**Just Transition Officer- Grade V**

**1 Position available in each of Laois, Offaly, Westmeath and Longford Local Authorities.**

Fixed Term Contract up to 31st March 2026

Laois County Council, as lead local authority, (together with Longford, Offaly and Westmeath Local Authorities) for the Midlands Regional Enterprise Plan Pathway for Just Transition project is co-funded by the Government of Ireland and the European Union through the EU Just Transition Fund Programme 2021-2027 is recruiting a Just Transition Officer Grade V for the following Local Authorities – Laois, Offaly, Westmeath and Longford.

Based in the Local Authority of Laois, Longford, Offaly and Westmeath, the Just Transition Officer will play a key role as part of the Local Authority team, in supporting impacted communities of the cessation of peat harvesting and energy generation from peat, to mitigate the impact of transition through the provision of support, and empowering communities to create solutions to the challenges that they now face.

**Key responsibilities of the Just Transition Officers would include, but are not limited to:**

* Through consultation with impacted communities, identify priorities for intervention at community level.
* Build belief, confidence and ambition for impacted communities of the Midlands;
* Develop capacity in affected communities, empowering residents to play an active role as engaged agents of transition
* Identify champions and ambassadors within communities, businesses, local authorities and state agencies which can sustain the project(s) momentum over the longer term;
* Engage with multiple stakeholders to support a sense of ownership and responsibility among key community leaders and enterprise that can endure over the longer term.
* Provide a liaison between local authority, enterprise, communities and the EU JTF scheme and other positions supported under the REP EU JTF project;
* Provision of backstopping services to maximise the potential of each EU JTF funded project that has received funding at local and community level in the county in which they are based;[[1]](#footnote-1)
* Seek to identify and catalyse synergies amongst EU JTF supported projects;
* Provide regular updates on the delivery of county based projects to the Local Authority members, Strategic Policy Committees and the Local Community Development Company
* Promote funding opportunities and provide support to communities and enterprise with applications for opportunities presented by the green and digital transitions.
* Manage the co-ordination of quarterly meetings of the Midlands Regional Transition Team Steering Committee and the Thematic Working Groups.
* The MRTT is represented on the EU JTF Platform. The JT Officers will engage with the EU JTF platform to keep up to date with work programmes, and contribute to working groups as required.
* Liaise with Local Climate Action Team, EU JTF Tourism Activators and social enterprises in the county
* Investigate spin off project development opportunities which will serve to benefit impacted communities;
* Ensure compliance with all required local authority financial, management and governance reporting requirements;
* Preparing six monthly progress reports, including data on budgets and expenditure as required under the terms of the EU JTF Pobal scheme

**Essential Qualifications:**

* A degree in Community Development, Business or related discipline is essential.
* Full Driving Licence Class B Vehicles

**The ideal candidate will have the following attributes:**

* A minimum of five years experience in an equivalent role supporting communities and/or enterprise, with demonstrable experience in capacity building and empowerment.
* Excellent consultation and facilitation skills
* Ability to work independently with communities and enterprises
* Experience working cross functionally with other teams and stakeholders
* Strong organisation and interpersonal skills

**Location:** There are 4 positions available – one to be located in each of the following Local Authorities – Laois, Offaly, Westmeath and Longford.

**Payscale** - €49,706 - €59,456 LSI 2

A panel may be created from which future vacancies may be filled.

**LAOIS COUNTY COUNCIL IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES EMPLOYER**

**“The Local and Regional Economic Strategies Support Scheme, Midlands Regional Enterprise Plan Pathway for Just Transition project is co-funded by the Government of Ireland and the European Union through the EU Just Transition Fund Programme 2021-2027"**

1. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)