

Lancashire County Council

Job Description

Post title: Geotechnical Engineer					
Service: Design and Construction			Location:	Preston	
Establishment or team:		Geotechnical Team		Post number:	X91411150009
Grade:	Grade 8	Staff responsibility	No	Essential Car user:	Yes

Scope of Work:

You will have detailed understanding of geotechnics relating to highway and building infrastructure. You will be required to specify and procure geotechnical investigations in order to help deliver best value recommendations and solutions for designers and also provide advice on geotechnical related defects.

You will apply judgement and analysis to identify solutions to a variety of projects and situations, working independently and/or supporting senior colleagues.

Working within established council systems and procedures you will typically take a work package from client instruction through to successful completion. This will also require discussion with the scheme project manager to ensure the delivery of the work package in accordance with quality, time and budget parameters. It may require communication and consultation with other stakeholders, workload and project planning, and preparation of works information including specifications and contract documents.

Key Accountabilities:

- Able to work without supervision to complete technical tasks. This may include:
 - Understanding, clarifying and developing client instructions
 - Assessing sites, undertaking and presenting written feasibility studies
 - Using appropriate design standards and code of practices, typically Eurocode 7 and British Standards to design or assess geotechnical aspects of infrastructure.
 - Using industry standard specifications and guidance such as DMRB
 - Producing both factual and interpretative geotechnical reports
- Assisting senior colleagues and project managers by carrying out tasks.
- Assisting in the management of work packages, quality supervision of site activities/drilling and carry out inspections or surveys.
- Using your technical experience to assess a range of parameters to reach a solution or course of action to progress a task to meet client expectations. Present work in formats such as factual and interpretative reports, drawings and other works information (specifications, maintenance schedules and quantities).
- Using your technical knowledge and experience to provide advice to clients and colleagues.
- Providing workplace mentoring and guidance to less experienced members of staff to ensure they are able to develop the necessary skills to deliver in their role.
- Communicating with other stakeholders and organisations to share information, build relationships and suggest improvement to current ways of working which benefit service delivery.

Skills, Knowledge and Experience

- Recognised professional qualification (honours degree in geotechnical discipline, or similar subjects) or vocational qualification (minimum level 5 civil engineering qualification in geotechnical discipline) plus broad experience in the area of expertise. May be working towards a professional qualification with extended practical experience in the discipline.
- Detailed knowledge of relevant standards, best practice and specialist software (such as SlopeW, Settle3 or Holebase) in the discipline. You will also need to work within council policies related to the role.
- Analytical skills and problem-solving capability.
- Ability to informally train and mentor less experienced staff.
- Ability to influence others based on technical or professional expertise.
- Ability to work in a team and to build and maintain effective working relationships and networks.

Prepared by:	N Stafford	Date:	25.02.2021
---------------------	------------	--------------	------------

SEE PERSON SPECIFICATION ON NEXT PAGE

The above form sets out the area of work in which duties will generally be focused, and gives an example of the type of duties that the postholder could be asked to carry out. **PLEASE NOTE** that this is for guidance only. Postholders are expected to be flexible and to operate in different areas of work/carry out different duties as required.

Equal opportunities

We are committed to achieving equal opportunities in the way we deliver services to the community and in our employment arrangements. We expect all employees to understand and promote this policy in their work.

Health and safety

All employees have a responsibility for their own health and safety and that of others when carrying out their duties and must co-operate with us to apply our general statement of health and safety policy.

Safeguarding Commitment

We are committed to protecting and promoting the welfare of children, young people and vulnerable adults.

Customer Focus

We put our customers' needs and expectations at the heart of all that we do. We expect our employees to have a full understanding of those needs and expectations so that we can provide high quality, appropriate services at all times.

Skills Pledge

We are committed to developing the skills of our workforce. All employees will be supported to work towards a level 2 qualification in literacy and /or numeracy if they do not have one already.

Person Specification Geotechnical Engineer

Qualifications	Essential (E) or Desirable (D) criterion	Method of verification Application Form (AF), Interview (I)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Honours degree in geotechnical discipline or similar or minimum level 5 vocational qualification in a geotechnical/civil engineering discipline plus several years of geotechnical experience OR Technical training in geotechnics through extended vocational experience and preferably working towards a professional qualification. 	E	AF
	E	AF
Experience		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Experience of working independently within recognised standards, codes of practice, guidelines and council policy. This may include using specialist equipment or technical software relevant to the role 	E	AF/I
Knowledge and Skills		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Detailed knowledge of the standards, equipment and/or specialist software relevant to the role, plus an understanding of council policies related to the role 	E	AF/I
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Analytical skills and problem solving capability 	E	AF/I
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ability to informally train and mentor less experienced staff 	E	AF/I
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ability to influence others based on technical or professional expertise 	E	AF/I
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ability to work in a team and to build and maintain effective working relationships and networks. 	E	AF/I
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Experience of undertaking foundation design and assessing slope stability. 	E	AF/I
Other (including special requirements)		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Commitment to equality and diversity 	E	AF/I
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Commitment to health and safety 	E	AF/I
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Display the LCC values and behaviours at all times and actively promote them in others 	E	AF/I
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This is an essential car user post. 		

