



Building Control Officer Applicant Recruitment Pack



Welcome

Hi, we would like to thank you for your interest in the vacant position of Building Control Officer - within the Councils Planning Services Team.

This is an exciting and rewarding opportunity for someone who thrives on being organised, is approachable and wants to be at the heart of a busy and varied working environment.

You'll play a key role in ensuring the safety and compliance of building work within the Borough of Sefton and in responding to reports of potentially dangerous structures

As a person, if you're someone who enjoys helping others, takes pride in delivering high-quality support, 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 your own, then we can't wait to hear from you.

Best of luck!

Ian Berrington
Building Control Manager



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.

More recently, we are exceptionally proud to have been nominated and subsequently shortlisted by the Local Government Chronicle for the Most Improved Council 2026. These successes reflect the dedication and professionalism of our teams and our focus on continuous improvement and our desire to make a difference across the communities within the Borough of Sefton.

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.
- Sefton operate a 'Shut Down' period over the Christmas period which staff contribute four fifths of a week's pay over a 12-month period.

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

You will be working within a Team of Building Surveyors, located within the Councils Planning Service.

The Council receives approximately 1,500 Building Regulation applications every year and you will be responsible for checking construction plans and carrying out site inspections, in order to ensure compliance with the technical requirements of the Building Regulations

You will also carry out inspections of structures that are reported as being in an immediately dangerous condition as well as ensuring vacant buildings are secured against unauthorised entry. The Building Control Team is also responsible for ensuring the safety of permanent buildings and temporary structures used in connection with sporting events.



This role will suit someone who is passionate about delivering excellent levels of service, is committed to maintaining high standards and is confident working both independently and as part of a Team

Please see **Appendix A (page 10)** for a full copy of the Job Description and Person Specification.

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 14 August 2026** (or earlier in the event of high volume of applications being received).

Provisional interview dates are **Tuesday 1st September & Wednesday 2nd September 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:

Directorate: Economic Growth & Housing

Location: Magdalen House, Bootle, L20 3NJ

Division: Planning Services

Post: Building Control Officer

Grade: H £37,280 - £40,777 *pay award pending

Reporting to: Service Manger Building Control

Purpose of the Role

To provide support to the Service Manager and assist as required with all aspects of the Unit's functions by:

1. Applying legislation and guidance to ensure that buildings constructed in Sefton meet appropriate standards.
2. Applying legislation fairly, equitably and consistently.
3. Delivering appropriate standards of service.
4. Providing advice to customers and service users.
5. Promoting and marketing the Council's Building Control Service.

MAIN DUTIES

1. Assist the Service Manager with the administration of the Building Regulations and associated legislation throughout Sefton, ensuring the service meets its statutory obligations and delivers services which meet customer expectations
2. Within the level of experience and knowledge of the post holder, undertake assessment of building plans and other documentation i.e. structural calculations, calculations to demonstrate thermal efficiency, fire strategies, risk assessments and access statements, to ensure compliance with the Building Regulations.
3. Undertake site inspections to determine the suitability of building work and ensure compliance with the Building Regulations and associated legislation.



Produce reports, documentation and make recommendations on appropriate enforcement action including the preparation and issuing of statutory notices.

4. Inspect, monitor and take appropriate action in the interest of health and safety in respect of dangerous structures, insecure premises and demolition work.
5. Represent the Building Control Manager as required, at various technical meetings within the Authority and elsewhere and provide advice on Building Control matters and prepare reports where appropriate.
6. Undertake, as required, consultations with the Police, Fire Authority and other Authorities, ensuring that responses of the consultant are brought to the attention of the appropriate persons and are included within the development proposal.
7. Assist in the preparation of Committee and other reports, investigate complaints and produce reports for presentation to the appropriate person.
8. Attend appropriate departmental training courses to improve effectiveness in tasks set.
9. Assist in the administration and maintenance of the Building Control Teams Quality Assurance system
10. To provide technical support to the Service Manager and assist as required with all aspects of the Teams function.

SPECIAL CONDITIONS

1. The postholder must be aware of, and be able to observe, the confidentiality of aspects of the work.
2. A high standard of customer care is required at all times. A flexible working time system is currently in operation.
3. The postholder will be expected to attend training events relevant to the duties of the post
4. Casual user car allowance
5. From July 2024, the post holder will be expected to be registered with the Building Safety Regulator and should be working towards being successfully assessed for their competence to operate as a building inspector at either Class 2 Bands A-C (CABE assessment) or Band A Domestic (BSCF assessment route). Successful registration and competency assessment will be a condition of continued employment within the Councils Building Control Team.

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

1. This job description is a representative document. Other reasonable similar duties may be allocated from time to time commensurate with the general character of the post and its grading.
2. 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.
3. 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.

PERSON SPECIFICATION

Post: Building Control Officer

Department: Planning Services

Personal Attributes Required	Essential (E) or Desirable (D)	Method of Assessment
<u>Qualifications</u>		
A relevant technical qualification (e.g. H.N.C or H.N.D or BTEC Higher National) or a specific Building Control technical qualification or demonstrable experience of working within the construction industry.	E	AF/C
<u>Experience</u>		
Significant period of time working in a Building Control environment.	D	AF/I
<u>Skills & Knowledge</u>		
To communicate verbally and in writing with colleagues, other professional / technical persons and the public (incl use of IT)	E	AF/I/T
Ability to keep complete and accurate records	E	AF
Ability to use information technology that is available within Building Control.	D	AF
Ability to work in a team and at certain times, under minimum supervision.	E	AF
An understanding of the Building Regulations and other associated legislation	E	I/T
An understanding of building defects and potential remedies.	E	I/T



Behaviours and Attributes		
A team worker who fosters partnerships, works collaboratively demonstrates and promotes openness, trust and respect	E	AF/I

Assessment Methods**AF:** Application Form**I:** Interview**C:** Certificates**Prepared by:** Ian Berrington**Date:** 21st July 2026

