



Role Description

Economist

Role details

Title:	Economist
Directorate:	Business Development & Innovation
Role reports to (line manager job title)	Research & Analysis Manager

Organisation Overview

Zero Waste Scotland exists to lead Scotland to use products and resources responsibly, focusing on where we can have the greatest impact on climate change. Using evidence and insight, our goal is to inform policy, and motivate individuals and businesses to embrace the environmental, economic, and social benefits of a circular economy. We are a not-for-profit environmental organisation, funded by the Scottish Government and European Regional Development Fund.

We have recently launched a four-year corporate plan which will see an evolution in the organisation. We currently receive c.£25m of Public Sector funding per annum and must continue to maximise impact from investment whilst also acquire new funding.

In improving organisational efficiencies, we strive to forge new ways of achieving greater reach and more impactful results. Our organisation is at the heart of a political and public shift in attitudes towards climate change and the environmental consequences of our lifestyles

Role purpose – overview

Solely responsible for provision of high-quality economic analysis and advice to Zero Waste Scotland and the Scottish Government, and supporting wider policy advice, research and support, the economist will build the economic case for transition to a more circular economy.

To improve Zero Waste Scotland and industry understanding of the economics of eco-design, waste prevention, re-manufacturing/re-use and recycling.

Responsibilities - Overview

- Provide high quality economic analysis, research and support within Zero Waste Scotland which includes; developing a compelling business case for market intervention, analysis of market barriers/failures, economic modelling/data analysis, cost benefit analysis and economic insights on market based solutions to delivering a circular economy.
- Undertake analysis and forecasting of markets and market trends for primary materials and remanufactured/reused/recycled materials and produce reports of publishable quality.
- Provide well researched, timely and clear policy briefings to senior management and the Scottish Government on economic and market analysis issues relating to Zero Waste Scotland programmes.



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- Frame, commission and manage external consultancy projects (or in house work as required) to address specific economic questions related to materials flows, resource efficiency and circular economy.
- Input to the strategic and tactical planning of programmes.
- Provide economic analysis for Zero Waste Scotland submissions to policy consultation exercises from Scottish Government and other key statutory bodies.
- Contribute to external and Zero Waste Scotland organised conferences, seminars, reports and other publications as appropriate.
- Provide internal specialist advice to Zero Waste Scotland colleagues at all levels and external initiatives on economic matters

Core organisation competencies

Adaptable to change:

Responds and behaves positively to change, identifies and acts upon new opportunities.

Building relationships:

Proactively develops internal and external relationships acting as an advocate and generating momentum for achieving Zero Waste Scotland's goals

Personal commitment:

Demonstrates commitment, energy and enthusiasm for achieving challenging goals.

Teamwork:

Encourages and develops cross-functional working and builds teams based on results to be achieved.

Specific competencies

Achieving Targets	Analysis & Decision Making
Stakeholder Management	Commercial Awareness
Quality Focus	Planning and Organising

Job essentials

- Educated to degree level or equivalent in a relevant Economic discipline.
- Demonstrable evidence of experience in macro and micro economic analysis, in particular economic cost benefit analysis of policy options, evaluation of environmental impacts and analysis of markets with sparse/poor quality data.
- Relevant experience in specifying, commissioning and managing research projects, both in-house and using external consultants.
- Strong levels of computer literacy.
- Ability to work effectively in high pressure environment and balance a complex mix of priorities.



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- Demonstrate good communication skills – verbal and written – with experience of writing high quality reports for a range of audiences.
- Strong interdisciplinary and team working skills, with high levels of self-motivation.

Desirable Experience

- Post-graduate qualification in economics or related discipline.
- General knowledge of the economics of resource efficiency and environmental issues.

Role dimensions

Management impact	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• No direct management• Indirect management of contractors
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Our values

We will adopt a culture and set of behaviours that underpin everything we do.

We will be:

Pioneering

- Seeking out and responding to new solutions.
- Showing an appetite for new ideas.
- Being bold and challenging the status quo.
- Challenging ourselves to improve.

Collaborative

- Partnering with others (internally and externally) to deliver our vision.
- Respecting abilities and opinions.
- Creating teams, internally and externally, which bring together the best resources.
- Understanding the most effective role we, and others, can play to achieve success.
- Using our knowledge to create persuasive and convincing calls to action for others to follow.

Focused

- Intentionally choosing the right things - selecting initiatives and activities which have the greatest impact.
- Learning from our experiences and mistakes to improve future activities.
- Gathering feedback on how we are reaching our goals and using this to inform our actions.
- Leveraging our knowledge to make a difference.
- Using analysis and insights to make decisions, take action, engage others and provide solutions.

Authentic

- Being true to ourselves.
- Leading by example through our own behaviours and corporate actions and policies.
- Communicating with honesty and openness.
- Holding ourselves and others to account regardless of hierarchy.
- Committing to professionalism and high standards.