



Information pack for **New Forest Apprentice Ranger** 18 months from January/February 2024

7 November 2023

Dear Applicant,

Thank you for your interest in being a New Forest Apprentice Ranger. We hope you find all the information you need within this pack. If you have any queries, please email recruit@newforestnpa.gov.uk.

Yours sincerely
Recruitment team

Contents

- Section 1 – The organisations and the role
- Section 2 – Summary main terms and conditions
- Section 3 – Find out more
- Section 4 – Guidance notes for completing the application form
- Section 5 – The application process

Attachments

- Role profile
- Application form
- Equal opportunities in employment form

SECTION 1 – The organisations and the role

The New Forest apprentice ranger scheme is a partnership between the following organisations:

- New Forest National Park Authority – www.newforestnpa.gov.uk
- Forestry England – www.forestryengland.uk
- Countryside Education Trust - [The Countryside Education Trust \(cet.org.uk\)](http://TheCountrysideEducationTrust(cet.org.uk))
- Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust – www.hiwwt.org.uk
- Hampshire County Council – www.hants.gov.uk
- RSPB – www.rspb.org.uk

The successful apprentices will be employed by the New Forest National Park Authority (NPA) for the 18-month period but will work across all six organisations within and just outside the National Park. This will involve moving from one organisation to the next in blocks of up to three months giving opportunities to gain practical experience in all aspects of environmental conservation and recreation management.

Set times (term time only) will be spent at Sparsholt College in Hampshire undertaking a Level 2 Countryside Worker Apprenticeship course on a block release basis. More information can be found at [Sparsholt College](http://SparsholtCollege) Additional accredited certified training will be provided in NPTC Chainsaw Operations, NPTC Brushcutters and strimmers and First Aid.

For general information about apprenticeships, please visit 'Become an apprentice' www.gov.uk/apprenticeships-guide

Minimum requirements

There is no minimum or maximum age limit for applicants, but you must have a clean and valid driving licence as you will be required to drive the dedicated Apprentice Ranger vehicle. A basic level of English and Maths is required. Functional skills in English and Maths can be taught additionally at Sparsholt College as necessary. **Please note – the apprenticeship is not available for those who have already gained a Level 2 Diploma or higher qualification in a related subject.** Some experience of paid or voluntary work and a commitment to a career in Countryside Management is essential.

SECTION 2 – Summary main terms and conditions

Location

This post will work within and just outside the boundary of the New Forest. Each organisation has its own “base(s)” as follows:

Organisation	Main base
New Forest National Park Authority	Town Hall, Lymington
Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust	Blashford Lakes
Forestry England	Queens House, Lyndhurst
Countryside Education Trust	Home Farm, Beaulieu
Hampshire County Council	Lepe Country Park
Hampshire Countryside Service New Forest Sites Team	Lymington & Keyhaven Nature Reserve
RSPB	Franchises Lodge

Annual leave

The basic holiday entitlement for this post is 22 days per annum plus all public holidays and an extra statutory day awarded at Christmas.

Travel and business costs

Expenses are met for business travel. Employees must arrange suitable motor insurance cover to include business travel before undertaking any car travel on the NPA’s behalf.

SECTION 3 – Find out more

If you are interested in applying but would like to find out more about what it means to be a New Forest Apprentice Ranger, please contact Claire Pearce, New Forest National Park Authority Youth Development Office for an informal telephone chat on 01590 646606 or email claire.pearce@newforestnpa.gov.uk

You will be able to receive advice about the application procedure, how to make the most of your application, and how the apprenticeship will work. You can also ask any questions you might have to help you make an informed choice as to whether to pursue this opportunity and what you can expect if you are successful.

SECTION 4 – Guidance notes for completing the application form

The information you provide on your application form is the information we will use when deciding whether to invite you for interview. CVs are not accepted.

This section acts as a guide to help you complete your application form. There are several different sections to the form:

- **Education and qualifications**

List all your formal educational qualifications and any relevant informal or job-related training. Please remember to include details of any professional institutions which you belong to and any other further training and achievements you feel necessary.

- **Present and previous employment**

Start with your current or most recent employer, then list all your past employers in chronological date order, giving the job title, your main duties and how long you were there. This is where you should include any volunteering you have undertaken.

- **Additional information**

This section is your opportunity to demonstrate to us you are the most suited applicant. The role profile we have provided describes the main duties and responsibilities of the post whilst the person specification outlines the criteria needed to carry out these duties. Do not repeat your career history but try to use different examples of how you meet the criteria and put down **relevant** skills and experience, not everything you have done to date.

Write in a clear, concise and positive way, using words such as "I planned... or I organised..., I assisted with... or I co-ordinated" and support your statements with clear and relevant examples.

SECTION 5 – The application process

Returning the application form

The closing date for completed application forms to be submitted is **3pm on 27 November 2023**. Make sure you submit your application on or before this deadline as applications received after the given date will not be considered. Please return completed applications to recruit@newforestnpa.gov.uk

You are not required to sign your application at this stage. Your application must be submitted in a compatible format such as Word or a PDF.

Remember to ensure that the post title is stated in the space provided at the top of the application form so that we can identify the post for which you are applying.

Interview details

Interviews will take place in the New Forest on **Tuesday 12 December 2023**.

A contribution towards interview expenses is made in accordance with our policy.

Equal opportunities monitoring

The New Forest National Park Authority aims to promote equality of opportunity. All practicable steps will be taken to facilitate the employment of disabled people. Don't forget to complete the equal opportunities monitoring form and return it with your application. It enables us to make sure our policies are working and that the best person for the job is appointed.

We will guarantee an interview to people with disabilities who meet the minimum job criteria. If you want to claim a guaranteed interview you will need to ensure that you tick the correct box on the application form.

After you have applied

All applications will be acknowledged. Following this we will only be contacting those applicants who we have selected for interview. Therefore, if you have not received an invite to interview within **two weeks** of the closing date then your application will not have been successful on this occasion. For any application queries please email recruit@newforestnpa.gov.uk or call 01590 646649. We will respond to queries during normal office hours.