

**Role:** Wastewater Process Optimisation Lead  
**Area:** Asset Operations  
**Sub-Area:** Technical Support Services  
**Location:** South West Region  
**Duration:** Permanent  
**Salary:** Competitive  
**Ref:** 245AO22



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Irish Water is Ireland's national regulated water utility and is responsible for providing water and wastewater services throughout Ireland. Our mission is to ensure all of our customers receive a clean, safe and reliable supply of drinking water and have their wastewater collected and safely returned to the environment. We will protect the health and well-being of the people of Ireland, protect the environment in all our activities and support Ireland's social and economic growth through appropriate investment in water services.

### **The Role:**

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The Wastewater Process Optimisation team is responsible for the provision of wastewater treatment process expertise in order to ensure regulatory compliance is maintained and processes are optimised to minimise costs where possible. It is also responsible for supporting the management of energy across the operation of assets to reduce the cost of energy and optimise performance.

The **Wastewater Process Optimisation Lead** will report directly to the Wastewater Process Optimisation Manager. The Wastewater Process Optimisation Lead has a regional remit and is responsible for leading and managing the performance of a team to ensure the optimisation and improvement of treatment processes and monitoring adoption of efficient energy usage across the wastewater treatment asset base for a region. This will include overseeing the assessment of wastewater treatment processes to develop optimisation approaches in order to reduce cost and ensure regulatory compliance whilst safeguarding public health.

### **Main Duties and Responsibilities:**

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- Responsible for the overall management of wastewater process optimisation expertise within a region to ensure regulatory compliance is maintained and processes are optimised to minimise energy and chemical usage and costs where possible.
- Responsible for leading and managing a team providing them with the necessary direction and skills to ensure the optimisation and improvement of treatment processes and the adoption of efficient energy and chemical usage measures across the wastewater asset base for a region.
- Responsible for overseeing the assessment of wastewater treatment processes to develop optimisation approaches in order to ensure regulatory compliance and reduce cost, particularly in the area of sludge management, whilst safeguarding public health.
- Support Regional Operations and the Wastewater Compliance team in the management of regional compliance with wastewater quality targets.
- Support Regional Operations in cost performance improvements and information for energy, sludge and chemical.
- Provide process and technical expertise and training and assist in the investigation of process failures.

- Validate and provide wastewater process optimisation information and advice during the development and commissioning of capital projects.
- Manage an asset audit service from a quality and performance perspective and ensure the preparation of associated reports for the Asset Operations function.
- Support the development of best practices and standard operating procedures for wastewater process optimisation that maximise quality of output, chemical and energy efficiency; and support the adoption of processes.
- Support in the assessment of all aspects of process requirements from design through to operation of works and other assets to ensure they are fit for purpose, and assess new or alternative processes or procedures by pilot or full-scale trials.
- Drive continuous improvement initiatives and lead the continuous improvement cycle for the wastewater treatment process optimisation.
- Ensure the team works in accordance with defined levels of operational competence, health and safety requirements and legislation, QA systems and standard operating procedures using the technology systems provided.
- Provide wastewater treatment process optimisation training and support to other areas of the business as required.
- Maximise the effectiveness of the team and develop and grow the skills of all team members through coaching, training and performance management.
- Responsible for resource management including team meetings, productivity management, undertaking of periodical performance reviews, appraisals and resulting recommendations.
- Ensure all information is accurately recorded and promptly reported for audit purposes using the technology systems provided.
- Support in incident response as required, ensuring all health and safety standards are met.
- Responsible for preparing and delivering regular and timely internal communications to direct reports.
- Responsible for carrying out any other duties deemed necessary and / or required by the Wastewater Process Optimisation Manager.
- Responsible for identifying and submitting wastewater infrastructure intervention requests to Wastewater Asset Planning, engaging with the relevant asset owners and/or responsible parties within Asset Operations, providing supplementary information to Wastewater Asset Planning as required.

### **Knowledge, Skills and Experience:**

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- Relevant third level qualification in any of the following disciplines: Science, Engineering, Chemistry or equivalent
- Minimum of seven years' experience, with a focus in process optimisation in the wastewater industry
- Team Leader skills in particular coaching, motivating and managing performance
- Solid practical operational experience allied to technical knowledge, together with an excellent understanding of the best operating practices is desirable
- Require in depth knowledge of both risk assessment and relevant legislation/regulations, coupled with the practical ability to undertake auditing and provide recommendations for improvements
- Capable of building a high performing team and of developing people to realise their full potential and achieve results through effective coaching, delegation and support

- Analytical and problem solving skills - e.g. ability to assess treatment performance to determine efficiencies, and to identify contingency procedures to minimise risk to public health and the environment when operational problems arise
- Working knowledge of ISO 9001 and ISO 14001
- Ability to develop relationships to accomplish team goals coupled with dealing effectively with difference of opinions and conflict management
- Excellent written and communication skills and the ability to deliver training to operations staff
- Experience/understanding of working within a strong health and safety culture
- Experience working within Water Industry and / or other Utilities preferred
- Computing skills i.e., ability to create and interpret spreadsheets and databases
- Knowledge of monitoring, load management and ICA (Instrumentation, Control and Automation) systems is desirable

**Applications, including current Curriculum Vitae, should be emailed to the following address stating the job title and reference number in the subject line of your email:**  
[careers@water.ie](mailto:careers@water.ie).

The closing date for receipt of applications for this vacancy is **16<sup>th</sup> August 2022**.  
Please note that applications submitted after this closing date will not be accepted.

*We are committed to providing a diverse and inclusive place of work and have a robust strategy and framework called **ibelong** to enable this. We are an equal opportunity employer and through our recruitment process we welcome and encourage applications from interested and suitably qualified individuals regardless of gender, age, racial or ethnic origin, membership of the traveller community, religion or beliefs, family or civil status, sexual orientation/gender identity or disability.*

**Irish Water is an equal opportunities employer.**