**KATE LONG**

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 Professional summary
An accomplished nature-positive project manager with over a decade of experience in multi-disciplinary project delivery including waste, carbon, construction, and ecology. I possess leadership skills and can confidently lead initiatives building business cases and strong communication strategies with governing oversight across both internal and client-facing interactions. I hold academic qualifications in ecology and experience in analytical research, planning, GIS mapping, survey and stakeholder engagement, delivering significant results in sustainability initiatives, development management, and biodiversity enhancement. My solution-focused approach, analytical nature and proficiency in AI and GIS software can guide projects from inception to completion. I also bring 20 years of volunteering across local authorities and NGOs, enabling the development of environmental and conservation projects and currently serving as a Nature Network Ranger with Mendip Hills National Nature Reserve (AONB) supporting communities, businesses and residents to restore nature.

 Skills

* **Project Manager** - Strategic thinker with the broad expertise to apply to varied development projects achieving results with designers, contractors, agencies, and community settings.
* **Technical Expertise** - Technically minded with attention to detail and expertise in environmental management, ecological monitoring, GIS mapping and generating nature-based solutions through scoping.
* **Accurate, Analytical, and Methodical** - With analytical, with impact assessment skills, able to accurately review and evaluate a range of information identify key compliance issues and communicate data.
* **Networking Specialist** - With strong partnership-building skills I have worked across agencies, developers, consultants, and contractor teams working to develop and deliver innovative change.
* **Excellent communicator** - An efficient collaborator comfortable with networking and presenting to audiences using a range of techniques in public, private and community settings.
* **Adaptable and Resilient** -Skilled organiser and quick learner who can effectively utilize tools and technology, working independently, and using initiative to facilitate projects and develop stakeholder engagement across ecology, environment and sustainability.
* Analytical, Accurate and Methodical
* Creative Problem Solver
* Emotionally Intelligent
* Adaptive and Resilient
* CSCS Card Holder
* Strategic Planning
* Impact Assessment
* Data Analysis and Evaluation
* Budget and Contract Management
* Presentation & Reporting Skills
* IT databases Microsoft Suite, Arc/QGIS

  Work history

Ecological Consultant, Abricon **- 01/2023 - 05/2023**

* Executed PEAs for household and regeneration sites undertaking UK Hab surveys, and QGIS mapping to deliver ecological compliance. Achieved Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) assessments (v3.1/4) creating woodland, grassland and scrub enhancements and improving reporting timescales by creating 20 local authority BNG policy templates.

Environmental Planner, TACP - 08/2022 - 12/2022

* Season of bat surveys (Arc GIS), Wrote conservation grazing and orchard project reports establishing grazing expertise, evaluating resources and implanting BNG. This involved researching national policy and local case studies in agroecology. Reported BNG scoping of river units researching aquatic walkover data to achieve ecological compliance and EA land drainage consent.
* Utilized planning expertise to collate evidence for 30 BREEAM assessments across 2 infrastructure projects.

Planning Officer, North Somerset Council **- 2019 - 2022**

* Discharged strategic site conditions across North Somerset covering flood risk, landscaping, ecology, transport etc., approving over 150 conditions simultaneously, expertly negotiating with land agents, and multiple consultees. Influenced internal compliance networks by streamlining approvals. Also approved a suite of smaller applications and developed landscape character assessment, design, ecology and green finance policy knowledge through scrutiny at appeals.

HPC Housing Project Officer, Housing Solutions, North Somerset Council **2017 - 2019** **(FTC)**

* Managed 12 initiatives, procuring contracts, monitoring deliverables, controlling budgets, and reporting to HPC Board on governance. Co-developed grant opportunities, an ICT training platform, and Homes England bid for a night shelter and established a legacy of support. Delivered marketing across stakeholders.

Technical Support Officer, Adaptations, North Somerset Council - 2016 – 2017 (FTC)

* Managed Disability Facility Grants databases, processing invoices, and solicitors' enquiries with land registry.

Business Coordinator, Suffolk County Council **- 2014 - 2016**

* Highly customer-centric, I developed exceptional networking skills coordinating and making decisions for County Commissioning Panel to evaluate high funding levels for vulnerable children with complex needs.

Duty Coordinator, Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH), Suffolk County Council **-** **2012 – 2014**

* Unique opportunity to establish Suffolk MASH. Triaged over 250 weekly referrals summarising sensitive data across Police, Social Care, & Health teams, securing positive safeguarding outcomes within 4hr timescales.

Outreach Energy Advisor, Energy Saving Trust **- 2009 - 2012**

* Delivered energy efficiency advice to multiple audiences across East Anglia. Achieved 20% carbon reductions for 3 VEG Green Community delivering presentations, community orchard and PV panels.

Recycling Support Officer, Essex Communication Campaign, Waste Watch **- 2007 - 2009 (FTC)**

* Effective leadership during audits, surveys, events, and training presentations increased recycling rates across Maldon and Tendring District Councils.

 Education

BSc (Hons) **Ecology & Conservation,** University of Surrey Roehampton – **2001**

GNVQ Advanced Science & **A Level Photography,** Colchester Institute **- 1998**

 Professional Development

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| * Current member of the BSBI
 | * Microsoft Desktop Client
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| * CSCS cardholder
 | * UNEP - NbS for Disaster & Climate Resilience
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| * Working towards Chartership
 | * Leveraging AI for Project Management
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| * Nature Network Ranger/First Aid Award
 | * Landscape Architecture BIM Techniques
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| * NSC Carbon Literacy Training
 | * Designing for Sustainability
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