

# NASA wants candidate to protect Earth from alien invasion



NASA is looking to hire a special kind of candidate - one to defend the Earth from alien invasion.

No, we're not talking about the plot of a new Michael Bay movie – this is actually happening. The Independent reports that the full-time role of Planetary Protection Officer will involve ensuring that your fellow members of the human race are not involved in inter-planetary contamination – as well as making sure that aliens don't suddenly descend.

The pay for a such a jobseeker is a reasonable £141,000 a year, plus benefits. The job post reads: "Planetary protection is concerned with the avoidance of organic-constituent and "NASA maintained policies" for planetary protection, applicable to all space flight missions that may intentionally, or unintentionally, carry Earth organisms and organic constituents to the planets or other solar system bodies and any mission employing spacecraft, which are intended to return to Earth and its biosphere with samples from extra-terrestrial targets of exploration."

It's a three-year role, and candidates must possess a senior-level Government role already, as well as being well-versed in mathematics and engineering. The position requires "demonstrated skills in diplomacy that resulted in win-win solutions during extremely difficult and complex multilateral discussions".

Facebook exploded when the application of a nine-year-old boy went viral, his cover letter was so impressive that he has been offered a job by another organisation.

It seems the old adage that 'life imitates art' is true, once the domain of comic book and TV/Cinema hero's like Superman, He-Man and Dangermouse, the defence of our planet has become a real-life job. Here at the ATB offices we wondered if, to be successful, you need to wear underpants over a pair of tights?

On a serious note, it does make you realise that with space exploration comes a very real responsibility to ensure that we don't release any of our viruses (microorganisms) to other worlds, or theirs to ours.

A deadly invasion is unlikely to be the wide eyed, egg head aliens flying to earth in spaceships that we see in the films, it is far more likely to be something we humans introduce accidentally.

So, as it requires plenty of brain power without the need for any form of superpower, will you be applying?