



The Science Inside

Laboratory Manager – Threat Detection Group (TGD)

Salary: £34,257 to £49,263

Closes: 28th May 2023

Location: Dstl Porton Down, Salisbury, Wiltshire SP4 0JQ

Dstl: Level 5&6

Contract: Permanent

To Apply go to: www.civilservice.gov.uk

Job Summary

The Threat Detection Group (TDG) of the Counter Terrorism and Security Division (CTS) delivers operationally focused science and technology to support and to advise MOD and wider Government on the detection, identification and characterisation of explosives substances and related materials. We conduct research & development into the use of equipment to support a search capability for UK Forces and Other Government Departments. We deliver sovereign explosives, forensic and intelligence capabilities, provide front-line scientific capability and expert advice and intelligence-led support to disrupt the network.

A full-time laboratory manager is required as part of the critical operational support within TDG. Their primary role is to support and organise all activities of the team within explosively licenced and trace laboratories by being responsible for day-to-day management and operation. This involves ensuring FEL laboratories comply with ISO17025 Standard and the Forensic Science Regulators Code of Practice and Conduct (CoPC).

Dstl recognises the importance of diversity and inclusion as people from diverse backgrounds bring fresh ideas. We are committed to building an inclusive working environment in which each employee fulfils their potential and maximises their contribution.

We particularly welcome female and ethnic minority applicants and those from the LGBTQI community, as they are under-represented within Dstl at these levels.

Job Description

In this role you will:

- Maintain equipment and instrumentation, manage stock and ensure operation of multiple laboratories in line with business needs.
- Train, supervise and mentor laboratory staff/users, and work with other laboratory management and support staff within the division to ensure business needs and quality standards are met.
- Maintain laboratory facilities in line with Dstl Management Systems to ensure safe working.
- Evaluate new chemical instrumentation applicable to explosives analysis to support decision making.

As well as the above details the level 6 will also be expected to:

- Maintain an awareness of new and novel methods, processes and procedures.
- Input into research projects to improve the analytical capability of the group
- Input and potentially lead strategic approaches to improvements across the laboratories
- Identify interdependencies between their work and that of others and exploiting these to improve delivery to customers
- Input into the strategies that drive the analytical capability development.

We are looking for someone who has:

- Experience working independently and as part of a team to ensure the safe running of operational analytical laboratories
- An awareness of safe working practices in a laboratory or other complex environment including, but not limited to writing, reviewing and updating risk assessments
- The ability to manage competing priorities to strict deadlines
- The ability to manage the workload of other members of the team to support a 24/7 operational laboratory
- Ability to work under pressure

As a leader in Defence you will help shape, role model and bring to life the 'One Defence' mindset that will enable us to deliver our vision and strategic objectives. Your leadership style must be inspiring, confident and empowering. Working at every level of our organisation to break down silos, unite teams and create a culture that is trusting, collaborative, innovative, diverse and inclusive. Enabling us to deliver with pace and agility through the skills, commitment and empowerment of our employees and military colleagues.

Please visit the website for the full Job description

Important Information

Our work in defence, security and intelligence requires our employees to be UK Nationals who are able to gain a high level of security clearance to undertake the projects we are involved in to protect us from security threats. For this reason, only UK Nationals will be able to apply for this role. If you are an international or dual-national candidate, and you think you have the skills we need, please consider applying to any of our government, security or defence partners.

This role will require full UK security clearance and you should have resided in the UK for the past 5 years. For some roles Developed Vetting will also be required, in this case you should have resided in the UK for the past 10 years.

Benefits

Dstl's employees have access to numerous benefits, found in the Candidate Information Pack under the vacancy listing on Civil Service Jobs including and flexible working hours and civil service pension.

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