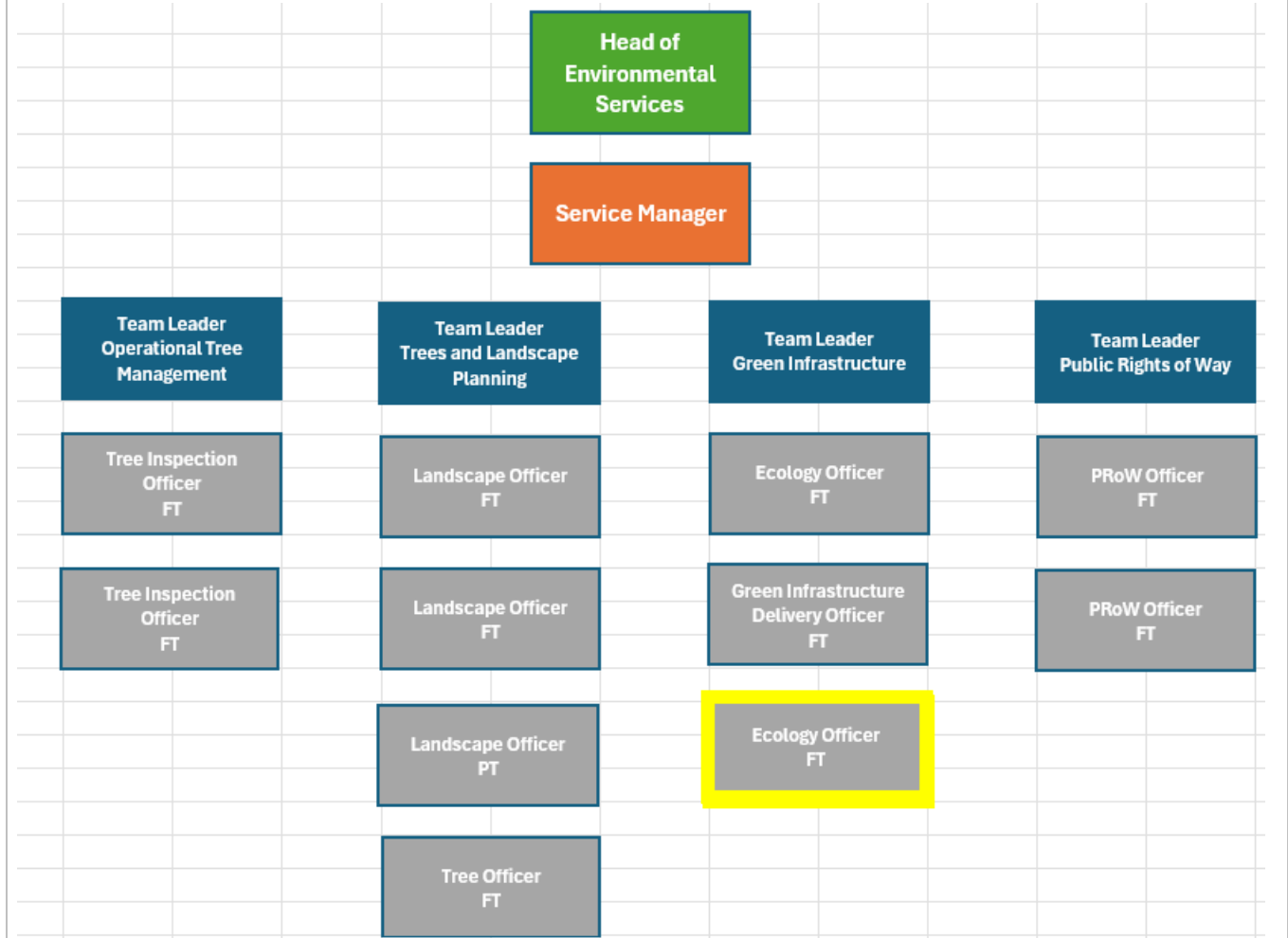
 WOKINGHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL	Job Description		Job Reference
Job Title	Ecology Officer		
Service	Place and Growth – Green and Blue Infrastructure	Team	Green Infrastructure
Location	Shute End/Home Working		
Reports to	Green Infrastructure Team Leader		
Responsible for	None		
Grade	Type of position:		Date
G8	Permanent Full Time		24/04/2025
<p>This job description has been designed to indicate the general nature and level of work required of the post to indicate the level of responsibility. It is not a comprehensive or exhaustive list and the line manager may vary duties from time to time which do not change the general character of the job or the level of responsibility entailed.</p>			
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Service Purpose</u></p>			
<p>Providing the delivery of Community, Heritage and Green Infrastructure to support strategic and related major development proposals, through master planning, infrastructure delivery plans, guidance and policies and concept documents, providing pre-application advice, briefing Forums, Stakeholder engagement, determining applications, presenting the Council's recommendation to Committee and working closely with developers and promoters.</p> <p>Providing for protection, preservation or enhancement of Wokingham's ecological, conservation, heritage, landscape, rights of way and tree assets through the provision of advice or timely procurement of regulatory and enforcement action by others where expedient.</p>			
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Purpose of the role</u></p>			
<p>To support the delivery of the councils statutory and strategic ecology responsibilities including ecology planning consultations, Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG), working in alignment with Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS) and commitments under the councils declared Ecological Emergency.</p> <p>To ensure the conservation and enhancement of ecology and biodiversity is effectively integrated into the planning system and wider council activities.</p>			

