



THE NATIONAL  
FOREST

## Welcome

Dear Candidate,

We are delighted that you are interested in applying for a role with the National Forest Company (NFC).

The National Forest is about so much more than trees. It is pioneering new ways of working to reconnect people and businesses with nature and create a place to grow together. For more than 20 years the NFC has driven forward the vision for the National Forest, taking it from a leap of faith to the success story we see today: a restored forest landscape; an emerging visitor destination; and the active support of local communities. But there is so much more to do.

With highly experienced and dedicated Trustees, a small but exceptionally committed staff team and immensely supportive partners, the NFC is well placed to meet the challenges ahead. We are now looking for new team members to join us and help shape our future.

Whatever background you come from, you will play an active role in helping to deliver our ambitious new projects, such as the Charnwood Forest Landscape Partnership Scheme, driving innovation, and increasing our profile and impact. Above all, you will share our passion for the National Forest, building a sustainable future for the environment, economy, and people across this area of central England.

If you feel excited by the prospect of helping to lead us into our new era as a charity, we would love to hear from you.

Best wishes,

**John Everitt Chief Executive**

# The National Forest

The National Forest is one of the country's most ambitious and highly regarded environmental projects with sustainable development at its heart, transforming 200 square miles across parts of Derbyshire, Leicestershire, and Staffordshire.

Established in the early nineties, it represents the first new broadleaved forest to be created in England for 1,000 years. As a growing environmental, economic, and social asset, the National Forest is helping to enhance the landscape, regenerate local businesses and improve quality of life for communities.

The initiative aims to link the two ancient Forests of Needwood in the west and Charnwood in the east, restoring a landscape ravaged by coalmining and heavy industry. It provides a demonstration of the value of the natural environment with opportunities for people of all ages and backgrounds to engage with woodlands near to where they live and work.

The National Forest is a dynamic and vibrant area, with rolling farmland and newly planted woodlands alongside established businesses and start up enterprises. It is also home to some 220,000 people in the four towns of Burton upon Trent (famous for its brewing), Coalville and Swadlincote (formerly associated with the coal and clay mining industries) and the historic market town of Ashby-de-la-Zouch.

## About the National Forest Company

Since 1995, the National Forest Company (NFC) has driven forward the vision for the National Forest. The NFC operates as a small, highly successful organisation that has recently secured charitable status, whilst also being an Arm's Length Body of the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA).

With around 35 staff, a Chair and a nine-strong Board of Trustees, together with a wide range of delivery partners, the NFC is well placed to steer the National Forest into the future. Our approach is based on collaboration to support and enable partners to deliver the Forest, including landowners, businesses, public, private, and voluntary organisations, as well as local communities. The Company has an annual turnover of around £3.5 million, a dynamic, multifunctional team and a culture of partnership.

The NFC:

- Leads and champions a shared vision for the Forest with all partners
- Enables others through advice, facilitation, demonstration and sharing of practice
- Invests directly through grant giving, income generation and leveraging other support
- Demonstrates new ways of working through policy, evidence, research, and innovation
- Promotes success through marketing, advocacy, and communications

To find out more about the NFC's work, please visit: [nationalforest.org/about](https://nationalforest.org/about)

# The story so far...

## Before

A lot has been achieved since 1991. Nine million trees have already been planted, with forest cover across the area increasing from around 6 per cent to more than 21 per cent. Thousands of hectares of land have been converted to woods and other habitats, using a range of grants for farm diversification and urban greening, restoration of former coalfield and mineral sites, and community planting schemes. The result is a dramatic transformation where trees frame the landscape, wildlife is returning, and a woodland culture is emerging.

Social and economic regeneration of the area has been as rapid as the landscape change, with formerly blighted towns and villages becoming increasingly attractive to residents with accessible natural greenspace on their doorstep.

Major visitor centres, such as Conkers and the National Memorial Arboretum have matured, and new attractions including the Hicks Lodge Cycle Centre and the National Forest Way are providing facilities for residents as well as contributing to a vibrant visitor economy now worth over £471 million per year.

## After

- More than 7,500 hectares of new forest creation have been secured since 1991
- 81% of woodlands in the Forest are now in active management
- Around 80% of the total forest creation achieved has open access for people
- Over half the primary schools in the Forest run regular outdoor learning sessions
- More than 100km of new cycleways have been created
- 9.1 million visitors now enjoy the Forest each year
- A programme of events including Plant a Tree days, the National Forest Trek and the Timber Festival are now in place.

# The next 25 Years

The Government's 25-Year Environment Plan sets out the ambition to protect and enhance natural capital and describes the vital role this plays in increasing economic prosperity and improving quality of life. The NFC is at the forefront of this approach with a new 25 Year Vision that positions the National Forest as an exemplar for sustainable living, to mitigate and adapt to the urgency of climate change.

Over the next 25 years this will mean some radical changes, requiring bigger and longer-term thinking. The 25 Year Vision will drive real change in a real place, making the environment more resilient, improving the wellbeing of communities, and making the economy more sustainable.

