



Context:

Role	Senior Gardener
Reporting to	Head of Parks and Gardens
Contract	Permanent
Salary	£22K - £24K per annum variable dependent on qualifications.

The Auckland Project is seeking a senior gardener to join our team.

The role purpose:

For the successful candidate to join an exciting and rewarding project delivering beautifully maintained gardens, currently under restoration and development in a unique historic setting that was once home to the prince bishops of Durham.

This role will require the successful applicant to not only manage our gardens, although this is an important part of the role; we'd like you to help manage the team too. As the Senior Gardener in our team, we would want you to lead by example, with exceptional gardening skills delivering high quality horticultural training to the workforce.

Key Responsibilities:

The post-holder is responsible for the following key deliverables and accountabilities:

- Working closely with the head of department to ensure the smooth and efficient management of the team.
- To always deliver and ensure all key performance indicators are met.
- To undertake the maintenance of all elements of the varied gardens and park that include extensive flower borders, topiary, hedges, fruit, vegetable, cutting flowers and lawns as directed by head of department.
- To work collaboratively to support volunteers, work placements and apprentices.
- To ensure that all grounds are kept to a high standard
- To work with colleagues, with an absolute focus on the Visitor.
- Engage with visitors using a variety of techniques which may include the use of demonstrations and historic stories linked with the project.
- To assist colleagues in maintaining attention to detail in all work carried out.
- Work flexibly to support the delivery of events.
- Adhere to quality systems, operating procedures, and risk assessments to facilitate the safe, smooth, and timely delivery of works throughout the gardens
- To carry out any other duties within the level of responsibility as may be determined from time to time

Health & Safety

Be committed to good health and safety and access practice, ensuring familiarity and compliance with TAP policies, procedures and guidelines and the health and safety of visitors, staff, volunteers and contractors at all times.

Person Specification:

Essential	Desirable
An understanding and commitment to the Auckland project and its core purpose/mission	PA1-PA6 would be desirable
Excellent horticultural skills and knowledge of plants	Experience of working with Apprentices
Able to communicate effectively with members of the public, staff, and volunteers	
Able to work with attention to detail and commitment to the highest standards and lead by example.	
Knowledge/Interest in gardens history and a history of the northeast of England	
Relevant training and/or experience in horticulture/grounds maintenance.	
Level 2 or higher / or equivalent experience in professional gardening.	
Proven experience of working with the public.	
Experience of managing a team.	
An enthusiastic 'can do' and hands on approach	
Flexible approach to hours and prepared to work occasional weekends, bank holidays or evenings as required.	
Ability to undertake a variety of manual handling duties appropriate to the post.	
Full UK driving licence	

The Auckland Project

The Auckland Project is working to create positive change for those living, working and visiting Bishop Auckland. To do so we are creating a visitor destination in Bishop Auckland, incorporating Auckland Castle (once home to the Prince Bishops of Durham), a Spanish Gallery, Faith Museum, Walled Garden, Deer Park, Mining Art Gallery, Auckland Tower visitor centre and Weardale Railway.

We opened the Mining Art Gallery, in October 2017 and Auckland Tower in October 2018. Bishop Trevor Gallery, a temporary exhibition space within Auckland Castle, opened in June 2019, with the Castle re-opening to the public on 2 November 2019 following a three-year conservation programme. The other attractions will follow in stages in the years ahead, although our sites (apart from the Deer Park) are currently closed due to coronavirus.

Our visitor destination and community development programme broadly fits into four areas:

1. To help **individuals** by creating a sense of aspiration as well as providing opportunities for skills development
2. To help the **community** to become resilient and economically sound by creating opportunities for partnerships, building a year-round tourist market and supporting small creative industries to thrive
3. To protect, sustain and enhance our **natural environment**
4. To restore and enhance the beauty and historic significance of the **built environment**.

By working with us, you are helping to ensure the town's future is as magnificent and vibrant as its past.

How to Apply

Apply for this role by emailing a covering letter of no more than one A4 side explaining why you are suitable for the role and how you meet the essential criteria, together with a copy of your CV to recruitment@aucklandproject.org

Closing date: 12th August 2021