please tick the relevant box(es) below- you may tick more than one box** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |  | |  |
|  | | | | |  | | | | | | | | | |  | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |  | | |  | |  |
|  | | Children | |  | |  | Relative | | | | |  | |  | | | A person with a disability | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |  | | |  | | |  | |  |
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|  | | | Prefer not to answer | | | | |  | | |  | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |  | |  |
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|  | | | Other, please specify: | | | | | |  | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |  | | |  | |  |

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| **Sexual orientation:** | | | | | |
| **What best describes your sexual orientation?** | | | | | |
|  |  |  |  |  | |
| Bi |  |  |  | Orientation |  |
|  |  |  |  |  | |
| Gay/lesbian |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  | |
| Heterosexual/straight |  |  |  |  | |
|  |  |  |  |  | |
| Prefer not to say |  |  |  |  | |
|  |  |  |  |  | |
| I use another term, please specify: |  |  |  |  | |
|  |  |  |  |  | |
|  | | |  |  | |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Religious affiliation or community background:** | | | | | |
| The council is required by The Fair Employment and Treatment (NI) Order 1998 to monitor the perceived religious affiliation or community background of its employees and applicants. In accordance with the Monitoring Regulations 1999, we are asking you to indicate the community to which you belong by ticking the appropriate box below: | | | | | |
|  |  |  |  |  | |
| I am a member of the Protestant community |  |  |  | Code |  |
|  |  |  |  |  | |
| I am a member of the Roman Catholic community |  |  |  | Method |  |
|  |  |  |  |  | |
| I am a member of neither the Protestant nor Roman Catholic communities |  |  |  |  | |
|  |  |  |  |  | |
| Prefer not to answer |  |  |  |  | |
|  |  |  |  |  | |
| **Please note:** If you do not complete this section, we are encouraged to use the ‘residuary’ method, which means that we can make a determination on the basis of personal information on your application form. | | | | | |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Religious belief or tradition:** |  |  | | | |  | |
| Please specify your religious belief, for example, Christian, Hindu, Muslim: |  | | | |  | Religious belief |  |
|  |  |  | | | |  |  |
| No religious belief |  |  |  |  | |  | |
|  |  |  | | | |  | |
| Not disclosed |  |  |  |  | |  | |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Additional information:** | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| To monitor the effectiveness of our advertising, please indicate where you saw this job advertised: | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | |  |  |  | |
| Belfast Telegraph |  |  |  | Irish News |  |  |  | Newsletter | |  |  | |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | |  |  |  | |
| Sunday Life |  |  |  | Specialist journal |  |  |  | LinkedIn | |  |  | |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | |  |  |  | |
| Council trawl |  |  |  | Council website |  |  |  | Nijobfinder.co.uk | |  |  | |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | |  |  |  | |
| Facebook |  |  |  | Twitter |  |  |  | Word of mouth | |  |  | |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | |  |  |  | |
| Department of Learning, |  |  |  | Executive search |  |  |  | Localgovernmentjobsni.gov.uk | |  |  | |
| Jobs and Benefits |  |  |  |  | |  |  |  | | | | |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | | | | | | |  | |
| Other, please state where: |  |  | | | | | | |  | | |  | |