

Person Specification

Authority:	WBC
Directorate:	Communities
Section:	Parks & Foreshore
Post Title:	Highdown Gardens Plant Heritage Officer
Post Number:	
Accountable to:	Highdown Gardens Head Gardener
Management responsibility for:	
Authority to liaise with:	Internal - Other Officers of the Councils - Volunteers External - National Lottery Heritage Fund (HF) - Project Partners - Horticultural professional bodies - National Collection holders - UK&I Heritage Gardens - Specialist nurseries and plant collectors

Area	Requirements			
Qualifications	Essential	Desirable		
Professional Registration (where applicable)	Botanical Garden Diploma or equivalent qualification			
Knowledge & Experience				
(e.g. Technical, Administrative, Managerial – use one or more categories as/where appropriate)	Understanding, identification, care, cultivation and propagation of a wide variety of plants.	Previous experience of working with members of the public and volunteer groups		
Skills				

Communication/ relationship	Regularly update and report progress to HF Project Manager	
	Ability to build effective internal and external relationships	
	Ability to inspire and coordinate the work of volunteers and able to communicate confidently and effectively with volunteers and professional horticulturalists	
	Excellent written and verbal communication	
	Deal professionally with enquiries from members of the public	
	Guided tours of the gardens.	
	Able to deal with media enquiries and information for articles in a professional manner	
	Experience in using social media in order to engage an audience.	
	Confident in giving talks and training sessions for staff, visitors and external groups about propagation work	
Analytical/ judgmental	Prioritisation of propagation programme taking into account risk factors	
	Research of plants included in National Plants Collection from inception to present day	
Planning/ organisational	Creating and driving work plan for volunteers and staff to aid in propagation programme.	
	Able to adopt a flexible approach in order to adapt to the changing priorities of the	

	plant collection and the propagation needs. Ability to work under own initiative Self-motivated, able to work independently, prioritising a varied workload and to work under pressure to meet deadlines	
IT	Use of P.C. including Google Software and web	Understanding of databases
Physical	Care in propagation of delicate and rare plants	
Abilities		
Physical	Able to work in an outdoor environment all year round	
Mental	Able to retain a wide range of plant names and knowledge Well motivated and independent	
Emotional	Able to adapt to differing demands and pressures	
Working conditions / Style	Outdoor working with Office duties	
Other:		