



OPPORTUNITY

Sustainability Consultant Engineer

Reference: 0161-24

Grade: 8

Salary: £37,099 to £41,732 depending on experience

Contract Type: Fixed Term (12 months)

Basis: 0.5 FTE

Job description

Job Purpose:

Design Factory Birmingham at Aston University has been funded by the UKSPF to support the delivery of a project called "ShropAgri" for companies in Shropshire to get support from Aston University. "ShropAgri" is concerned with the promotion and advancement of design and technology projects in the Agricultural sector. The project will utilise the expertise of Aston University in Photonics, Electronics, Mechanical and Chemical Engineering, and design to assist the business community in Shropshire.

Aston University will run a project from January 2024 till March 2025. During the project, the team will offer individual companies bespoke packages to suit their needs. For example, this could include the provision of dedicated research and development on the chemistry of a given system, or to produce a higher quality food product, whereas another may need a 'full package' from design of a new product for the business.

Main duties and responsibilities

- ▶ To Contribute to the implementation of the "ShropAgri" strategy of helping businesses in the Agri sector specifically in the areas of:
 - ▶ Biomass analysis
 - ▶ Food science (food chemistry, food microbiology and food biotechnology)
 - ▶ Food waste valorisation
 - ▶ Waste management
 - ▶ Food based-polymers and bio based-polymers
 - ▶ Sustainable food production
 - ▶ Bio-based materials and products
 - ▶ Energy efficiency and carbon accounting

- ▶ Organise and deliver boot camps in the in the area of sustainability within the agriculture sector.
- ▶ Attend relevant external events and networking opportunities and make presentations at various business engagement opportunities.
- ▶ Conduct testing on materials where required to meet the needs of projects.
- ▶ Research and Write reports/papers for companies on the above subjects that relate to the companies' requirements.
- ▶ Work with other Schemes in Shropshire to get the best help for business.
- ▶ Ensure reports are written and delivered inline with the requirements of the UKSPF Project.
- ▶ Help organise preview events across the Shropshire area in line with procurement requirements and attract suitable potential applicants to attend the events and learn about the Programme.
- ▶ Represent the Programme at external events and conferences being held by referral partners, and at relevant internal events at Aston University.
- ▶ Answer enquiries about the Programme and application procedure for the programme.
- ▶ Support beneficiaries in their communications regarding the programme and ensure that communications conform to branding requirements.

- ▶ Collaborating with other School and University Departments to gain support, guidance, and coordination with other University activities.
- ▶ Collaborate with other team members to provide support for the delivery of the programme, and in particular as part of workshops and other events activities.

General

- ▶ Work collaboratively with colleagues in Design Factory Birmingham and the wider Aston University community towards achieving the Aston 2030 strategy.
- ▶ Take on any other duties and responsibilities commensurate with the level of the post as requested by a manager.
- ▶ Work within and ensure compliance with relevant Data Protection, Health and Safety, Equal Opportunities, and other relevant employment related legislation.
- ▶ Establish and maintain internal relationships with research and teaching faculty, and business support projects within Aston, and support them by creating a pipeline of business contacts who will benefit from engaging with their activities.
- ▶ Contribute to the development of funding applications, award nominations and accreditations when required.
- ▶ Identify opportunities for external collaborations which will increase and enhance business engagement and facilitate introductions internally.

Additional responsibilities

- ▶ Engage in continuous personal and professional development in line with the demands of the role, including undertaking relevant training and development activities to develop themselves and support the development of others.
- ▶ Ensure and promote the personal health, safety and wellbeing of staff and students.
- ▶ Carry out duties in a way which promotes fairness in all matters, and which engenders trust.
- ▶ Promote equality of opportunity and support diversity and inclusion as well as working to support the University's environmental sustainability agenda and practices

Person specification

	Essential	Method of assessment
Education and qualifications	Educated to degree level or equivalent.	Application form
Experience	<p>Experience in the delivery of research in the areas of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Biomass analysis ▶ Food science ▶ Food waste valorisation ▶ Waste management ▶ Food based polymers ▶ Sustainable food production ▶ Bio-based materials and products ▶ Energy efficiency & carbon accounting <p>Experience of organising and managing public facing events and/or workshops.</p> <p>Experience of delivering excellent customer service to diverse stakeholders, including supporting customers remotely and face to face.</p> <p>Experience of communicating with different audiences ranging from business to academia, verbally and in writing, and through multichannel marketing.</p> <p>Experience of contributing to grant and/or business reports.</p>	Application form and interview
Aptitude and skills	<p>Effective and confident verbal and written communication skills.</p> <p>Customer-focused with excellent approach to continuous improvement and client account management.</p>	Application form and interview

