



Specialist Science Solutions
manaaki tangata taiao hoki
Protecting people and their environment through science

Position Description

SECTION A

Date: February 2010

POSITION: Food Microbiologist
INCUMBENT: Vacant
REPORTS TO: Programme Manager
LOCATION: Christchurch Science Centre

SECTION B

PRINCIPAL OBJECTIVES:

1. Contribute to delivery of research objectives and applied science projects
2. Record scientific methods and results, write papers and reports.
3. Provide peer and technical support.
4. Contribute to research design, planning, budgeting and proposal writing.
5. Propose and lead relevant tenders or research project bids.

FUNCTIONAL RELATIONSHIPS

Internally:

- Programme Leader
- Food Programme Microbiology personnel
- Site Quality Coordinator
- Health and Safety Coordinator

Externally:

- NZ Food Safety Authority
- European Commission
- Industry clients

Position Description

SECTION C

KEY TASKS AND EXPECTED RESULTS

1. Assume responsibility for management, execution and reporting of established research projects.
2. Leading research in specific area(s) related to food microbiology.
3. Participating in and instigation of research proposals.
4. Act as a liaison with and give advice to, third parties (eg. HPOs, EHOs, NZFSA staff) on food microbiological issues.
5. Communicate results through authorship or co-authorship of scientific publications, reports or statements.
6. Present work at conferences.
7. Have significant contact with clients and write client reports.
8. Supervise less experienced technical staff and be involved in their training.
9. Be responsible for maintaining some items of laboratory equipment.
10. Peer Review colleagues' work.

SECTION D

SPECIFIC DELEGATIONS None



Person Specification

SECTION E

Educational Requirements:

- PhD preferred

Technical competencies and Experience:

- Experience in a key area of food microbiology
- Have some knowledge of the risk context of food safety
- Project Management
- Experience with writing of research articles and grant proposals
- Excellent written and oral communication skills

Desirable:

- Flexible, i.e. able to master new areas quickly

COMPETENCIES Research Delivery Leaders

Communication (Organisational and Client)

Ensures people are kept informed and encouraged to express constructive views and opinions.

Delivering a Continually Improving Service

Is able to catalyse on the use of new research knowledge to improve the daily work and overall service objectives of themselves and others.

Empowering Our People and Building Capability

Builds capability to meet current and future business needs through continuous learning and by communicating in ways that support productive working relationships.

Innovation

Has the ability to develop new methods and introduce new ideas. Uses originality of thought and imagination.

Leading, Managing & Implementing Change

Understands the ESR vision and creates a sense of shared purpose to embrace and deliver change. Contributes to new ideas and improved ways of working. . Leads transfer of knowledge across ESR.

Making Informed Decisions

Ensures decisions made in regard to research projects are well informed and communicated and linked to organisational objectives and improvement.

Managing the Stakeholder Relationship

Understands the need to work together with the stakeholder and research clients to deliver outcomes.

Managing and Motivating the Team

Motivates the team to explore new ideas.

Maximising Organisation Potential

Develops and encourages personal development to understand the work of the organisation to create synergies and new opportunities.

Person Specification

Providing Excellent Customer Service

Maintains a professional approach and presents a positive image to internal and external people when representing self and ESR.

Makes every effort to ensure the experience clients have of ESR is positive and productive.

Setting & Achieving Ambitious Targets

Is enthusiastic, ambitious, determined, and confident to challenge, ensuring high levels of personal and organisational achievement. Has stamina and willpower to deliver results.

Visionary and Strategic Leadership

Sees the "big picture". Works with the ODT to contribute to the direction and deliver the business strategic plan.

Working in Partnership

Works well with colleagues and encourages cross partnership working with relevant external parties.

This position description is subject to review from time to time