

Livingston Football Club

Role: Lead Data Scientist

Key Responsibilities

Football Intelligence & Recruitment

- Play a leading role in the club's player recruitment strategy by identifying, analysing and benchmarking potential transfer targets.
- Provide evidence-based recommendations and analytical support to the Sporting Director and Head of Football Operations.
- Deliver pre-match, post-match and opposition analysis reports to coaching and technical staff.
- Analyse tactical trends, player tendencies, team style profiles and adherence to the club's game model.
- Develop individual player performance reports and long-term development tracking systems.
- Translate complex datasets into clear, practical insights that support football decision-making.
- Ensure all analytical outputs align with the club's football philosophy and playing principles.

Data Infrastructure & Systems Development

- Design, build and maintain scalable data infrastructure to support football operations.
- Develop automated workflows and pipelines integrating event, tracking, video, performance, wellness and medical data.
- Create and maintain internal dashboards, applications, and reporting tools using Python, SQL, APIs and visualisation platforms.
- Streamline analytical processes through customised reporting solutions and workflow automation.
- Manage and integrate data from third-party football intelligence and performance platforms.

Performance & Player Monitoring

- Collaborate with sports science and medical staff to analyse player workloads, readiness, and performance trends.
- Support player monitoring initiatives through GPS, wellness, biometric, and match-load data.
- Contribute to predictive modelling and injury-risk monitoring projects.

- Develop visualisations and reporting tools to support player development programmes and return-to-play processes.

Innovation & Research

- Stay at the forefront of developments in football analytics, machine learning, artificial intelligence, and data engineering.
- Explore innovative analytical approaches to enhance player evaluation, tactical understanding and performance forecasting.
- Contribute to the club's long-term analytics strategy and competitive advantage initiatives.

Collaboration & Culture

- Operate effectively within a collaborative, high-performance environment.
- Work closely with coaches, analysts, recruitment personnel, sports science staff and club leadership.
- Demonstrate flexibility and adaptability to meet the demands of professional football, including evenings, weekends, travel and matchdays.
- Promote a growth mindset, excellent communication and a team-first culture throughout the department.

Essential Criteria

Applicants should possess:

- A Bachelor's degree in Data Science, Computer Science, Statistics, Sports Analytics, Mathematics, Exercise Science, or a related discipline.
- A strong understanding of football, including tactical, technical, and positional concepts within the professional game.
- Advanced proficiency in Python, SQL and AI-powered analytical tools such as Claude.
- Experience developing automated data pipelines, workflows, and reporting systems.
- Experience with visualisation platforms such as Tableau, Power BI, Looker, or equivalent.
- Familiarity with leading football data and analysis providers such as StatsBomb, Hudl, Wyscout, SkillCorner, Sportscode or similar platforms.
- Excellent communication skills with the ability to present complex information to both technical and non-technical audiences.
- Strong organisational skills and the ability to manage multiple projects simultaneously in a high-performance environment.

Desirable Criteria

The following would be advantageous:

- A Master's degree in a relevant discipline.
 - Experience applying machine learning, predictive analytics or artificial intelligence within elite sport.
 - Experience integrating tracking, event and video data.
 - Knowledge of cloud infrastructure, APIs, database architecture and modern data engineering practices.
 - Experience developing bespoke applications and internal tools for coaches, analysts and sporting staff.
 - Previous experience within performance analysis, recruitment analysis, sports science or professional football environments.
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Salary & Location

A highly competitive salary package will be offered and will be commensurate with experience and qualifications.

The role will be based at Almondvale Stadium in Livingston, with the opportunity for hybrid working of up to two days per week, subject to operational requirements.

Applicants must be eligible to work in the United Kingdom.