	Essential	Method of assessment
	<p>High level of attention to detail.</p> <p>Excellent organisational skills coupled with the ability to work collaboratively and independently.</p> <p>Capable of problem solving, with ability to stimulate and develop new project ideas and solutions with multidisciplinary teams.</p> <p>Ability to work under pressure to meet deadlines and achieve targets. A fast learner with the ability to adapt and manage unpredictability and conflicting priorities.</p> <p>Excellent IT skills: including MS Office suite, exposure to CRM packages, online content management.</p> <p>Excellent presentation skills including an ability to design or oversee the design of event and/or learning materials for businesses.</p> <p>Operate with resilience, flexibility, and integrity.</p> <p>Be able to adapt behaviour in response to service requirements and feedback.</p> <p>Be a team player who shares and listens to information, opinions, and ideas, using a range of effective approaches.</p> <p>Willingness to self-motivate and desire to take increasing responsibility for tasks.</p>	
	<p>Ability to operate effectively in complex technical and market environments.</p> <p>Experience of working with a wide range of organisations including SMEs.</p>	

	Essential	Method of assessment
	Willingness and availability to attend evening and breakfast events and workshops.	

	Desirable	Method of assessment
Experience	<p>Experience in working with companies in the business-to-business sector.</p> <p>Understanding of national, European, or international research and/or business growth programmes suitable for regional businesses.</p> <p>Understanding of the current support that is available for businesses within the Shropshire area.</p>	Application form and interview

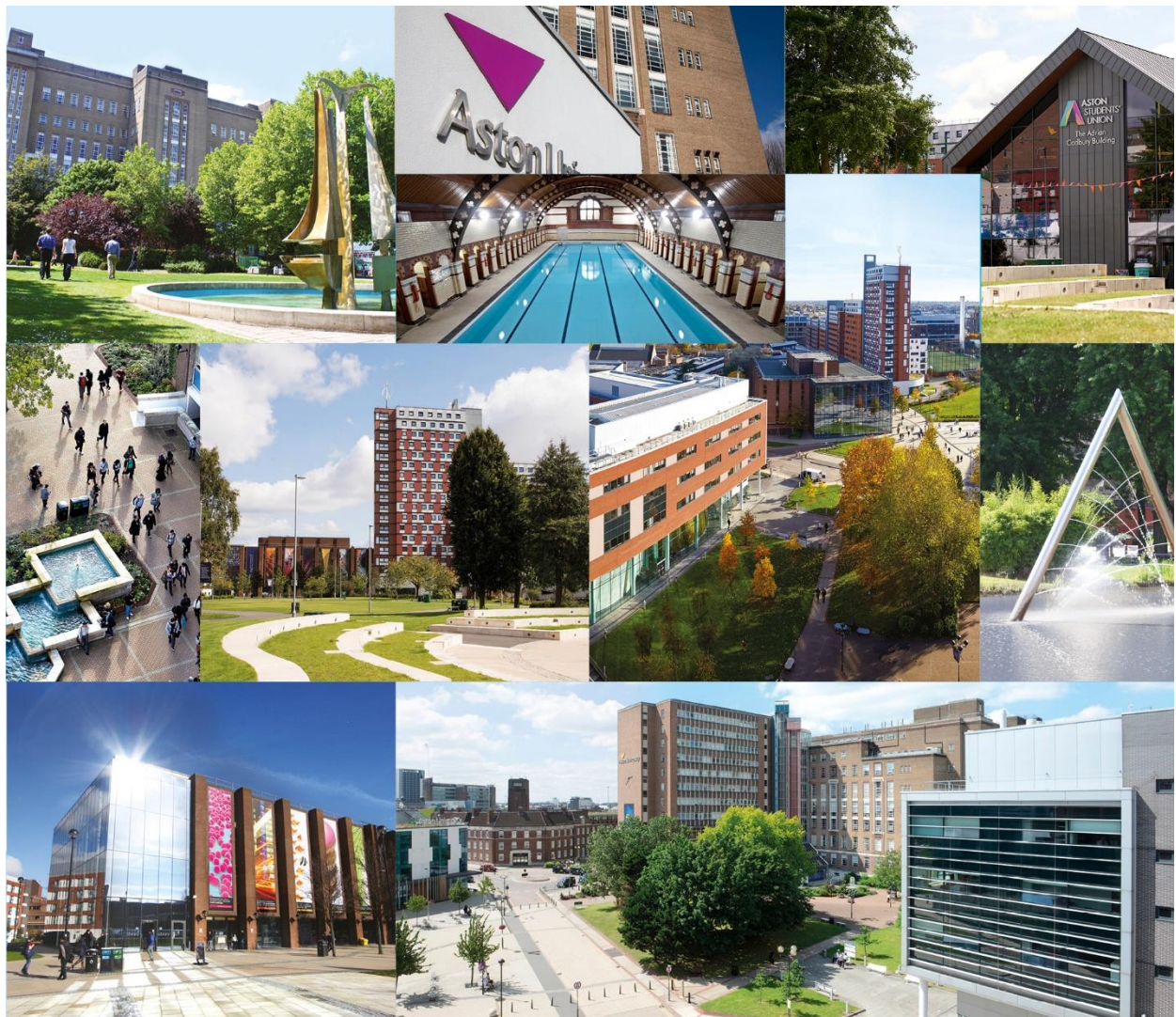
How to apply

You can apply for this role online via our website <https://www2.aston.ac.uk/staff-public/hr/jobs>.

