

## Housing and Planning Volunteer

**CPRE Buckinghamshire is an environmental charity dedicated to protecting the countryside. We are looking for an enthusiastic volunteer to support our core work on local housing and planning matters.**

Are you passionate about protecting the countryside? Do you want to be a champion for well-designed housing in the right places? Then we have an opportunity for you!

The Buckinghamshire branch of the Campaign to Protect Rural England (CPRE) is looking for an enthusiastic individual to support our work on local planning matters.

CPRE works locally and nationally to protect, shape and enhance our beautiful, thriving countryside for everyone to value and enjoy. By volunteering with us you would be providing invaluable input into our campaigns and helping ensure that the green spaces of Buckinghamshire are protected and celebrated.

### Activities involve:

- Investigating planning applications which have a significant impact on the countryside and helping us to influence their outcome
- Reviewing plans, applications and other consultations on the internet and sharing your findings with our planning group
- Drafting response letters to the local planning authority
- Researching planning policy and best practice
- Supporting local communities in responding to planning issues and contributing to local planning campaigns
- Assisting in the preparation of responses to wider consultations, including planning appeals
- Liaising with other CPRE planning volunteers, local residents or other organisations

### Person description

This role does not require any previous experience with planning, as training and guidance can be provided. Ideally, we hope that you can offer us most of the qualities described below:

- A strong interest in the countryside and sympathy with CPRE views
- An understanding of the planning system (or be willing to learn)
- An interest in investigative work, with an eye for detail
- A desire to share your knowledge with others in the branch
- Good communication skills - written and verbal
- Can attend meetings or, when not possible, can provide updates for meetings
- Computer literate - the internet, e-mail and MS Word or equivalent

This is an ideal opportunity if you are looking to use or grow your knowledge of the planning system and gain experience of working in the environmental campaigning sector. You will have the opportunity to meet local people and feel part of a friendly and passionate group.

The role is voluntary although we will pay all out-of-pocket expenses with prior agreement, in line with our Volunteers Policy.

As a guide, we anticipate this voluntary role will take 3-5 hours per week. Our branch office is in Monks Risborough, so you have the choice to either work from here or work at home. We keep in regular contact via phone and/or email to discuss progress and to provide support. You would also be encouraged to attend group meetings.

### Further information

If you would like further information about this role, or an application form, please email [office@cprebucks.org.uk](mailto:office@cprebucks.org.uk) or phone us on 01844 348829.