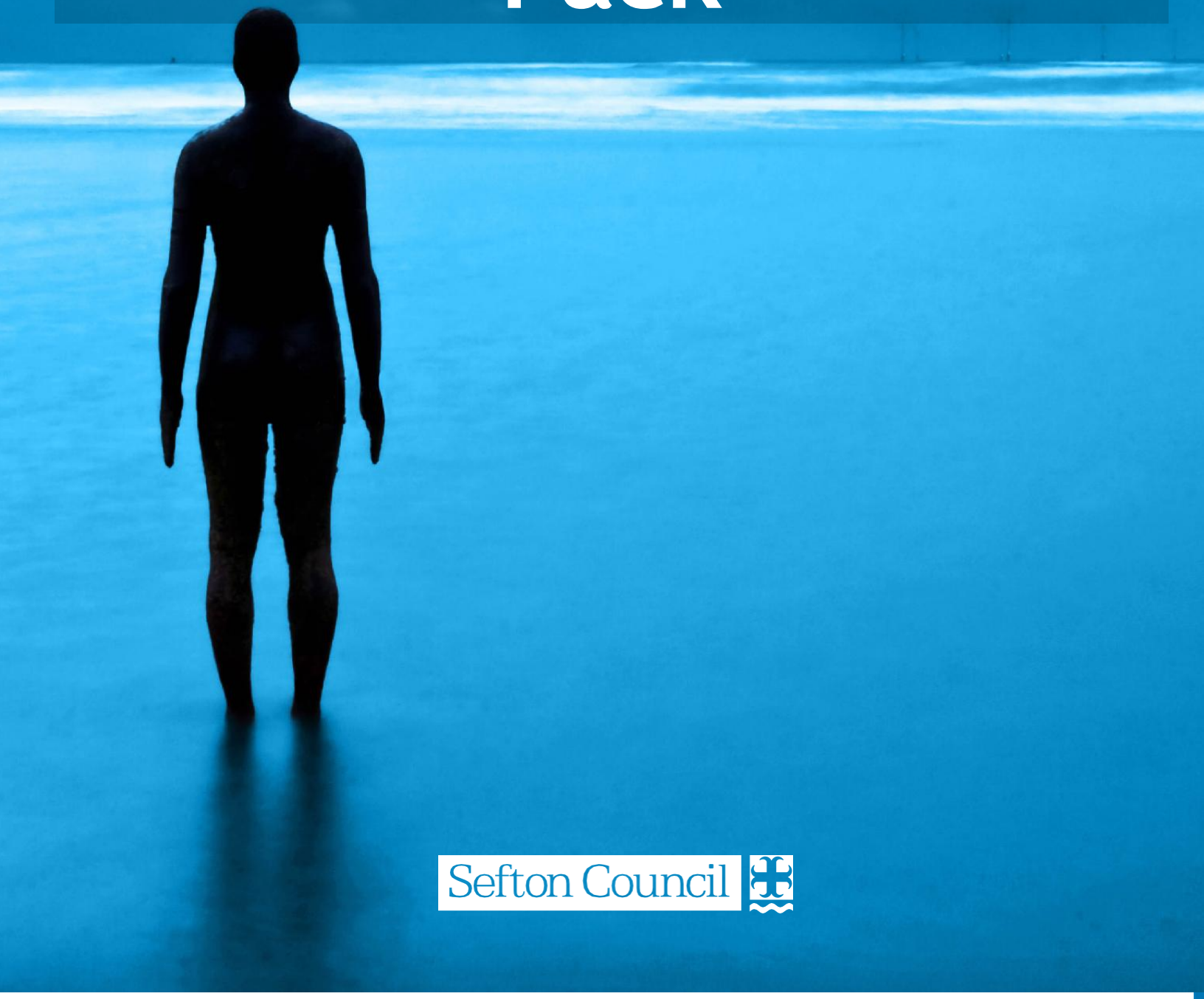
Operative 1 – Street Cleansing Applicant Recruitment Pack



Sefton Council

Welcome

Hi,

We would like to thank you for your interest in the Operative 1 role within Sefton Council's Operational In-House Services Team, supporting Street Cleansing Operations throughout the Borough.

This is an exciting time to join us as we continue to strengthen our services and deliver high-quality outcomes for our residents, communities, and partners.

