

University Placement Opportunity - MarLIN/Applied Science research assistant Placement

Placement Ref (please include this in the subject title of the email when you send your application) : MBAMarLIN

Name and Job title of Department Lead: Harvey Tyler-Walters, Project Manager/Assistant Editor MarLIN (Marine Life Information Network)

Group/department's main activity: Provision or development of advisory reports and/or information resources to support decision making for the management (conservation) of marine and coastal species and habitats, primarily through contract research for UK and EU government agencies.

Brief placement description – what skills and experience could be gained:

The placement in this area offers the opportunity to work on Applied Science projects at the MBA including evidence-based projects for the statutory agencies and the MarLIN project.

Working in the Applied Science area will involve preparation of tenders (bids), evidence review, analysis and synthesis and contribution to report preparation across a range of subject areas but typically focused on coastal and marine species and habitats, human activities and impacts.

When working on MarLIN the Assistant will contribute to the maintenance, update and expansion of the species and habitat information on the MarLIN website. Tasks are likely to include but not be limited to:

- general editorial tasks - e.g. updates to common/scientific names, list of designations, news items etc
- preparation of information on UK marine species for the website, including data entry into the MarLIN content management system (CMS)
- processing of species/habitat images for the website
- preparation of species/habitat sensitivity assessments via literature review - either of new assessment or for updates to existing assessment - as a contribution to the MarLIN/MarESA sensitivity assessment database
- The opportunity to work alongside the team on other MarLIN activities and short projects.
- Assist the project manager with content management/expansion tasks as required.

Key skills required:

- attention to detail and a willingness to learn are essential
- an understanding on marine ecology and the environmental conditions that structure habitats
- an understanding of UK marine biodiversity and marine species taxonomy is desirable but training will be provided
- an understanding of the UK marine habitat classification is desirable but training will be provided
- some experience of website editing, CMS, HTML, Excel and/or databases would be helpful but training will be provided
- experience of literature and/or evidence review would be ideal but training in the use of our resources and writing style will be provided but

Some experience of writing concise text on a technical subject for a diverse audience from scientists to uninformed adults.

Person Specification:

The person should demonstrate an interest in the use of science communication and information resources to improve / contribute to the conservation or other management of marine resources, primarily (but not exclusively) in the British Isles/North East Atlantic. Enthusiasm is essential.

Degree courses considered:

Ideally studying a science-based course, but not necessarily marine.

