



Economic Development Consultancy Opportunity – Manchester

Are you looking to take the next step in your economic development consultancy career?

Would you like to support clients to realise their economic inclusion and growth ambitions?

Do you want a role with variety in a business that gives you the opportunity to grow?

If so, ekosgen have the role for you!

The company

ekosgen is one of the UK's leading independent economic consultancy firms providing advice to public and private sector clients. We provide economic and social insight to help our clients make better decisions and have a positive impact on people, places and the economy.

Our work includes:

- Preparation of business cases and funding applications
- Economic appraisal and impact assessment
- Project and programme evaluation
- Socio-economic baselining
- Strategy development

We have a team of consultants serving clients across the UK from our English and Scottish offices.

The opportunity

We currently have a **Senior Consultant** vacancy in our Manchester office and are looking for an experienced, enthusiastic and capable individual to join our team. Our team has an established track record of working in Manchester – as well as further afield – serving clients in the public, private and university sector across a range of project types. Over the past year, the team has secured a series of important and high profile commissions, including:

- The evaluation of Greater Manchester's Self Employment Support Pilot, being overseen by the Greater Manchester Combined Authority and funded by Government.
- The preparation of business cases for two Future High Streets Fund bids in Greater Manchester.
- An impact evaluation of the University of Central Lancashire's portfolio of ERDF and ESF funded projects.
- The provision of ongoing support to the Northern Gateway Joint Venture, following our work on the successful Housing Infrastructure Fund business case.
- Economic and social impact assessments / Environmental Statements in support of a series of prominent planning applications being prepared in the City.
- The preparation of a Labour Market Intelligence Toolkit for Lancashire with an associated monitoring and evaluation framework to allow progress to be assessed over time.

We continue to have a strong pipeline of work and bid opportunities and are now keen to identify a candidate who can support us to continue to grow.

What are we looking for?

The successful candidate will have:

- **Five or more** years' experience of working in the economic development consultancy sector;
- A good Honours degree (2:1 or higher) and ideally a postgraduate degree in economics, social geography or similar;
- A specialism in one or more of the economic development sectors ekosgen works in, including employment, skills, innovation, business growth, land and premises, culture and leisure;
- Experience of winning work in a competitive environment (i.e. responding to advertised tenders);
- Strong written and verbal communication skills and a commitment to providing high quality services to clients; and
- An appetite for, and ideally experience of, supporting more junior team members to progress.

We need someone who is flexible, a team player, self-motivated, great at multi-tasking and who exhibits professionalism, even when under pressure. Strengths in statistical work, including analysing and presenting quantitative data are a must as are good organisational skills, and excellent writing and IT skills. The successful candidate will also have a strong interest in the economic development sector and an appreciation of the policy and economic context that impacts on the company's workload.

As a Senior Consultant, the role will involve:

- Supporting the team's work winning activities, including the preparation of competitive proposals;
- Project managing commissions, working closely with clients and helping to manage and guide the workload of colleagues;
- Completing a range of project related tasks, including consultations, data collection and analysis, that involve the application of both quantitative and qualitative analysis skills; and
- Taking the lead role in the preparation of a wide range of written outputs, including reports, funding applications and presentations.

The role will offer opportunities for you to continue to build your consultancy skills, experience a wide range of assignments and provide opportunities for you to progress.

If this sounds like a good fit with your experience and interests, we would love to hear from you!

What do we offer in return?

We offer a competitive salary and an excellent benefits package including:

- 35 days holiday (including bank holidays)
- Performance Related Bonus
- Employer contribution pension scheme
- Employee wellbeing initiatives, such as a cycle to work scheme and travel pass funding
- A positive and supportive work culture where people are assisted to realise their full potential (including a personal performance and career management system and training)
- A Staff Wellbeing Package which includes allowances for dental and optical care, a GP helpline and subsidised gym membership

We are an Equal Opportunities employer. We do not discriminate on the grounds of gender, race, disability, religion, age or sexuality.

How do I apply?

To apply, please send your CV, a covering letter explaining why you would like to work for ekosgen and details of your salary expectations for the role, as well as details of your current salary to lee.williamson@ekosgen.co.uk