You'll play a key role in providing a high-quality environmental maintenance service for all aspects of Street Cleansing and grounds maintenance works across the public realm supporting compliance with public health, safety, and environmental regulations.

As a person, if you're someone who takes pride in delivering high-quality services, approaches every task with professionalism, and brings energy, adaptability, and a genuine passion for making a difference, we'd be delighted to hear from you.

The Job Description and Person Specification for this role are included within the job pack. If you have any questions about the vacancy, please refer to the job pack for the appropriate contact details.

If, when you've finishing reading this pack, you like what you see, and Sefton's Vision and Values align to yours then we can't wait to hear from you.

Best of luck!

Marcus Burke
Operations Manager – Street Cleansing
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Sefton Council

Contents

About the Borough of Sefton 1
Our Vision and Values 2
Our Successes and Key Projects 2
An Inclusive Workplace 3
Liverpool City Region Fair Employment Charter 4
What We Can Offer You 4
About the Role 6
Top Tips on How to Apply 8
Application and Selection Information 9
Appendix A – Job Description and Person Specification 10

About the Borough of Sefton

Sefton is a confident and well-connected Borough, stretching from Bootle in the south to the coastal resort of Southport in the north. Home to more than 275,000 residents, Sefton encompasses a range of vibrant towns and communities, including Bootle, Litherland, Seaforth, Crosby, Formby, Maghull and Southport.

It is a fantastic place to live and work. As the northern-most Borough within the Liverpool City Region, Sefton offers a unique blend of beautiful coastline, countryside, attractive villages, thriving industrial areas and the busy Port of Liverpool.

With 22 miles of stunning coastline, Sefton is a leading coastal destination with a growing visitor economy. It is home to the iconic Antony Gormley *Another Place* installation, expansive beaches and protected sand dunes that support several rare species.

While each town and village has its own distinctive character, it is the people of Sefton who make the Borough truly special, creating diverse, welcoming and energetic communities in which to live, work, invest and visit.

Alongside its miles of golden sands, Sefton offers those who work here access to a world-renowned racecourse, prestigious golf courses, and National Trust nature reserves, ideal places to unwind, explore and enjoy leisure time.

The Borough benefits from excellent transport links, providing easy access to major North West cities including Liverpool and Manchester, and placing the Lake District and North Wales within reach for weekend breaks.

Whether you prefer vibrant town centres, friendly commuter towns, picturesque villages or stunning rural and coastal locations, Sefton offers a place to suit everyone. With house prices and rents typically lower than in neighbouring Liverpool and Manchester, you can enjoy coastal living while still being close to the buzz of city life.

Our Vision and Values

At Sefton Council, our vision is to deliver high-quality services that make a real difference to the lives of our residents, visitors, and communities. Everything we do is guided by a strong set of values that shape how we work and interact:



- **We put people at the heart of what we do** – ensuring our services are responsive, inclusive, and focused on improving lives.
- **We listen, value, and respect each other's views** – fostering a culture of collaboration and mutual respect.
- **We develop a culture of challenge, ownership, innovation, and improvement** – encouraging creativity and continuous development.
- **We are ambassadors for Sefton** – promoting the Borough positively and proudly representing our communities.
- **We are responsive and efficient** – delivering services that are timely, effective, and customer-focused.
- **We are clear about what we can and cannot do** – being transparent and honest in all our communications and actions.

These values underpin our commitment to excellence, inclusivity, and innovation, ensuring that Sefton remains a great place to live, work, and visit.

Our Successes and Key Projects

Sefton Council is proud of its recent achievements and ongoing commitment to delivering high-quality services. Our Adult Social Care services were recently graded

Good by the Care Quality Commission (CQC), and our Children's Services also achieved a Good rating from Ofsted. These successes reflect the dedication and professionalism of our teams and our focus on continuous improvement.

Alongside these achievements, Sefton Council is actively delivering a range of major capital projects that will transform the Borough and stimulate economic growth. These include the Marine Lake Events Centre in Southport, the Strand Shopping Centre redevelopment in Bootle, and exciting developments such as the Cove Resort and Enterprise Arcade in Southport. We are also proud to support cultural and community initiatives like Salt and Tar, Bootle's vibrant events space, which hosts live music, comedy, and family-friendly activities, bringing people together and boosting the local economy.

