

Upskill Shropshire

Kickstart Case Study Hugo Laing

Hugo is a Kickstart Asset Management Assistant Sustainability Assistant within the Property & Development Team at Shropshire Council .

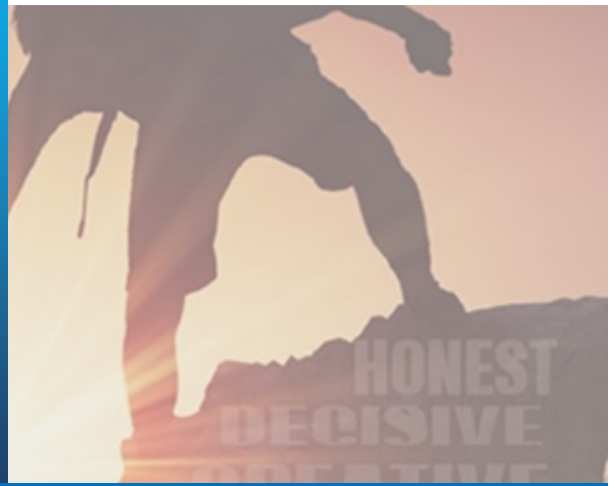
What is your role?

To look at the environmental impact and the sustainability aspects of buildings, such as looking at what the team can do to improve buildings that don't have a good energy rating and make them more environmentally friendly and sustainable. Usually I have about 2 or 3 meetings a day going through the project with the team.

How has the role been so far?

I have always had an interest in the environment and thinking of ways to make things more sustainable for future, and I want to help make big changes in helping to achieve greater sustainability. Since I have started the role, I have brought an outside perspective of the which has allowed me to share my ideas and suggestions in how to improve our sustainability just by even making our sites and the information on it easier to navigate.

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How has the role and the development sessions improved your career development?

I found the personal impact session which was on voice projection, public speaking and posture techniques, really helpful and insightful. The speech techniques and public speaking skills that I developed in the session will be really useful for a future career, in interviews and when giving presentations. The session really helped me to overcome my nerves and will improve my employability and public speaking in particular skills for the future.

I haven't had many interviews and therefore I hadn't developed my CV and interview skills before this role and I feel I have hugely developed these skills (with its development sessions on CV's and mock interviews) and will have a benefit when I look for future roles. The opportunity in general has helped me out in specialist knowledge about property, the environment and sustainability.

What has been your experience working virtually/remotely?

I have never worked from home but I have enjoyed it. It is more relaxing getting to work as you don't have to worry about the travel time and traffic. Obviously it would be nice to meet more of the people in the team in person, but other than that I have found it really easy to adapt to working virtually.

Would you recommend doing a Kickstart to others?

Absolutely, the Shropshire Council Kickstart scheme has really helped progress my employability skills to the next level with its development sessions. Even if there is not a role at the end it is an amazing stepping stone to get other roles and develop and upskill to help progress your career.

Do you have any tips/advice for future Kickstarters?

Relax take your time and get used to your environment at first it might seem daunting at first, but very quickly you will settle into the role. Do all the training on leap to learning in the first weeks to help you understand the council and its systems better. Lastly don't be afraid to ask questions and get yourself involved in the role so you can get the most out of the opportunity.