

CAREER PROFILES:

NAME: GRACE CARR

POSITION TITLE

MARINE ADVOCACY OFFICER



AN OVERVIEW OF YOUR JOB:

My job involves speaking with national and EU politicians and policy makers and trying to influence environmental legislation. I also engage with a range of stakeholders across Ireland as well as submitting to public consultations on marine issues and speaking at events.

WHERE ARE YOU USUALLY BASED?

Usually in an office although this job involves quite a bit of travelling. I travel to Dublin and Brussels to attend the Dáil and the European Parliament. I also travel further afield to attend different ocean and environmental conferences such as COP

A TYPICAL DAY...

My days are very different depending on what is going on. Some weeks will be more laptop focused and I will have to conduct a lot of research in order to send in comprehensive submissions to important consultations on environmental issues. Other weeks might be full of meetings speaking with civil servants, politicians or other stakeholders.

WHAT'S YOUR FAVOURITE PART OF YOUR JOB?

I enjoy meeting different stakeholders who also care about the ocean. This is always a great learning experience. I also enjoy speaking with politicians and trying to influence greater change in environmental laws

WHAT'S THE MOST CHALLENGING PART OF YOUR JOB?

Speaking with politicians can be quite challenging and it is frustrating when progress is slow in effecting change.



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An Taisce

**HOW DID YOU
GET INTO THIS
CAREER?**

I have always loved the ocean. I worked as a SCUBA dive instructor before getting my degrees and going into research. I then applied for this role as I wanted to help create better protection for Irish marine ecosystems.



**WHAT ADVICE WOULD YOU GIVE
TO A YOUNG PERSON
INTERESTED IN THIS CAREER
PATH?**

Reach out to people working in the field you are interested in and ask them questions. People might be busy, but they will generally try to help you. I did this when I was starting out and it has helped build connections which I still have now.

**BESIDES FORMAL
QUALIFICATIONS, WHAT SKILLS
OR TRAITS ARE MOST USEFUL
FOR YOUR TYPE OF WORK?**

Being a people person is useful as you are constantly meeting new people and working in different environments.

**HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN IN
THIS LINE OF WORK?**

2 YEARS



**WHAT WORK EXPERIENCE, QUALIFICATIONS
OR TRAINING WOULD YOU RECOMMEND FOR
GETTING INTO THIS CAREER?**

To work in marine advocacy, it's important to build up your confidence speaking in public and also speaking with individuals. Practice giving presentations to your class or larger audiences if you can. Get involved with different NGO's that are working on something you are interested in and volunteer to help out.

