



**Programme Manager - Near Zero Energy Building Specialist
Candidate Information Booklet (SEA0817)**

March 2017

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Mazars have been retained by SEAI to assist with an appointment to the role of Programme Manager - Near Zero Energy Building Specialist. Mazars, on behalf of SEAI, invites applications from suitably qualified candidates both nationally and internationally, and will be undertaking a comprehensive recruitment process for this purpose.

Full details of the role and how to apply are set out in this booklet.

THE POSITION

Title of Position:	Programme Manager - Near Zero Energy Building Specialist (REF: SEA0817)
Office:	SEAI Head Office, Wilton Park House, Wilton Place, Dublin 2, D02 T228, Ireland.
Location:	Dublin
Organisation Website:	http://www.seai.ie/

The Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland (SEAI) was established as Ireland's national energy authority under the Sustainable Energy Act 2002. Its mission is to play a leading role in transforming Ireland into a society based on sustainable energy structures, technologies and practices. To fulfil this mission SEAI aims to provide well-timed and informed advice to Government, and deliver a range of programmes efficiently and effectively, while engaging and motivating a wide range of stakeholders and showing continuing flexibility and innovation in all activities. SEAI's actions will help advance Ireland to the vanguard of the global green technology movement, so that Ireland is recognised as a pioneer in the move to decarbonised energy systems.

What do we do?

SEAI manages programmes aimed at:

- Supporting Government decision-making through advocacy, analysis and evidence
- Driving demand reduction and providing advice to all users of energy
- Driving the decarbonisation of energy supply
- Raising standards in sustainable energy products and services
- Building markets based on quality, confidence and proven performance
- Fostering innovation and entrepreneurship
- Improving the coherence of Irish energy research and development

This includes a range of grant programmes and policy support actions directed at upgrading the energy efficiency of Ireland's buildings. These programmes have a strong developmental focus on promoting best practice and building capacity in the construction industry. SEAI also operates Ireland's Building Energy Rating system and maintains public databases of energy products.

Driving energy efficiency and quality in buildings

Accelerating energy efficiency activity in buildings to a greatly increased scale and depth is a national policy priority. Government has assigned SEAI a lead role in tackling the demanding challenge of implementing the highest attainable energy and carbon performance standards in the existing building stock, particularly through the 'Better Energy' retrofit programme. SEAI also has a significant support role in driving such standards in new buildings, to reach the goal of 'nearly zero' energy buildings. A key requirement is to deliver this transformation in a way which achieves comfortable indoor conditions that are healthy and safe both for occupants and for the durability of the building and its functions. This requires industry understanding and implementation of good practice based on sound building physics, feasible specification and pragmatic solutions – including innovative solutions.

THE ROLE

This is an exciting opportunity to play a key role in enabling vital national energy policy actions in the built environment to be developed and delivered with maximum effectiveness and long term [beneficial impacts.

The ideal candidate will have a sound foundational knowledge and post graduate experience in the practical application of building physics / buildings as a system expertise, either as a stand-alone

analytical service or directly within an architectural design, engineering consultancy, research or similar environment.

Job Function

Within its overall mission, SEAI's programmes are strongly directed at transforming the energy performance and environmental quality of Ireland's built environment, both newbuild and retrofit/ renovation. The core role is to provide a robust scientific and analytical expertise to guide and inform the successful delivery through these programmes of a wide range of energy efficiency measures by the construction industry. This will involve, *inter alia*, assessment of thermo-physical dynamics and risks, impacts on building fabric attributes and indoor environmental quality, interactions with building services systems, as well as contributing to the development and exploitation of new technical solutions.

It will include consideration of existing standards and codes, potential models of excellence, prevailing practices and emerging qualifications and skills in the industry with the aim of upskilling specifiers, installers, contractors and other practitioners. It will require engagement and partnership with appropriate market actors (researchers, training institutions, professional bodies, building contractors, product and service providers, trade associations) and regulatory, standards, certification and training bodies. The goal is to ensure that all work carried out under national retrofit programmes is fit for long term purpose in respect of both energy and other functional requirements, achieving the highest international quality standards. Beyond the core role of internal support service provision, the role includes an external market-facing support service and support to policy development.

