Opportunity to join the team at Masson Mills as Facilities and Operations Manager

The Mills
Sir Richard Arkwright’s Masson Mills are situated in Matlock Bath and form the northernmost aspect of the UNESCO Derwent Valley Mills World Heritage Site, near to the Peak District National Park. They are the product of the peak of Arkwright’s exploits as a pioneer of factory building in the late 18th Century. For over 200 years the Mills operated successfully as part of the cotton manufacturing process. Uses since 1990 have included a shopping centre (now permanently closed), museum, conferences and car parking. Water power remains integral to the site, with hydroelectric generation ongoing. The successful candidate will primarily work at the Mills.

The Business
In September 2022 the Mills were acquired (through a subsidiary) by Derwent Hydro, a specialist mini-hydropower engineering company and generator. Derwent Hydro’s main office and workshop is now based at Masson. The museum has reopened in July 2023 following its Covid-19 closure, now with a new visitor centre/reception. The events and conference spaces are due to be re-launched shortly accompanied by upgrades to the car parking facilities. Many other areas of the property are yet to be redeveloped or brought back into use. In total the group of companies employs 15 people, the majority within the hydro business. The successful candidate will report to Jamie Needle, one of the company’s three directors.

The Role
To ensure the smooth and safe practical operation of the Masson Mills site. Key elements of this include:

- Health and safety responsibility for the whole site
- Fire risk management
- Site security
- Site presentation
- Logistical management of the site
- Supplier management including utilities
- Management of electrical, mechanical and buildings maintenance
- Maintaining appropriate records in all respects
- Participation in an on-call rota (probably one week in 3), so that there is always someone available to the fire service/police or to attend site in any other emergency situation – although actual need to attend site out of hours is expected to be rare.

The successful candidate will be able to demonstrate suitability in relation to all of the above, the following would be desirable additional qualities but not necessarily essential:
- Willingness to work a pattern including significant hours outside of Monday-Friday 8am-5pm and/or to work variable patterns according to others’ site access needs.
- Practical skills enabling direct work in some aspects of site maintenance, such as electrical competence.

Number of working hours per week is flexible to some extent, candidates available to work 28-40hrs per week will be considered.