

## **Ever considered a career in the environmental and land-based sector?**

**As the agonising wait for GCSE and A level exam results are nearly over, knowing what to do next can be a big decision; do you return to education and continue learning or get your first full-time job? Before making that final decision, Lantra Sector Skills Council is encouraging students to consider one of the exciting careers in the environmental and land-based sector and discover the many and varied opportunities available today.**

Chris Catchpole, Lantra's Development Manager for Careers and Employability, knows exactly what opportunities there are in this increasingly important sector. He said: "There are often many misconceptions about jobs in the sector but it's no longer just about muddy wellies, unsocial hours and manual graft. There is a whole range of jobs available from caring for animals and wildlife to managing the home turf of your favourite football club or looking after our planet in environmental conservation."

The long-term future for employment also looks good as Lantra estimates that at least 86,000 new workers will be needed in the next ten years to meet demands.

Catchpole continues: "The environmental and land-based sector in England currently employs over 858,300 people, and with so many workers needed in the next ten years there are plenty of opportunities in the sector. It offers a wide range of jobs depending on levels of skills and qualifications, from hands-on to supervisory roles. There is also great need for skilled managerial, high tech and specialist people who seek exciting, dynamic and highly responsible roles that are well rewarded financially."

So how can you get started in the environmental and land-based sector? There are many routes available - you may want to get stuck in straight away and earn while you learn though one of the many apprenticeships available, you could road test different types of work by volunteering or you could continue your studies with the new Diploma in Environmental and Land-based Studies.

Bob Fiddaman, Crops Farmer and Chair of the Diploma Development Partnership, said: "The Diploma is a great way of exploring the environmental and land-based sector. You'll enjoy hands-on practical learning, choosing subjects that interest you. But as you cover core subjects such as ICT, English, maths and other skills universities and employers value, like teamwork and problem solving, you can keep your options open to go onto higher education or work."

Catchpole concludes: "With safeguarding the environment and the importance of the UK being able to supply its own food and fuel rising on the political agenda, the sector will continue to offer viable and fulfilling roles. The sector needs really well rounded, well qualified and well informed people and so I would encourage young people to take a closer look and see what it might be able to offer."

So if you are interested in finding out more, Lantra can help. Visit [www.afuturein.com](http://www.afuturein.com), email [connect@lantra.co.uk](mailto:connect@lantra.co.uk) or call 0845 707 8007 or get more details about the Diploma in Environmental and Land-based Studies at [www.diplomaelbs.co.uk](http://www.diplomaelbs.co.uk) and information on relevant courses at [www.lantracoursefinder.co.uk](http://www.lantracoursefinder.co.uk).

## ENDS

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### NOTES TO EDITOR:

*This press notice relates to 'England' only*

### About the Diploma in Environmental and Land-based Studies

- The development of the Diploma in Environmental and Land-based Studies is being led by Lantra in partnership with four other Sector Skills Councils.
  - ConstructionSkills
  - Energy & Utility Skills
  - Improve
  - SkillsActive
- The content of the Diploma is wide-ranging and calls upon the specialist knowledge and networks of all five organisations
- The Diploma is part of the government's 14-19 reform programme which is designed to encourage more young people to continue learning for longer and gain the qualifications they need to progress into further and higher education or employment
- From September 2009 Diplomas will be taught in 10 subjects: Creative and Media; Construction and the Built Environment; Engineering; Information Technology; Society, Health and Development; Environmental and Land-based Studies; Manufacturing and Product Design; Hair & Beauty Studies; Business, Administration and Finance; Hospitality
- The Diploma will contain 3 Functional Skills qualifications. This will ensure that young people secure the right foundation of English, Maths and ICT skills needed for progression into employment
- There are three levels of Diploma - Foundation, Higher and Advanced. A Foundation Diploma is worth five GCSEs grades D to G; a Higher Diploma is worth seven GCSEs grades A\* to C; and an Advanced Diploma is worth three-and-a-half A levels.

### About Lantra

- Lantra, the Sector Skills Council for the environmental and land-based sector, is licensed by the UK government to drive forward the new skills, training and business development agenda for the sector
- Lantra represents 17 industries and 1.5 million workers and volunteers in agricultural crops, agricultural livestock, animal care, animal technology, aquaculture, environmental conservation, equine, farriery, fencing, fisheries management, floristry, game and wildlife management, land-based engineering, landscape, production horticulture, trees and timber and veterinary nursing. For more information see [www.lantra.co.uk](http://www.lantra.co.uk).