

COMMUNITY WOODLAND ANIMATEUR (Technical Skills)

The Board of Kirkton Woodland and Heritage Group, have a project based vacancy, for a self-employed Forestry Animateur. We will require the successful applicant to commence work in early February, with completion, no later than mid-May 2014

Background to the Project;

We (K.W.H.G.) are in the process of acquiring the 93ha Kirkton Woodlands, Lochcarron from Forestry Commission, Scotland. However, in the short term, under the National Forest Land Scheme, and with agreement from F.C.S., we are currently considering a lease option. The 18 month window, available until November 2014, will allow us to take responsibility for the woodland management without the costs associated with acquisition. Whilst we do not wish our attention to be diverted from a purchase, we see leasing as an interim step to help build capacity within the group, and allow time to put in place the necessary plans

Due to the exceptional circumstances we find ourselves in, Highlands and Islands Enterprise, have agreed to provide some revenue funding for a person (s) to work with us to establish and deliver the required outcome, namely, how, in the short term, a lease will help deliver the same outcomes as outright ownership.

Job Description;

The successful applicant will;

- Work with the KWHG Board, Local Development Officer and the community to clarify aspirations for the woodland
- Establish the level of control KWHG wish to have over the woodland and its assets
- Negotiate with FCS about the terms of the lease
- Assist the Local Development Officer to identify sources of revenue for lease payments
- Take the lead on the production of the Forest Management Plan
- Liaise with KWHG regarding the setting up of a trading company
- Assist the Board to update the Business Plan
- Assist the Board to draw up tender documents for woodland contractors
- Procure contractor services for KWHG as appropriate (timber companies and roading companies) and liaise with landowners and commercial contractors to ensure protocols are established and followed
- Produce draft documents, and present to the Board for approval. Regular updates will be required

Tenders;

We would anticipate 30-35 days input. Costs should be broken down to include number of days, daily rate, VAT and an allowance for other expenses and forwarded to:

Avril MacKenzie, Chairperson, Kirkton Woodland and Heritage Group, The Station, Strathcarron, Wester Ross IV54 8YR or Kristine MacKenzie, Development Officer kristinestrathcarron@gmail.com (Tel; 01520 722882), no later than January 31st 2014