Key Requirements of the Role

The role of the Near Zero Building Specialist includes but is not limited to the following:

- Lead the ongoing design, development and implementation of a specific work programme of specialist analysis and support in response to policy and sector demands from SEAI teams and, where appropriate, external parties including Government Departments and regulatory Agencies;
- Maintain ongoing liaison and consultative dialogue with relevant construction industry actors to identify needs and issues, and particularly technical barriers to, or risks from, the adoption of energy efficient technologies and measures in buildings;
- Anticipate and highlight potential direct or collateral technical risks and innovation opportunities with current or potential energy efficiency measures in the range of Irish building types and conditions;
- Critically evaluate such potential risks and opportunities, whether internally or externally identified, including the deployment of appropriate software packages;
- Specify, commission (by invitation to tender), oversee delivery and evaluate the findings of research studies or field trials (e.g. post works or post occupancy evaluation) where appropriate, and evaluate relevant applications submitted under SEAI research grant programme calls for proposals;
- Develop, assemble and present evidence to inform earliest corrective actions, best practice solutions, innovative solutions or pathways to solutions – including recommending risk avoidance or mitigation techniques or developmental actions;
- Provide an ongoing resource for quantifying or ascertaining the energy and collateral impacts of existing or potential energy efficiency measures in buildings, and contribute to evaluations of the effectiveness of national programmes;
- Prepare and present reports documenting modelling and analysis work completed or in progress, in a clear and concise form and language appropriate for the reader/ listener, whether for an internal or external (possibly public) audience;
- Provide a central point for the collection and dissemination of best practice technical guidance to SEAI programme managers, to regulatory bodies responsible for technical standards and codes of practice, and to construction industry practitioners;
- Manage the design, development, implementation, maintenance and review of technical specifications for products/ materials/ equipment and codes of practice for installers/ contractors;
- Advise on appropriate competency levels and qualifications required of system designers/ specifiers, installers and contractors for participation in SEAI programmes;

- Contribute to the initiation, development and delivery of education and training programmes to improve construction industry professional and trade skills, in liaison with professional and educational institutions and the wider training sector;
- Assess the suitability of methodological tools and software for current or potential use to aid energy efficiency retrofit specification, delivery or verification, and advise on development needs;
- Contribute advice on appropriate systems of technical inspection to be managed by SEAI or stakeholders in relation to energy efficiency retrofit projects and programmes;
- Maintain a watching brief on relevant national and international science and research, and its practical application to the goal of delivering low energy buildings;
- Achieve agreed targets, manage resources and control budgetary aspects of the delivery of specific initiatives;
- Manage effective delivery of outputs/tasks, having regard to value for money, quality and reputational aspects, and contribute to the evaluation of the effectiveness;
- Participate in the strategic development of SEAI's programmes and related policy development in the built environment;
- Manage staff including performance management and development;
- Fulfil any other duties that may be assigned from time to time.

In summary, the successful candidate should provide integrated technical support across relevant SEAI programmes and should have the capacity to provide specialist support to allied policy and regulatory bodies, and building industry parties, with a focus on practical and resilient solutions.

Key Knowledge and Skills

- Foundational technical skills at either undergraduate or postgraduate level containing building physics/ building science as a significant module;
- Strong numeracy and rigorous analytical skills, and sound engineering judgement with a problem solving focus based on appropriate attention to detail;
- Competence in the application or development of tools for the modelling and analysis of thermal, and ventilation performance dynamics of buildings, risk avoidance and mitigation;
- Specific knowledge in at least two of the following fields is expected: heat transfer modelling, minimising air leakage, minimising thermal bridging, hygrothermal modelling/moisture diffusion, condensation risk analysis, solar gain or overheating risk analysis, indoor air quality, comfort or health studies, ventilation/ airflow modelling and ventilation strategies, thermal simulation models;
- Good understanding of the process and factors determining building performance, from design, specification, construction/ installation and commissioning, to operation and maintenance;
- Familiarity with technical challenges, risks and practices in low energy buildings and energy retrofits, desirably including national, EU and wider international standards, trends and insights;
- Good understanding of the characteristics of building materials, components and systems with regard to issues such as long term durability, interactions and compatibility, deterioration mechanisms, fire, acoustic and moisture attributes, and protective measures;
- Understanding of specification and installation practices to ensure compliance of low energy proposals with regulatory requirements and good practice regarding structural, fire, acoustic, moisture and durability requirements;
- Understanding of the requirement for an appropriate balance between passive architectural strategies and engineering technologies (e.g. well aligned and responsive HVAC systems and controls) in delivering energy efficient buildings;
- Understanding of new and emerging energy efficiency technologies, best practices and solutions and how they can be adopted and implemented appropriately;
- Technical and market understanding of Ireland's building construction sector would be beneficial;
- Ability to work in a team, to interact professionally, build positive working relationships and network effectively with external allies and interests;
- Innovative and proactive approach to problem solving and delivery;
- Ability to formulate, commission and evaluate research, modelling and analysis work by third party providers;
- Ability to organise and deliver training and other capacity building initiatives for professional, craft trades and other parties as required;

- Excellent communication, documentation, report writing and presentation skills, with fluency in the English language, and ability to represent SEAI in institutional and public fora.

