



Community Law & Mediation

JOB DESCRIPTION FOR THE POSITION OF ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE LAWYER

Job Title	Environmental Justice Lawyer
Employer	Community Law & Mediation (CLM)
Reports to	The direct line report is currently to the Managing Solicitor of CLM. The successful candidate will also report on the processing of legal cases to the CEO of CLM.
Salary	Details available on request
Hours	The working hours are 9.30am-5pm (9.30am-4pm on a Friday) and CLM are flexible as to whether this is a 5 day or 4 day week role. If the candidate wishes to work a 4 day week, salary, leave and benefits will be reduced on a pro rata basis.
Duration of Contract	Fixed term for 2 years, subject to the successful completion of a 6-month probation period. It is hoped to secure sufficient funding to enable the role to be longer term.
Start Date	Immediate
Location	CLM Offices, Northside Civic Centre, Bunratty rd, Coolock, Dublin 17. Some travel may be required. CLM’s current remote working policy provides that staff work 2 days per week in the office.
Application Deadline	Monday 15 th April 2024 @ 5pm
Proposed Interview Date	Week Commencing the 22 nd April 2024

Background to CLM and the Centre for Environmental Justice

Community Law & Mediation (CLM) is a community based, independent law centre providing services nationwide and operating in two locations: Dublin and Limerick. It was founded in 1975 and assists almost 5,000 people annually through its services, which include free legal advice and representation; information and education; and mediation and conflict coaching. CLM also campaigns for law reform, and for the safeguarding of rights already enshrined in law.

In recent years, CLM has seen how closely intertwined our climate and changing environment are with the issues experienced by communities experiencing disadvantage and social exclusion, for example flooding, health concerns related to poor air quality, and poor housing conditions.

As a result, CLM set up the Centre for Environmental Justice, formally launched by Mary Robinson on 11 February 2021. The Centre is the first of its kind in Ireland. It aims to empower and equip individuals, community groups and organisations to challenge environmental injustice using the law. This includes representing clients in [climate litigation cases](#).

For more information, take a look at our [website](#).

The Role of Environmental Justice Lawyer

This is a unique and exciting opportunity to work towards ensuring that climate change and other environmental issues are addressed whilst also making progress towards equality and the protection and realisation of human rights. The successful candidate will be supported by the CLM team, including the CEO, Management Team and interns, and must have a proven ability to manage and advance a busy caseload.

Key Responsibilities

- Legal Duties
 - Provision of legal advice and assistance to individuals, community groups and organisations in the area of environmental justice in an accessible, meaningful and practical way;
 - Provision of legal representation and responsibility for the management of a caseload in the area of environmental justice;
 - Legal research and contribution to the policy and law reform advocacy work of the Centre;
 - Liaising with CLM's legal team in the areas of housing, social welfare, equality, employment and child law as it relates to environmental justice;
 - Assisting other work of the CLM legal team, where required.
- Community Engagement
 - Liaise with stakeholders regarding the promotion and development of the area of environmental justice and the establishment of outreach legal advice clinics;
 - Community education – designing and delivering talks and courses on environmental justice and the law.
- Strategy
 - Work with the CEO and Centre Manager in relation to the strategic development of the Centre's legal work.
- Such other tasks as may be necessary to assist with the work of CLM.

Person Specification

Essential

- Hold appropriate degree;
- Professional qualification as a solicitor or barrister;
- Experience in litigation and environmental law;
- Proven ability to manage, coordinate and take ownership of a busy caseload;
- Demonstrated attention to detail and adherence to strict policies and procedures on file management;
- Demonstrated ability to think strategically and to identify opportunities;
- Excellent interpersonal and networking skills and a capacity to be compassionate and respectful with clients;
- Ability to work calmly, under pressure, as part of a small team, and to delegate and project-manage on cases where necessary;
- Flexibility in adapting to changing and developing roles;
- Excellent verbal and written communication and presentation skills.

Desirable

- A relevant post graduate qualification;
- Clear and demonstrable experience in the area of social justice and equality;
- Understanding of current landscape and key players in the area of environmental justice.

Application

Please email completed [application form](#) and CV, as one document, to Jane O Sullivan at josullivan@communitylawandmediation.ie.

The closing date for receipt of applications is **5pm, 15th April 2024**.

Interviews will be held on the week commencing the **22nd April 2024** and will include a short presentation on an area relevant to the role.

To view CLM's fair processing notice, please click [here](#).

Community Law & Mediation is an equal opportunities employer.