

ELBA

# A Day in the life of...



## Connor McLeod HR Advisor, M3 Consulting

### MY ALARM GOES OFF...

My day normally starts at about 6am. I like to start my day by hopping on the tube and going to the gym that is located just around the corner from my work office. After gym I will get changed into my work attire, which is usually just suit pants and a business shirt. I leave my blazer at the office and will wear it if I attend meeting with any external people. If I am going to site that day, I may change my dress pants for chinos or jeans. And of course, I like to change up my cufflinks everyday – keep life exciting!

### I'M RESPONSIBLE FOR...

My key focus in my job is to enhance the capability and performance of the business through its people. As a result, my key priorities revolve around actions and procedures that ensure we recruit the right people, develop and grow the right people, and engage, motivate and retain the right people.

### I GOT MY JOB...

I went to university in Australia and studied a double degree in International Relations and Business, majoring in Human Resource Management. After getting a job in a non-HR role, I made the transfer into the HR department in the same company, starting as an Officer, then HR Advisor, then Business Partner. When I moved to London I wanted to get any HR experience I could, ANY! I contacted numerous recruiters and ended up getting an interview for a temp role, which turned into a permanent and enjoyable HR position.

### AT SCHOOL I STUDIED...

Coming from Australia, my school system is a little different. However, the subjects I elected to study were History, Legal, Maths, English, Art and Study of Religion. Out of all the subjects I studied, it was probably Maths and English that helped me at university the most and essentially helped me in my career.

HR Advisor

### MY TYPICAL DAY...

My typical work day begins at 8:30am. My mornings usually involve completing tasks at my desk - from preparing training materials, reviewing policies, preparing recruitment documents, or simply checking and responding to emails. I then head out to lunch and buy a sandwich and go for a walk. I like to have my meetings after lunch. These meetings are with managers, employees, or both, and can be on an array of HR topics. I also try and go out and attend external meetings with universities to assist with future graduate recruitment and engage with students.



Development

### THE KEY SKILLS I USE IN MY JOB...

My key skills revolve around building positive working relationships with people. My job requires people to feel comfortable in approaching me and discussing any concerns or ideas they may have. Furthermore, a key skill that is essential is the ability to influence.

I have developed these skills by watching others in HR (and other jobs) and learning from them. These are often skills that you cannot simply learn at school, but often learnt from watching and working with others who showcase such skills.

### THE BEST PART OF MY JOB IS...

The best part of my job is interacting with people and learning new things. I enjoy being part of a team and HR often allows you to be placed into a position where you interact and engage with all levels of staff, from new recruits to the Managing Director.

### THE WORST PART OF MY JOB IS...

I'm not going to lie, as with all jobs, there are times that are tough. The toughest part of my job is when I have to manage disciplinary processes or restructuring processes which can impact people.

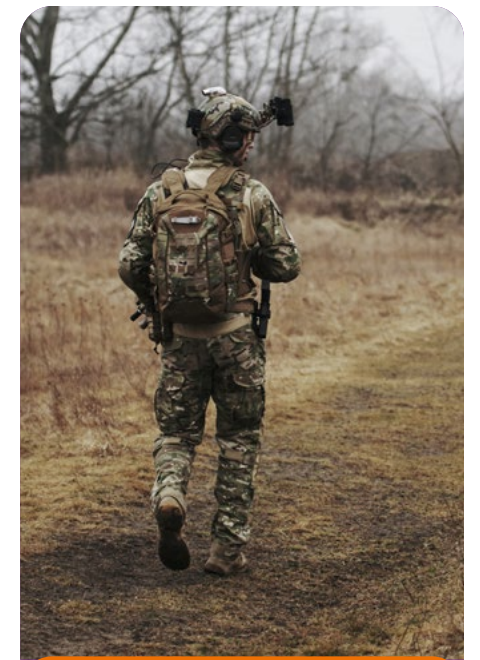
### MY ROLE MODEL GROWING UP WAS...

Like many, my mum and dad were my inspiration. My mum is a nurse and worked very hard to ensure people were looked after and recovered in her ward. My father was a Sports Journalist and was great at building relationships with people. Without trying to sound cliché, they both showed me the value in hard work and building good relationships with people.

### AFTER WORK...

After work I typically take the tube home. At least once a week I try and catch up with a work colleague or a friend after work for a pint (One, I swear!). Otherwise I typically get home at about 6:30pm and get dinner sorted. Dinner will often be a home cooked meal, steak, salmon with salad, that type of thing.

To have fun and relax, I try and do an activity once a week that explores something new in London or the surrounds. E.g going on free walking tours or taking a train to somewhere new. I also love travelling around Europe on weekend trips.



### MY PLAN B...

My Plan B would probably be working within the military or a Government job. I had an interest in the military through high school, but opted to pursue another career.