In the context of the coronavirus pandemic this is more important than ever, promoting a green recovery where the benefits will be felt by all.

The NFC will continue to pioneer and innovate to support existing stakeholders through the changes ahead and reach out to new partners to achieve the vision for the Forest. In the coming decades, the UK faces unprecedented environmental, economic, and social pressures such as housing growth, shifts in farming practice and increased costs of healthcare. The National Forest can offer positive solutions to such challenges, bringing benefits to businesses, communities, and visitors through the transformational power of trees.

For further details please see [nationalforest.org/greenprint](https://nationalforest.org/greenprint)

## Context for appointments

The National Forest Company (NFC) is now seeking to expand its team. We are lead partner of the Charnwood Forest Landscape Partnership Scheme, a £3.9 million landscape-scale programme, funded by the National Lottery Heritage Fund and the Charnwood Forest Regional Park Partnership. The Scheme is delivering 18 interconnected projects which are enabling people to explore, understand and care for Charnwood Forest's landscape, cultural and natural heritage, and internationally important geology. The accompanying prospectus explains much more about the Scheme, its projects, and the partnership.

The partnership will be supported to deliver the Scheme by a small delivery team based at the National Forest Company. The following role is currently being recruited to:

### **Community Engagement Officer – Ref. CE 2022**

This is a part-time, fixed-term post of 18.5 hours per week from 17<sup>th</sup> October 2022 to 30<sup>th</sup> June 2025. The successful candidate will be appointed within the HEO salary range of £29,179 - £32,160. Pro rata this equates to £14,590 to £16,080 per annum.

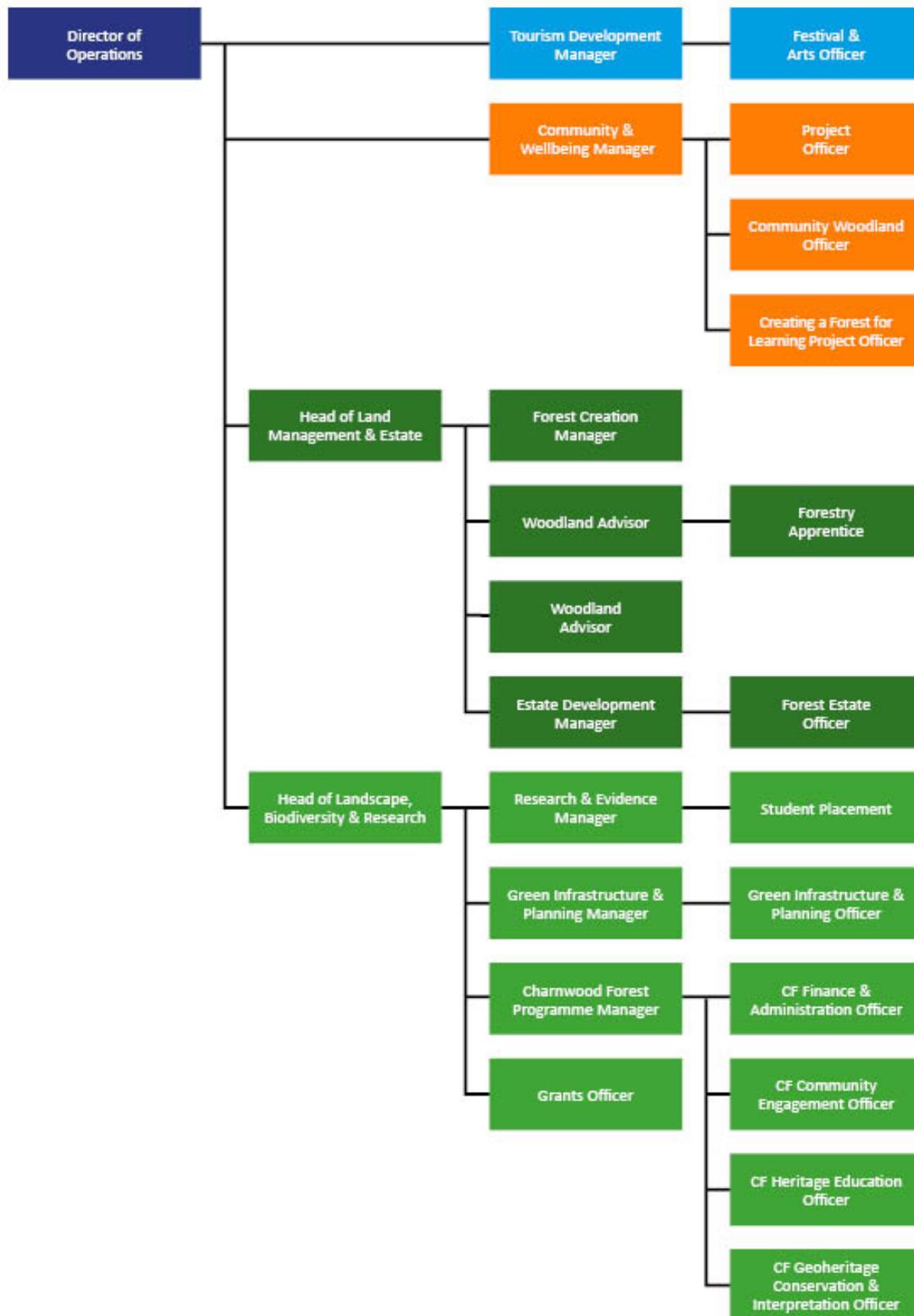
We are now seeking a committed and enthusiastic Community Engagement Officer. You will be responsible for leading the Landscape Partnership Scheme's community engagement and outreach projects, enabling our key target audiences and the wider public to explore and connect with the landscape and heritage of Charnwood Forest. You will also lead the coordination of the volunteering programme, helping Partner organisations to integrate their volunteering offer and supporting them to create a step-change in the range and number of people taking part and giving time.