These projects form part of our strategic investment programme to attract private sector-led development and create vibrant spaces for residents and visitors. We work closely with local communities to ensure these projects reflect their needs and foster a sense of ownership and pride.

For more information on these projects and to stay updated on progress, visit the Sefton Council website at www.sefton.gov.uk

An Inclusive Workplace

We are committed to fostering an inclusive Council that reflects the diverse communities we serve. Our workforce brings a wide range of experiences and perspectives, and we value an environment where everyone feels respected, supported, and able to reach their full potential.

Sefton is proud to be the first local authority in the Liverpool City Region to achieve **Navajo** accreditation, recognising our commitment to LGBTQ+ inclusion. We are also a Disability Confident employer and continue to build a workforce that represents our communities.

We support several staff networks, including groups for Black and Ethnically Diverse colleagues, LGBTQ+ staff, women, disabled employees, and a Christian Workplace Group.

As an Equal Opportunities Employer, we base recruitment solely on skills, experience, and suitability for the role. All applicants are treated fairly, and we have also recognised 'care experienced' as a protected characteristic within Sefton.



For more information, please refer to our Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Strategy

Liverpool City Region Fair Employment Charter

Sefton Council is proud to support the Liverpool City Region Combined Authority Fair Employment Charter, an initiative that promotes fair, healthy, inclusive, and just workplaces across the region. The Charter celebrates good employers and encourages the highest standards in employment practice, including fair pay, secure work, opportunities for progression, strong employee voice, and a commitment to staff wellbeing. By aligning with the Charter, we demonstrate our dedication to providing a fair day's pay for a fair day's work and to fostering an equitable and supportive working environment for all colleagues.

What We Can Offer You

- A supportive and collaborative working environment.
- An agile approach to working.
- Opportunities for professional development and career progression.
- A role where your work makes a real difference across the organisation.
- Flexible working arrangements supporting work-life balance.
- A strong commitment to equality, diversity, and inclusion.

You will benefit from a comprehensive local government employment package which includes the following:

- Competitive salary in line with NJC Local Government Pay Scales.
- Membership of the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS), providing a secure, defined benefit pension with employer contributions.

Annual Leave and Work-Life Balance

- Generous annual leave entitlement, 28 days annual leave rising to 33 days with 5 years continuous service.
- Additional public (bank) holidays.
- Flexible working options to support a healthy work-life balance, subject to service needs.
- Option to purchase additional annual leave.

Learning, Development and Career Progression

- A comprehensive induction programme.
- Access to a wide range of training, apprenticeships, learning, and development opportunities.
- Support for professional development and role related qualifications.
- Opportunities to develop your career within a large and diverse local authority.

Health, Wellbeing and Support

- Enhanced sick pay scheme.
- Employee wellbeing initiatives and access to occupational health support.
- Policies that promote physical and mental wellbeing in the workplace.

Family-Friendly and Inclusive Policies

Our family-friendly policies and flexible working arrangements help staff maintain a healthy work-life balance.

- Family friendly policies, including enhanced maternity, paternity, adoption, neonatal care and special leave to support with time off work to deal with issues when life events happen.

- A strong organisational commitment to equality, diversity, and inclusion.
- Reasonable adjustments and support to enable disabled employees to thrive.

Foster Friendly Employer Commitment

Sefton Council is proud to be a *Foster Friendly* organisation as recognised by The Fostering Network. We actively support employees who are foster carers or who are applying to foster by offering flexible working arrangements, paid time off for fostering-related meetings and training, and a workplace culture that recognises the vital role foster carers play in our communities.

This commitment helps ensure carers can balance fostering responsibilities alongside career, and reflects our dedication to supporting children, families, and those who care for them.

Additional Benefits

- Access to salary sacrifice and employee benefit schemes (where applicable).
- Opportunities to contribute to meaningful work that supports local communities.
- A supportive, values led organisational culture.
- Free parking at office bases (dependent upon the work location).

About the Role

This is a pivotal role within Operational In-House Services, Street Cleansing. You will work as part of a team to provide a high-quality environmental maintenance service including both planned and reactive work for all aspects of street cleansing and grounds maintenance works (including winter gritting and snow clearance) across the public realm. You will be required to work in any area of the Borough, maintaining optimum cleanliness, operating equipment as necessary – training will be provided. You will be undertaking cleansing activities as required such as litter, detritus, weed and fly tipping removal, supporting compliance with public health, safety, and environmental regulations.

