



Post Specification

Post Specification - Key Information

- **Post Title:** Coastal Erosion Risk Lead
- **Date:** June 2025
- **Post Group Number:** 8727
- **Job Family:** Regulation and Technical
- **Job Family Role Profile:** RT14
- **Final Grade:** 15

To be read in conjunction with the job family role profile.

Service Area Description

Coastal Erosion Risk Management, with in the Flood and Coastal Risk Management Service, as part of the Lead Local Flood authority and Coastal Protection Authorities. Providing operational and coordination requirements for a portfolio of projects within Westmorland and Furness's jurisdiction.

Purpose of this Post

- Lead the development, engagement and assist in the delivery of important coastal protection projects ensuring alignment with national and local policies.
- The postholder will provide expert advice, coordinate pre-capital activities, support funding applications, and oversee engagement and risk identification, enabling the Lead Officer to progress capital schemes effectively.
- Coordination and communication of other services in the delivery of the shoreline management plan within Westmorland and Furness's jurisdiction
- Coordinate between stakeholders and line management regarding high performing projects with significant political sensitivity
- Coordinate between stakeholders and line management regarding the inspection and keep records of Flood and Coastal Risk assets that are important to National and local policy
- Provide timely advice and information to Senior Manager, Senior Leadership, Members and the public.
- Ensure Westmorland and Furness Councils Flood and Coastal projects comply with regulations

Key Job Specific Accountabilities

- Lead the development and implementation of local coastal strategies and policies, ensuring alignment with the Council's Coastal Strategy, Shoreline Management Plan, and the National Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management Strategy.
- Provide advice on coastal erosion risk and environmental issues to inform council policies, strategic planning, and funding decisions.
- Identify and assess coastal risks (including climate impacts) and recommend appropriate adaptive and resilience measures for consideration in future planning and investment programmes.
- Support the preparation of capital business cases, including early-stage risk assessment, option appraisal, stakeholder input, and alignment with technical and policy guidance.

- Coordinate with the Lead Officer on the handover of well-prepared schemes into the capital programme, ensuring all pre-delivery documentation and approvals are in place.
- Lead stakeholder engagement and consultation processes, including public sessions, community resilience initiatives, and multi-agency collaboration, to promote understanding and shared responsibility for coastal risks.
- Represent the council in regional and national coastal forums, ensuring local priorities are reflected in broader policy discussions and funding opportunities.
- Coordinate inspections and maintain records for flood and coastal erosion risk management assets, recommending interventions where needed and supporting long-term maintenance planning.
- Ensure compliance with relevant legislation including the Coastal Protection Act 1949, engaging with regulatory bodies such as the Environment Agency, Marine Management Organisation, and Natural England to secure necessary consents.
- Develop and lead funding bids (e.g. Flood Defence Grant in Aid, regional resilience grants) to support strategic priorities, working in partnership with finance and delivery teams to ensure alignment with criteria and maximising value to the Council.
- Monitor and analyse coastal data (e.g. erosion trends, sea level impacts), using this evidence base to inform strategy reviews, engagement materials, and council reports.
- Report regularly to senior officers, members, and external partners on strategic progress, risk outlooks, and policy compliance.
- Contribute to continuous service improvement by identifying process enhancements, service gaps, and opportunities for innovation within coastal risk management.

Please note: Annual targets will be discussed during the appraisal process.

Key Facts and Figures of the Post

- **Budget Responsibilities:** Manage small operational budget
- **Staff Management Responsibilities:** Supervise and coordinating internal and external staff working under contract to the Council, post does have mentor responsibilities as well as assistance and guidance to other posts
- **Other:** The post-holder must be confident in leading the early stages of coastal risk management projects, including strategy development, risk assessment, funding preparation, and stakeholder engagement — or be committed to developing these capabilities as part of their role.

Essential Criteria

- **Qualifications:** Relevant degree or equivalent in related professional discipline,
- **Knowledge:**
 - In depth knowledge of Shoreline Management Plans, and National Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management Strategy
- **Experience:** Knowledge of coastal processes, erosion and flood risks. Strategic planning , risk assessments, stakeholder engagement, and funding bid development
- **Expertise:** Microsoft office, GIS software, drainage systems, flood risk management, environmental management. Current and valid driving licence

Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) Checks

- This post does not require a DBS check.
- **Job Working Circumstances**
- **Emotional Demands:** Regular engagement with communities affected by coastal erosion or flooding, occasionally stressful, or emotionally challenging situations. Assisting in managing

conflict with stakeholders, such as landowners, environmental groups and government organisations.

- **Physical Demands:** Conducting inspections along coastlines, which may involve walking long distances over uneven terrain. Carrying tools for surveying.
- **Working Conditions:** Split between office-based work and field work, with the latter requiring travel to coastal locations, often in remote or exposed areas. Exposure to outdoor elements, including adverse weather, tides, and potentially hazardous environments like eroding cliffs, and exposed unregistered landfills.
- **Other Factors:** Requirement to travel across the region, often with short notice, to respond to emerging coastal risks or conduct site visits. Need to stay up to date on changing policies and regulations, and best practices. Occasional attendance to public meetings, and engagement with Council Members, occasionally out of working hours.

Other Factors:

- Requirement to travel across the region, often with short notice, to respond to emerging coastal risks or conduct site visits.
- Need to stay updated on regulations, policies, and best practices, which may involve attending training or professional development sessions.
- Occasional attendance at public meetings or stakeholder events outside standard working hours.
- Collaboration with multidisciplinary teams, including engineers, environmental specialists, planners, and contractors, requiring adaptability and effective communication skills.