EXPERIENCE AND PERSONAL QUALITIES REQUIRED

Essential Experience

The successful candidate must be able to demonstrate:

- Degree or Post Graduate qualification in architecture, civil/ construction engineering, construction technology, mechanical/ electrical/building services engineering or equivalent;
- Minimum of 7+ years' experience in the practical application of building physics/ building science principles to the analysis, modelling, design or specification of building structures and services - likely in a role entailing either research, analysis, design, specification or delivery of energy efficient retrofit measures or of low energy buildings;
- Specialist service provision applying building physics/ building science principles either as a stand-alone analytical service or directly within an architectural design, engineering consultancy, construction company, research or similar environment;
- Experience in application to various building types, forms and ages– ideally both domestic and non-domestic, ranging from low rise homes, apartment buildings and various public and commercial building types;
- Experience working in a team or multidisciplinary environment;
- Experience with working successfully in a multi-tasking role;
- Proficient experience in the use of MS Office Programs (Excel, Word and Outlook).

Personal attributes

The successful candidate should have the following personal attributes:

- A proactive problem solving approach and practical focus;
- Ability to work in a team environment;
- Ability to work at own initiative and deliver on assignments end to end;
- Ability to effectively manage a portfolio of demands;
- An excellent work ethic;
- An ability to adapt in response to changing priorities and scenarios;
- Excellent written and oral communication skills, including clear and concise presentation skills.

Reporting and Working Relationships

The Programme Manager - Near Zero Energy Building Specialist directly reports to the Head of Low Carbon Technologies

CONDITIONS OF SERVICE

CONTRACT ARRANGEMENTS

This position will be offered on a 5 year fixed term contract basis.

SALARY

The salary for this post is the Level E scale; €65,000, €65,000, €66,918, €69,578, €72,237, €75,170. - €77,360 (after 3 years' service in the grade) and €79,542 (after 6 years' service in the grade) in accordance with National Pay Agreement.

STARTING SALARY AND PAYMENT ARRANGEMENTS

Candidates should note that salary will not be subject to negotiation and the rate of remuneration may be adjusted from time to time in line with Government pay policy. New entrants to the public sector will start on point 1 subject to Haddington Road Agreement and subsequent Government Agreements.

Payment will be made monthly by Electronic Fund Transfer (EFT) into a bank account of the staff member's choice. Payment cannot be made until a bank account number and bank sort code has been supplied to SEAI. Statutory deductions from salary will be made as appropriate.

A staff member appointed to the post of Programme Manager - Near Zero Energy Building Specialist will agree that any overpayment of salary or of travel and subsistence may be deducted from future salary payments due in accordance with the Payment of Wages Act 1991. In accordance with that Act, SEAI will advise the staff member in writing of the amount and details of such overpayment and give at least one week's notice of the deduction to take place and will deduct the overpayment, at an amount that is fair and reasonable having regard to all the circumstances, within six months of such notice in accordance with the Act.

You will be required to pay to SEAI any fees or other monies (other than salary) payable to or received by you by virtue of your post or in respect of services, which you are required by or under any enactment to perform.

LOCATION

The place of work for the Programme Manager - Near Zero Energy Building Specialist will be based in Wilton Park House, Wilton Place, Dublin 2, D02 T228. SEAI reserves the right, at its discretion, to change working location within reason.

PROBATION

On appointment, the appointee will serve a 10 month probationary period in the post of Programme Manager – Near Zero Energy Building Specialist. Prior to the end of this probationary period a decision will be made on substantive appointment to the grade or an extension of the probationary period by an additional month. No probation period will be longer than 11 months.

WORKING WEEK

Working hours will be in accordance with the standard arrangements for SEAI and will equate to no less than 37 hours (net of rest breaks) per week. Additional hours may from time to time be reasonably required to meet the requirements of the position. No additional payment will be made for

extra attendance as the rate of remuneration payable covers any exceptional extra attendance liability that may arise from time to time

ANNUAL LEAVE

The annual leave allowance for this post will be 30 working days per annum. This leave is on the basis of a five day week and is exclusive of the usual public holidays. Annual Leave per annum is to be taken at a time or times convenient to SEAI.

THE ORGANISATION OF WORKING TIME ACT 1997

The terms of the Organisation of Working Time Act, 1997 will apply, where appropriate, to this appointment.

