Principal Statistician – Animal and Plant Health and Welfare (initial two-year post)

Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs (Defra)

46,612 – £51,258

Apply

https://www.defrajobs.co.uk/vacancies/evidence-specialists-and-analysts-including-social-researchers-operations-researchers-statistician-grade-7/

Bristol, London and York

This is statistics with national influence. Defra is creating a great place for living for people in this country. Here, you can improve the countryside and rural economy, enhance food and farming, and protect against natural threats and hazards. You’ll inform animal and plant policy as well as public services. And, as part of a Department key to delivering a successful EU exit, you’ll have an almost-immediate impact on millions.

The role

In essence, you’ll help to lead the large statistical team supporting our Animal and Plant Health and Welfare Directorate. Your insights will be vital to a range of activities, from parliamentary questions and publications, to our own targets and objectives.

Working closely with economists and policy experts, you’ll extract and collate data on animals, plants and their products. At any time, you could be focusing on industry indicators, or building models on the prevalence of animal diseases or their movements.

Your background

You’ll need at least a 2:2 degree which included statistical training, such as mathematics, economics, psychology or geography; or an MSc or PhD with statistical elements (or relevant professional experience).

Self-motivated and inventive in approach; you’ll also have led analytical projects and teams before, procured research, and also be comfortable explaining complex statistical concepts to senior figures and non-experts.

Statistics in Defra

It’s an exciting time to join our 100-strong statistical community, not least because of the importance of a successful EU exit. In turn, there’s so much change in the way and regularity in which we capture data – our tools and techniques evolve literally year-on-year.
The focus on maintaining trustworthiness, quality and value has also never been greater. Which is why you’ll need to be a team-player: ready to collaborate with and deliver through others. Curious and innovative, you’ll also find new ways to do things and discover insights that steer the decisions behind life-changing outcomes in the wider world.

Everyone here enjoys a choice of pensions and the potential to work flexibly. But the real draw should be the professional opportunity to influence our approach to the environment during this period of great change.

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