<u>Main Accountabilities</u>	
1	Provide expert ecological advice on planning applications, pre-application enquiries and strategic development proposals.
2	Support the delivery of Biodiversity Net Gain requirements under the Environment Act 2021.
3	Assist in providing advice to Members, residents, internal and external stakeholders in relation to land management in alignment with biodiversity and nature recovery strategies.
4	Undertake site assessments, desk-based ecological evaluations and species surveys where appropriate.
5	Contribute to the Councils objectives and commitments in relation to its declared Ecological Emergency, Climate Emergency Action Plan and enhanced biodiversity duty.
6	Provide expert advice to developers, Councilors and internal teams on ecological requirements and best practice.
7	Liaise with developers, planning officers, landowners, statutory agencies and community groups to promote good ecological practice.
8	Maintaining up to date ecology records and support reporting for internal and external purposes.
9	Ensure planning consultations are provided in compliance with biodiversity legislation and planning policy.
10	Ensuring Ecology conditions are delivered in line with agreements and planning consents.
Supervision Received	Reporting to the Green Infrastructure Team Leader with support, guidance & supervision provided wherever necessary
Supervision Given	None
Contacts & Working Relationships	Developers, Members, Internal Officers, Town and Parish Councils, Volunteer and community Groups
Management of resources or budget	Raising POs and processing invoices. No direct budget management.
Special Factors	Site visits

Organisation Chart



Person Specification		
Qualifications	Essential	Desirable
	Relevant degree or equivalent experience in Ecology, Environmental Science or related field.	Evidence of continuous personal and professional development Relevant professional membership
Technical Skills.	Essential	Desirable
	Excellent IT skills including office software such as Microsoft Word, Outlook, PowerPoint and Excel. Excellent written and verbal communication skills and ability to translate technical ecological terminology into clear and concise summaries. Ability to actively listen in order to extract and assess the important information, ask pertinent questions in order to seek clarification	An understanding of political organisations Experience in use of mapping software such as Arc GIS or similar.
Knowledge	Essential	Desirable
	Knowledge of UK wildlife legislation, biodiversity policy and ecological survey techniques. Understanding of Biodiversity Net Gain principles and the Environment Act 2021.	Experience of championing own ideas and obtaining commitment to allow them to be delivered Experience of working in a matrix management environment, where cross team and cross-organisation working are essential
Experience	Essential	Desirable
	Experience of interpreting and advising on ecological aspects of planning applications.	Experience of working within or within local government.
Other	Essential	Desirable
	Effective communicator at all levels Full UK driving license	
Completed by:	Laura Buck (Green Infrastructure Service Manager)	Date: 24/04/2025