

Environmental Careers: Young People's Q&A

We hope this resource document will support you in finding out more about careers in the environment sector. [You can watch our careers event here.](#)

Another version of this document will be sent out in January once we have answered all the questions that were asked during and after the session. This document is to ensure you receive links and information to explore before next year.

For anyone who is interested in understanding more about supporting young people to work in the environment sector, [please read this report from Our Bright Future.](#)



What's out there right now or soon?!

We've listed some career opportunities below for those who are currently looking for roles.

The Wildlife Trusts

- [Administration Support Officer](#) - Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts:
- [Education and Engagement Volunteer Trainee Warden](#) - Kent Wildlife Trust (unpaid post but there is a training bursary and expenses).
- [Fundraising Assistant](#) - Kent Wildlife Trust
- [Centre and Catering Assistant](#) - Essex Wildlife Trust
- [Work placements](#) - Wiltshire Wildlife Trust (unpaid, aimed at graduates)
- [IT Infrastructure Technician Apprentice](#)-Level 3 – Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts

RSPB

- [Visitor Experience Assistant x2](#) – Loch Garten Nature Centre - with accommodation (not advertised yet) – [get in contact with Fergus](#)
- [Youth Ranger \(aged 14-18\)](#) – Saltholme, Stockton-on-Tees – voluntary position

The Wildlife Trusts (local hubs), RSPB and Groundwork will also have opportunities approaching for the Kickstart Scheme which will be advertised early 2021 – see the next page!

What is the Kickstart Scheme?

- The Kickstart scheme provides funding to employers to create **new 6-month job placements** for young people **aged 16 to 24** who are **currently on Universal Credit** and at risk of long-term unemployment.
- The funding will cover 100% of the relevant National Minimum Wage for 25 hours a week for each placement.
- Forming part of the government's Plan for Jobs, this £2bn programme is aimed at creating thousands of new jobs in England, Wales and Scotland (separate funding is being provided to NI). The first placements went live in November 2020 and the scheme will run until December 2021.
- More on the scheme here: <https://jobhelp.campaign.gov.uk/kickstart/>

There are a number of environmental organisations who applied to have placements, but most of these won't start being advertised until early 2021.

Race for Nature's Recovery is a new programme coordinated by **Action for Conservation, Generation Success, Students Organising for Sustainability** and **Voyage Youth** that aims to place young people from **backgrounds currently underrepresented in the environmental sector** into meaningful work placements.

Between January and December 2021, over 40 environmental organisations from across the UK will be offering a total of 127 six-month Living Wage work placements exclusively for young people who are ready to bring a new and exciting energy to the sector.

This is an incredible opportunity to gain meaningful employment in the environmental sector and shape a more inclusive movement at a pivotal point in time. If you successfully apply for a placement, you will join a training cohort of other young people in the programme and undertake formal training alongside your placement focussed on sector-specific skills and knowledge and general employability skills. You will also receive 1:1 mentoring aimed at progressing key personal and professional development aims throughout your placement.

Host organisations include **the RSPB, local Wildlife Trusts, Friends of the Earth, Students Organising for Sustainability, the Zoological Society of London, Black2Nature, Chester Zoo, British Trust for Ornithology, Client Earth, Marine Conservation Society, Trees for Cities, the Bat Conservation Trust** and many more.

In order to be eligible for a placement you must be:

- **16-24 years old**
- **Currently on universal credit**
- **From a background currently underrepresented in the sector**

For questions about accessing these placements and to learn if you are eligible please get in touch with James Adeleke at james@generation-success.com.

Job Sites – careers and volunteering

- [Countryside Jobs Service](#)
- [Environment Jobs](#)
- [Environmental Jobs](#)
- [Conservation Jobs](#)
- [For Purpose Jobs](#)
- [Change Agents UK](#)
- [Roots to Work](#)
- [Charity Jobs](#)
- [Elevator Café](#)
- [Civil Service/FCO](#)
- [W4MP](#)
- [Glassdoor](#)

Organisation Sites – careers and volunteering

- [The Wildlife Trusts](#)
- [The National Trust](#)
- [The RSPB](#)
- [The Woodland Trust](#)
- [The Wildfowl and Wetland Trust \(WWT\)](#)

Newsletters – depends on where you're based/what you're interested in – examples:

- [Our Bright Future](#)
- [2050 Climate Group Scotland](#) – Young Leaders Programme
- [PECT](#) – Peterborough Environment City Trust
- [Sustainability West Midlands](#)

Opportunities – Programmes engaging young people – skills development and experience

- [Our Bright Future](#) – over 30 different projects across the UK
- Groundwork Youth – [Groundwork Youth Advisory Board](#), [Future Proof Parks](#), [Green Leaders](#)
- [RSPB Youth Council](#)
- [Action for Conservation](#)
- [A Focus On Nature \(AFON\)](#) - (voluntary group youth-led) - [AFON Mentoring Scheme](#)
- [2050 Climate Group Scotland](#)
- [Ulster Wildlife](#)

Social Media Channels – to look out for more opportunities in the future...

- Our Bright Future - @OBrightFuture
- Groundwork Youth - @GroundworkYouth
- RSPB - @Natures_Voice
- National Youth Agency - @natyouthagency
- Action for Conservation - @Action4Conserv
- Students Organising for Sustainability - @sosukcharity
- Countryside Jobs Service - @CountrysideJobs
- Environmental Jobs - @EnvironmentJob_
- Environment Job - @environmentjob