Applications should be submitted by 23:59 on the advertised closing date.
All applicants must complete an application form, along with your CV.

Any CV sent direct to the Recruitment Team and Recruiting Manager will not be accepted.

If you require a manual application form, then please contact the Recruitment Team via recruitment@aston.ac.uk



Contact information

Enquiries about the vacancy:

Name: Paul Gretton

Job Title: Senior Projects Manager

Email: p.gretton@aston.ac.uk

Enquiries about the application process, shortlisting, or interviews:

Recruitment Team via Recruitment Team via recruitment@aston.ac.uk

Additional information

Visit our website <https://www2.aston.ac.uk/staff-public/hr> for full details of our salary scales and benefits Aston University staff enjoy

Salary scales: <https://www2.aston.ac.uk/staff-public/hr/payroll-and-pensions/salary-scales/index>

Benefits: <https://www2.aston.ac.uk/staff-public/hr/Benefits-and-Rewards/index>

Working in Birmingham: <https://www2.aston.ac.uk/birmingham>

Employment of Ex-Offenders: Under the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974, a person with a criminal record is not required to disclose any spent convictions unless the positions they are applying for is listed an exception under the act.

Eligibility to work in the UK:

Post-Brexit transition period / EU Settlement Scheme

The post-Brexit transition period ended on 31 December 2020. If you are an EU/EEA citizen and you were a resident in the UK before 31 December 2020, you, and your family members (including non-EU citizens need to apply to the EU Settlement Scheme to continue to live, work and study in the UK beyond 30 June 2021. The deadline for applying to the EU settlement scheme is 30 June 2021. You can apply via the Government webpage <https://www.gov.uk/settled-status-eu-citizens-families>
Irish Nationals do not need to apply for settlement as they retain the right to work in the UK.

New immigration system for EU/EEA and Swiss Nationals who were not resident in the UK before 31 December 2020

A new immigration system has been introduced for people arriving in the UK from EEA countries with effect from 1 January 2021. In addition to those who have always required a visa, EU citizens moving to the UK to work will need to get a visa in advance. You can find more information on the following website. Candidates should check their eligibility to enter or remain in the UK in advance of making any job application via the UKVI website <https://www.gov.uk/browse/visas-immigration/work-visas>. Before applying you should ensure that you meet the requirements, including meeting the English Language requirements. If you do not meet the eligibility criteria, any application for a work visa would be unsuccessful.

If you require a visa to work in the UK, the most common types of visas are:

Skilled Worker Visa

<https://www.gov.uk/skilled-worker-visa>

Global Talent Visa

If you are a leader or potential leader in one of the following fields, you may be eligible to apply for a Global Talent Visa:

- Academia or Research
- Arts and Culture
- Digital Technology

Please click the following link for further information and to check your eligibility for this visa.

<https://www.gov.uk/global-talent>

Equal Opportunities: Aston University promotes equality and diversity in all aspects of its work. We aim to ensure, through our admissions policies for students, and our staff recruitment and selection processes that we encourage applications from all groups represented in the wider community at a local, national, and international level.

The University will endeavour not to discriminate unfairly or illegally, directly, or indirectly, against student or potential students, staff, or potential staff. This commitment applies to all functions of the University and to any stage of an individual's career.

An Equal Opportunities Monitoring Form is included within the application form. Data you provide on the Equal Opportunities Monitoring Form will be included in a general database, for statistical monitoring purposes, enabling the University to monitor the effectiveness of its Policy, Codes of Practice and Guidelines on Equal Opportunities in Employment. Individuals will not be identified by name.

Data Protection: Your personal data will be processed in compliance with the Data Protection Act 2018 and the General Data Protection Regulation ((EU) 2016/679) ("GDPR"). The University's Data Protection Policy and Privacy Notices, including the Job Applicant Privacy Notice can be found at <https://www2.aston.ac.uk/data-protection>. Your application will only be used to inform the selection process, unless you are successful, in which case it will form the basis of your personal record with the University which will be stored in manual and/or electronic files. Information in statistical form on present and former employees is given to appropriate outside bodies.

Full details of our terms and conditions of service and associated policies and procedures are available online at <https://www2.aston.ac.uk/staff-public/hr/policies>

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