



Footprint Ecology are seeking self-employed sub-contractors to undertake **visitor surveys** across the UK, but with a particular need in the North East of England, interviewing visitors to countryside sites. You do not have to be based in Dorset, or an ecologist, to apply.

We offer great day rates, and interesting work in beautiful countryside locations such as country parks, heaths, coastal sites or nature reserves. We can't guarantee a particular amount of work but we currently have work coming up in South & East Yorkshire and potentially Tyneside.



*Epping Forest, taken by visitor surveyor Chris Sadler*

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[info@footprint-ecology.co.uk](mailto:info@footprint-ecology.co.uk)

Footprint Training and Ecological Consultancy Ltd - Registered No. 4980085  
Registered Office: Cold Harbour, Wareham, Dorset BH20 7PA

*connecting wildlife and people*



The work is usually in blocks of four days around weekends, including **both** weekend days, however we will consider shorter blocks to fit around other commitments, or individual days if the work is within a short drive of your home.

You will spend eight hours working over the course of the day, broken down into two hour blocks with comfort breaks in between. In winter the blocks are crammed together, due to the limited daylight hours, but in summer the sessions are more spread out with longer breaks in which to explore your surroundings. Surveys are done on tablets, along with recording visitors' routes on paper maps and keeping a count of other users.

As a **self-employed** contractor you would be responsible for your own tax and NI. You would also need to have £1 million public liability insurance for survey work with the public (for most of our contractors this costs less than £50 per year). You would need to supply your own tablet and have access to a reliable vehicle. Day rates start at £150, plus an allowance for mileage and accommodation/subsistence, the amount dependant on distance from your home and the costs of accommodation in the area. We will supply a tabard and ID badge, and undertake to pay your invoices within 14 days.

We cannot guarantee any level of work, but we do try to find as much work as we can, and distribute it fairly amongst the pool of contractors.

To be successful you will need to be:

- Familiar with touch screens and tablets/smartphones – the surveys are done on an app on a tablet, but we also need people to have their emails coming to their phone, so we can get in touch quickly.
- Able to follow survey methodology – we need surveys done in a set way at set times.
- Self-managing and reliable – able to sort out your travel and accommodation
- Safety conscious – you are responsible for the safety of yourself and your interviewees.
- Able to drive, with access to a reliable vehicle, if a contractor. This work can't usually be done from public transport, and it is good to have a vehicle to retreat to in bad weather. The vehicle would need to be insured for Business use.
- Hardy & robust – you will be working out of doors in all kinds of weather.
- Smiley and friendly – you will be approaching strangers and asking them about their activities, views etc. You will need to be comfortable around dogs, because a lot of the visitors will have dogs with them.

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If you are interested please email your cv and a note telling us how you fit the requirements to [fenella@footprint-ecology.co.uk](mailto:fenella@footprint-ecology.co.uk).

If we feel you may be suitable we will invite you to a virtual recruitment/training day. The purpose of this will be to explain what we do in more detail and explain the survey process to you, while also making a judgement as to whether we think you will be able to meet our needs. We would normally do this day in person, including a chance to try out the software on some unsuspecting members of the public, but all that has changed due to COVID. The training will be via Zoom or Teams, and we will have to get a bit creative about the practical sessions.

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