The key responsibilities include:

1. Deliver a high-quality environmental maintenance service as part of a team
2. Carry out both planned and reactive street cleansing and grounds maintenance works

3. Undertake winter maintenance duties, including gritting and snow clearance
4. Maintain cleanliness across all areas of the Borough as required
5. Operate cleansing and maintenance equipment safely and effectively (training provided)
6. Perform routine cleansing tasks such as litter picking, detritus removal and weed control
7. Remove fly-tipped waste in accordance with procedures and safety requirements
8. Complete the necessary recording documentation, either hard copy or electronically as allocated.
9. Using mobile technology, maintain communication in accordance with the Council's procedures and Statutory Regulations.
10. Assist the driver with regular vehicle and ancillary equipment checks, assist with any routine cleansing and basic maintenance of vehicle and equipment to ensure optimum efficiency of cleansing operation.
11. Undertake ancillary duties appropriate to the type of work being done.
12. Duties will be carried out for jobs up to and including those in the same grade, provided such duties are within the competence of the employee.

Top Tips on How to Apply

Submitting a strong application gives you the best chance of progressing to the next stage of the recruitment process. The following guidance applies to all roles and will help you prepare a clear, compelling application:

1. Read the Job Description and Person Specification Thoroughly

- Make sure you understand the key duties, expectations, and essential criteria.
- Use the person specification as your guide when writing your application.

2. Provide Clear Evidence of Your Skills and Experience

- Show *how* you meet the criteria using specific, real examples.
- Consider using the **STAR method** (Situation, Task, Action, Result) to structure your responses.

3. Tailor Your Application

- Avoid generic statements. Focus on experience that directly relates to the role you are applying for.
- Demonstrate how your strengths align with the organisation's values and priorities.

4. Highlight Your Achievements

- Include examples of work you are proud of or significant contributions you have made in previous roles.
- Emphasise impact – improvements, efficiencies, positive outcomes, or innovations.

5. Be Clear About Qualifications and Training

- List all relevant qualifications and professional training, including dates and awarding bodies.
- If you are working towards a qualification, include expected completion dates.

6. Showcase Transferable Skills

- Skills such as communication, teamwork, problem-solving, digital literacy, and organisation are valuable across all roles.

- Provide examples that demonstrate these effectively.

7. Check Your Application Carefully

- Review your responses for clarity, spelling, and completeness.
- Ensure all sections of the application form have been filled in fully.

8. Submit Your Application Before the Deadline

- Note the closing date and allow plenty of time to prepare your application.
- Late submissions usually cannot be considered.

9. Prepare for Potential Next Steps

- If shortlisted, you may be invited to an interview, assessment task, or presentation.
- Be ready to discuss your experience, approach to work, and examples of how you meet the role's requirements.

Application and Selection Information

The closing date for this vacancy is **Friday, 4th December 2026** (or earlier in the event of high volume of applications being received).

Provisional interview dates are **Wednesday, 16th December 2026**.

We are an Equal Opportunities Employer; all candidates will receive equal treatment. Our decision to appoint will be based upon whether an individual's skills, experience, qualifications, and abilities make them the most suitable candidate for the role.

All disabled and care experienced applicants will be offered an interview where they meet all essential criteria on the person specification.

Please ensure that you meet all the essential criteria outlined in the person specification before submitting your application. Only applicants who demonstrate that they meet all essential criteria will be considered and invited to interview.

Appendix A – Job Description and Person Specification

Post: Operative 1

Directorate: Operational In-House Services

Location: Boroughwide

Division: Waste Management & Street Cleansing

Grade: D £ 26,427 to 26,847

Reporting to: Street Cleansing Supervisory Officer

Purpose of the Role

To work as part of a team to provide a high-quality environmental maintenance service including both planned and reactive work for all aspects of street cleansing and grounds maintenance works (including winter gritting and snow clearance) across the public realm. Role is predominantly based out of Hawthorne Road Depot, Bootle, but could be required to work in any area of the Borough, maintaining optimum cleanliness, operating equipment as necessary – training will be provided. Undertake cleansing activities as required such as litter, detritus, weed and fly tipping removal in locations such as rear entries.