SICK LEAVE

Payment for absences through illness will apply, during properly certified sick absence, provided there is no evidence of permanent disability for service in accordance with the provisions of SEAI's sick leave scheme. These sick leave arrangements are subject to any changes arising in the terms and conditions of sick leave in respect of the public service generally.

Staff members paying the Class A rate of PRSI will be required to sign a mandate authorising the Department of Social Protection to pay any benefits due under the Social Welfare Acts direct to SEAI. Payment of salary during illness will be subject to the staff member making the necessary claims for social insurance benefit to the Department of Social Protection within the required time limits.

SUPERANNUATION AND RETIREMENT

The appointee will be offered the appropriate superannuation terms and conditions as prevailing in the Public Service at the time of being offered an appointment. In general, an appointee who has never worked in the Public Service will be offered appointment based on membership of the Single Public Service Pension Scheme ("Single Scheme"). Full details of the Scheme are at <http://www.per.gov.ie/pensions>

The key provisions attaching to membership of the Single Scheme are as follows:

Pensionable Age

The minimum age at which pension is payable is 66 (rising to 67 & 68 in line with State Pension age changes).

Retirement Age

Scheme members must retire at the age of 70.

Pension Abatement

If the appointee has previously been employed in the Civil or Public Service and is in receipt of a pension from the Civil or Public Service or where a Civil/Public Service pension comes into payment during his/her re-employment that pension will be subject to abatement in accordance with the Public Service Pensions (Single Scheme and Other Provisions) Act 2012.

If the appointee was previously employed in the Civil Service and awarded a pension under voluntary early retirement arrangements (other than the Incentivised Scheme of Early Retirement (ISER), Department of Health Circular 7/2010 VER/VRS or the Department of Environment, Community & Local Government Circular Letter LG (P) 06/2013 which, as indicated above, renders a person

ineligible for the competition) the entitlement to that pension will cease with effect from the date of reappointment. Special arrangements will, however be made for the reckoning of previous service given by the appointee for the purpose of any future superannuation award for which the appointee may be eligible.

Ill-Health Retirement

For an individual who has retired from a Civil/Public Service body on the grounds of ill-health his/her pension from that employment may be subject to review in accordance with the rules of ill-health retirement within the pension scheme of that employment.

Pension treatment of existing public servants

While the default pension terms, as set out in the preceding paragraphs, consist of Single Scheme membership, this may not apply to certain appointees. Full details of the conditions governing whether or not a public servant is a Single Scheme member are given in the Public Service Pensions (Single Scheme and other Provisions) Act 2012. However, the key exception case (in the context of this competition and generally) is that **a successful candidate who has worked in a pensionable (non-single scheme terms) capacity in the public service within 26 weeks of taking up appointment, would in general not become a member of the Single Scheme.** In this case such a candidate would instead, where applicable, be offered membership of the SEAI Pension Scheme and its associated Spouses' and Children's Pension Scheme. This would mean that the abatement provisions above would apply, and in addition there are implications in respect of pension accrual as outlined below:

Pension Accrual

The Public Service Pensions (Single Scheme and other Provisions) Act 2012 introduced a 40-year limit on total service that can be counted towards pension where a person has been a member of more than one pre-existing public service pension scheme.

Pension-Related Deduction

The appointment is subject to the pension-related deduction in accordance with the Financial Emergency Measure in the Public Interest Act 2009.

Incentivised Scheme for Early Retirement (ISER)

It is a condition of the Incentivised Scheme for Early Retirement (ISER) as set out in Department of Finance Circular 12/09 that retirees, under that Scheme, are debarred from applying for another position in the same employment or the same sector. Therefore, such retirees cannot apply while the above restrictions continue in force.

Department of Health and Children Circular (7/2010)

The Department of Health Circular 7/2010 dated 1 November 2010 introduced a Targeted Voluntary Early Retirement (VER) Scheme and Voluntary Redundancy Schemes (VRS). It is a condition of the VER scheme that persons availing of the scheme will not be eligible for re-employment in the public health sector or in the wider public service or in a body wholly or mainly funded from public moneys. The same prohibition on re-employment applies under the VRS, except that the prohibition is for a period of 7 years, after which time any re-employment will require the approval of the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform. People who availed of either of these schemes are not eligible to compete in this competition while the above restrictions apply.