The role requires a collaborative approach and an ability to relate to and communicate effectively with a wide range of people. It will require innovation to imagine new ways of involving volunteers in a range of different settings and organisations and the ability to persuade people to implement new approaches. You will need to be able to communicate the many wonders of Charnwood Forest and fire the imagination of the local community so that they also become passionate advocates of Charnwood Forest.

If you would like to discuss this opportunity, please contact Dr Julie Attard, Charnwood Forest Programme Manager. E-mail: [jattard@nationalforest.org](mailto:jattard@nationalforest.org) Phone: 07976 865450.

**The National Forest Company relies on the experience and commitment of people of all ages and backgrounds. It operates as an inclusive organisation and welcomes applications from all.**

# Operations Team structure



# Benefits

## Pension

An important part of the pay and reward package NFC offers employees is the option to join the Civil Service Pension Schemes arrangements. These arrangements offer a choice of two types of pensions:

- **Alpha:** This is a career average pension scheme (defined benefit) that has a member contribution rate ranging from 4.6% to 7.35% dependent on your salary. The current employer contribution rate is c27% of salary.
- **Partnership pension account:** This is a stakeholder pension with a contribution from the NFC of up to 14.5% based on your age.

## Generous Annual Leave and Bank Holiday Allowance

We offer 30 days' annual leave and 10.5 days public and privilege holidays, pro rata for part time staff.

## Place of Work

The principal place of work will be at the National Forest Company's office in the heart of the National Forest at Enterprise Glade, Bath Yard, Moira DE12 6BA. We currently operate flexible working arrangements and staff are able to work from home for part of the week.

## Learning and Development

Everyone at the NFC is supported to develop their skills and capabilities. All new employees joining will have a full induction to the NFC's work and our policies. We also encourage our employees to take up volunteering opportunities as a great way to share skills, while developing new insights and stronger links with our communities.

## Staff Wellbeing

We have various measures in place to assist with the wellbeing of our staff including:

- **Flexible working** – to allow for variations in your hours, or working from home, where this is compatible with business needs.
- **Cycle to Work Scheme** – typical savings on a bike can be up to 42%
- **Gym discounts**
- **Employee Assistance Programme** – a free and confidential 24/7 telephone advice service available to staff.

## Time off in lieu

Due to the nature of the work some unsocial hours may be required in the evenings and weekends to ensure the effective implementation of this post. Time off in lieu is applicable for this role.

## **Travel**

The role requires the post-holder to travel around the National Forest and Charnwood Forest Geopark to attend meetings, events and project activities. The NFC will reimburse public transport expenses, or, if using your own car, will pay mileage (currently 45p per mile).

# How to apply

If you are interested in being considered for any of the above roles, please download, and complete the application form which is available on our website:

[nationalforest.org/about/who-we-are/jobs](https://nationalforest.org/about/who-we-are/jobs)

Please ensure you have completed and submitted the equal opportunities monitoring form. The information on this form will be treated as confidential and used for statistical purposes only. The form will not be treated as part of your application.

**The closing date for applications is noon on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2022.**

Applications should be sent to:

Angela Beech  
National Forest Company  
Enterprise Glade  
Bath Yard  
Moir  
Swadlincote  
Derbyshire  
DE12 6BA

Envelopes should be marked '**CONFIDENTIAL CE 09/22**'.

Alternatively, you may email your application to: [abeech@nationalforest.org](mailto:abeech@nationalforest.org)

Please use the subject header '**CONFIDENTIAL CE 09/22**'.

Shortlisted candidates will be invited to an interview during the week commencing 10<sup>th</sup> October 2022.

Our applicant privacy notice is available on our website: [nationalforest.org/job-applicant-privacy-notice](https://nationalforest.org/job-applicant-privacy-notice)

## **Equal opportunities**

The National Forest Company is an equal opportunities employer and positively encourages applications from suitably qualified and eligible candidates regardless of sex, race, disability, age, sexual orientation, gender reassignment, religion or belief, marital status, or pregnancy and maternity.