MAIN DUTIES

- Deliver a high-quality environmental maintenance service as part of a team
- Carry out both planned and reactive street cleansing and grounds maintenance works
- Undertake winter maintenance duties, including gritting and snow clearance
- Maintain cleanliness across all areas of the Borough as required
- Operate cleansing and maintenance equipment safely and effectively (training provided)
- Perform routine cleansing tasks such as litter picking, detritus removal and weed control
- Remove fly-tipped waste in accordance with procedures and safety requirements

- Complete the necessary recording documentation, either hard copy or electronically as allocated.

- Using mobile technology, maintain communication in accordance with the Council's procedures and Statutory Regulations.
- Assist the driver with regular vehicle and ancillary equipment checks, assist with any routine cleansing and basic maintenance of vehicle and equipment to ensure optimum efficiency of cleansing operation.
- Undertake ancillary duties appropriate to the type of work being done.
- Duties will be carried out for jobs up to and including those in the same grade, provided such duties are within the competence of the employee.

SPECIAL CONDITIONS (if applicable)

- See person specification for details of qualifications and experience required, vehicle checks to be undertaken, and ancillary equipment operated in relation to Operative 1 role.
- All vehicles must be operated within the Statutory Road Traffic Regulations/Acts, and within agreed local procedures.
- All machinery must be operated in accordance with the manufacturer's guidelines and health and safety regulations, always ensuring the safety of colleagues and the public.
- All Personal Protective Equipment (P.P.E.) provided must be worn at all times. No smoking policy operates within the Council.
- Operating times for the services must be observed.

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

This job description is a representative document. Other reasonably similar duties may be allocated from time to time commensurate with the general character of the post and its grading.

All staff have a duty to take care of their own health & safety and that of others who may be affected by your actions at work. Staff must co-operate with employers and co-workers to help everyone meet their legal requirements.

The Authority has an approved equality policy in employment and copies are freely available to all employees. The post holder will be expected to comply, observe and promote the equality policies of the Council.

Since confidential information is involved with the duties of this post, the postholder will be required to exercise discretion at all times and to observe relevant codes of practice and legislation in relation to data protection and personal information.

The appointed person will be expected to work flexibly and the exact nature of the duties described above is subject to periodic review and is liable to change.

The appointed person will be expected to undertake, and participate in training, coaching and development activities, as appropriate to the role.

Note: Where the postholder is disabled, every reasonable effort will be made to support all necessary aids, adaptations or equipment to allow them to carry out all the duties of the job.

PERSON SPECIFICATION

Post: Operative 1

Department: Operational In-House Services, Street Cleansing

Shortlisting Number	Criteria – E (essential) D (desirable)	Method of assessment
Skills, knowledge, experience		
S1	Must have experience working within the environmental land based industry **(D)**	A, I
S2	Ability to work as part of a team or as an individual ensuring that all planned and routine tasks are completed to a high quality standard with minimum supervision **(E)**	A, I
S3	Ability to undertake tasks to a high standard and ensure compliance with health and safety regulations, customer care standards to deliver a high quality, efficient service **(E)**	A, I
S4	Ability to use equipment as instructed and trained and ability to inform management of any health and safety issues which could place individuals in danger **(E)**	A, I
S5	Ability to understand and comply with all health and safety risk assessments and safe systems of work whilst undertaking maintenance activities on site. **(E)**	A, I
S6	Experience of route planning and route remodelling **(D)**	A,I

Personal attributes and circumstances		
P1	Hours of work will be based on a regular pattern, but there may be a requirement to work weekends or Bank Holidays to provide the service as required **(E)**	A, I
P2	Able to work outdoors in all weather conditions**(E)**	A, I

P3	Must have the ability to communicate effectively with the members of the public, commercial customers, and other service users **(E)**	A, I
P4	Must have the ability to follow, amend, and update schedules and paperwork **(E)**	A, I

Communication		
C1	A demonstrable willingness to share information and work with other people, including the ability to listen, communicate with and understand others, taking account of other people's points of view. **(E)**	A, I

Qualifications		
Q1	Full Driving Licence **(D)**	A, C
Q2	Preferred - Qualified to use the full range of operational plant and machinery. **(D)**	A, C
Q3	Training in Manual Handling. **(D)**	A, C

KEY: **AF = Application Form / I = Interview / C = Certificate / T = Test**