Collective Agreement: Redundancy Payments to Public Servants

The Department of Public Expenditure and Reform letter dated 28th June 2012 to Personnel Officers introduced, with effect from 1st June 2012, a Collective Agreement which had been reached between the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform and the Public Services Committee of the ICTU in

relation to ex-gratia Redundancy Payments to Public Servants. It is a condition of the Collective Agreement that persons availing of the agreement will not be eligible for re-employment in the public service by any public service body (as defined by the Financial Emergency Measures in the Public Interest Acts 2009 – 2011) for a period of 2 years from termination of the employment. Thereafter the consent of the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform will be required prior to re-employment. People who availed of this scheme and who may be successful in this competition will have to prove their eligibility (expiry of period of non-eligibility) and the Minister's consent will have to be secured prior to employment by any public service body.

Declaration

Applicants will be required to declare whether they have previously availed of a public service scheme of incentivised early retirement and/or the collective agreement outlined above. Applicants will also be required to declare any entitlements to a Public Service pension benefit (in payment or preserved) from any other Public Service employment and/or where they have received a payment-in-lieu in respect of service in any Public Service employment.

Other Conditions of Employment Further information on the conditions of employment will be outlined in the contract of employment for the successful candidate.

HOW TO APPLY

Mazars have been retained by SEAI to assist with the appointment of the Programme Manager - Near Zero Energy Building Specialist role. Mazars, on behalf of SEAI, invites applications from suitably qualified candidates both nationally and internationally, and will be undertaking a comprehensive recruitment process for this purpose. The Programme Manager - Near Zero Energy Building Specialist role is a critical role within SEAI.

Mazars will be managing all aspects of this recruitment project on behalf of SEAI. No enquiries or canvassing should be made directly to SEAI.

Applications with a cover letter (maximum of two pages) and CV should be sent to: execrecruit@mazars.ie (quoting job reference code in the subject line of your email). For more information, contact Sonya Boyce, Mazars on (01) 449 6466.

Closing Date

Deadline for application: Friday 31st March 2017 at 5.00pm GMT.

Applications will not be accepted after the closing date.

An acknowledgement email will be issued for all applications received. If you do not receive acknowledgement of your application within 2 working days of submission, please contact Killian Foley by email (kfoley@mazars.ie) to ensure your application has been received.

Selection Process

Mazars will be undertaking a competency based selection process in identifying suitable candidates for the role of Programme Manager - Near Zero Energy Building Specialist for SEAI.

Psychometric testing may be required for candidates who are successful in the initial screening process, prior to being invited forward for interview. A competency based interview process will be held, with representatives from both SEAI and Mazars featuring on the Selection Board.

GENERAL INFORMATION

CITIZENSHIP

Persons who are not citizens of the EU, the European Economic Area (EEA) states and Switzerland are not eligible to compete.

Normal rules of the Public Service will apply as regards eligibility. In the case of the Incentivised Scheme for Early Retirement (ISER), one of its conditions at paragraph 12 of Circular 12/09 debars retirees from the Public Service under that Scheme from applying for another position in the Public Service. Therefore, such retirees cannot apply while the above restrictions continue in force.

The EEA consists of the member states of the European Union along with Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway. Special conditions may apply to citizens of Bulgaria and Romania following their recent entry to the European Union and their eligibility to be employed and work in Ireland.

Eligibility should be confirmed with the Department of Jobs, Enterprise & Innovation.

REFERENCE CHECKS

Please note that any offer of employment made to a successful candidate will be subject to satisfactory reference verification and satisfactory verification of academic and professional qualifications.

SECURITY CLEARANCES

Please note that Garda Clearance will be required for this position. If you have resided / studied in countries outside of the Republic of Ireland for a period of 6 months or more, you must furnish a separate Police Clearance Certificate from each country stating that you have no convictions recorded against you while residing there.

It is **YOUR** responsibility to seek security clearances in a timely fashion. The successful candidate cannot be appointed without this information being provided and being in order. The following websites may be of assistance to you in this regard:

- www.disclosurescotland.co.uk
- www.migrationint.com.au/office.asp (countries other than UK/NI)
- www.afp.gov.au (Australia)
- www.courts.govt.nz (New Zealand)

For other countries not listed above you may find it helpful to contact the relevant embassies who could provide you with information on seeking Police Clearance.

CONFIDENTIALITY

Candidate confidentiality will be respected at all stages of the recruitment process. Applicants should however note that all application material will be made available SEAI.

LEGAL COMPLIANCE

Mazars and SEAI are committed to complying with all relevant legislation over the course of this recruitment campaign, including the Employment Equality Acts 1998-2011, the Data Protection Acts 1988 and 2003, and the Freedom of Information Acts, 1997, 2003 and 2014.

EXPENSES

Mazars and/or SEAI will not be responsible for any expense, including travelling expenses, candidates may incur in connection with their candidature.

CANVASSING

Canvassing will result in disqualification from the competition.