<p><i>You will be required to provide a car for use in connection with the duties of this post and must be insured for business use. In certain circumstances consideration may be given to applicants who, as a consequence of a disability, are unable to drive.</i></p>		
--	--	--

LANCASHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

PRE-EMPLOYMENT RISK IDENTIFICATION FORM (R.I.F.)

(NB Completion of this form does not fulfill the requirement to undertake a general risk assessment under the management Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999)

A Pre-employment Risk Identification Form must be completed by the Head of Service/ Headteacher/Line Manager. If any assistance is required in completing this form, please contact the Health and Safety Team.

CONFIDENTIAL

Team/Establishment	Geotechnical Team, Design and Construction
Post title	Geotechnical Engineer (Grade 8)
Description of main activities the employee will be required to undertake (or attach generic profile) See advert and generic profile	
Form completed by: (print name) D Brown	

A. The post to which this form refers will or may involve one or more of the following activities. (Please indicate YES or NO)

Managers should note that if any of the following 10 activities are involved, there is an automatic requirement for a pre-employment assessment by Occupational Health and, possibly, for subsequent Health Surveillance.

		YES	NO
1	Work at heights (<i>e.g. over 2m from tall step/extension ladders; scaffold towers, roofwork etc.</i>).	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2	Work in excessively noisy environments above statutory control limits (<i>Highly unlikely to include examples associated with any office environments. Examples might include use of woodworking machinery, road drilling, masonry cutting etc.</i>).	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3	Work in unusual environmental conditions (<i>e.g. where access or egress or free flow of air may be restricted or where there may be a build up of gases, vapours or fumes or the use of breathing apparatus is required</i>).	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
4	Use of hand operated tools and equipment known to be associated with hand arm vibration syndrome (<i>e.g. percussive metalworking tool; rotary handheld tool [not floor polishers]; grinders; percussive hammers and drills etc.</i>).	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
5	Driving a heavy goods vehicle, coach, bus or minibus belonging to Lancashire County Council, transporting others in their own vehicle, or regularly transporting more than three other people as part of normal duties.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
6	Some contact with hazardous substances (<i>e.g. chemicals with an orange warning label indicating: very toxic; toxic; harmful; corrosive; sensitising by inhalation/skin contact; carcinogenic; mutagenic; toxic for reproduction; professional bio/pesticides; organophosphates; gluteraldehyde; latex gloves</i>).	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
7	Prolonged or frequent exposure to machine generated wood dust, or other heavy or excessive concentrations of mineral dust.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
8	Work with lead or lead-based products (<i>e.g. some paints</i>).	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
9	Food handling/preparation (of raw or uncooked food only).	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
10	Occupational fieldwork or work in extreme conditions (<i>e.g. involving excessive heat or cold or frequent walking for long distances over rough terrain in all weather conditions, forestry/countryside work</i>).	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

B. The post to which this form refers will or may involve one or more of the following activities. (Please indicate YES or NO)

This section is for the information of applicants and does not facilitate a referral to Occupational Health.

		YES	NO
11	Face to face contact with the public/service users (<i>e.g. at sensitive front line posts re abuse, aggression, assault</i>).	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
12	Working in isolation/lone working.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
13	Work with electrical wiring (<i>e.g. colour blindness</i>).	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
14	Work where there may be an increased risk of needlestick injuries or blood borne infections HIV; Hepatitis B; Hepatitis C: (<i>e.g. site supervisors; site work, grounds or buildings maintenance, gardeners; some carers</i>).	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
15	Work that may bring the employee into contact with rats, rat contaminated ground or other animals or livestock (<i>e.g. risk of wells disease, other animal borne diseases, zoonoses</i>).	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
16	Manual handling (<i>other than routine office/administrative lifting and carrying e.g. assisting / moving service users with mobility problems, portering type activities</i>).	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
17	Working with vulnerable service users (<i>e.g. children with disabilities; the elderly; children/adults with learning difficulties; alcohol/drug abusers</i>).	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
18	Work involving repetitive movements or forced posture (<i>e.g. twisting, screwing, movements of the hands wrists, arms and/or shoulders awkward body and limb posture or excessive force, bending, kneeling</i>).	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
19	Work as a regular display screen user (<i>where more than 1/3 of a person's time is spent using DSE continuously over any 1 month period</i>).	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Any other occupational hazards/comments that you consider to be relevant to the post which are not included above:

The post will entail an amount of external work, which can often require walking long distances on uneven ground and can entail accessing slopes to undertake visual inspections. The work may also require the post holder to carry equipment and operate the equipment on site including some lifting (inclinometer and piezometer monitoring) and wrist movement (operating hand vane testing equipment). The post holder may also be required to drive the sections' in a 4 x 4 vehicle as part of their work on some sites.

Head of Service/Headteacher/Line Manager <i>(please print)</i>		D Brown	
Telephone Number:	01772 538558	Date:	03/12/18

V1.4
05/04/2016