Senior Natural Hazards and Climate Change Planner

Auckland or Lower Hutt

GNS Science is New Zealand's premier provider of geoscience research and consultancy services. The Planning and Risk Management/Societal and Behavioural Science Team, in the Society & Infrastructure Department, comprises around 10 applied scientists, planners and researchers with expertise in the areas of natural hazard and disaster risk management, community resilience, emergency management, recovery, land use planning and policy, risk communication, Vision Mātauranga, and international disaster risk management. The team works with central and local government, Māori communities and entities, other Crown Research Institutes, universities, research centres and a variety of private sector organisations.

We are looking for a talented and motivated Senior Planner with expertise and interest in natural hazards and climate change to join our Team, based in either Auckland or Avalon, Lower Hutt, to help us with an expanding load of applied research and client focussed work. This is an opportunity to join a well established and well respected Social Science and Planning research team and influence our research direction and outcomes. We are looking for exceptional applicants who wish to make a difference, add knowledge, and improve the practice of natural hazard and disaster risk management in New Zealand.

Applicants who have the following skills and experience are encouraged to apply:

- A degree, preferably post-graduate, in land use planning, public policy, and/or earth science, with approx.10 years planning experience with local government or a consultancy
- A thorough understanding of best practice land use planning for natural hazards, risk and climate change adaptation under the Resource Management Act and other related legislation
- Experience in public engagement design, methodologies and practice
- An understanding of social science research methodologies, either qualitative and/or quantitative
- Existing relationships with research stakeholders and end-users, and the ability to develop research and commercial proposals to meet their needs
- The ability to think strategically for long-term research planning
- The ability to work collaboratively in a team environment, and provide mentoring to less experienced planners and researchers
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills, with the ability to communicate ideas effectively to different audiences.

This is an opportunity to be part of a great team at GNS Science.

For further information about this position and to apply online please visit and follow the online process. https://careers.sciencenewzealand.org/jobdetails/ajid/q0GO8/Senior-Natural-Hazards-and-Climate-Change-Planner,32626.html

Closing date: Monday, 8 April 2019

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Applicants who have the following skills and experience are encouraged to apply:

- A minimum qualification of a Bachelors degree in land use planning, public policy or earth science plus at least 3 years work experience as a Planner.
- An understanding of natural hazard science, including climate change and risk.
- A knowledge of the breadth of planning process under the Resource Management Act, including evidence-based policy development, policy analysis, submission drafting, and presenting expert evidence at hearings.
- An understanding of local government functions under related legislation such as the Building Act, Local Government Act, Civil Defence and Emergency Management Act.
- A knowledge of social science research methods, and engagement methods and techniques.
- The ability to work collaboratively in a team environment.
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills, with the ability to communicate ideas clearly to different audiences.

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