

Job description and person specification

Job title: Urban Development Officer

Hours: 37.5 hours per week

Salary: £27,000 pa

Contract length: To the end of March 2019 with the possibility of extension

Location: Greenock, although some home working will be considered

Background

Community Land Scotland is seeking an Urban Development Officer to take forward our community landownership programme in Scotland's urban communities.

Community Land Scotland is the representative body for Scotland's aspiring and established community landowners. It was set up to: influence policy to make it easier for communities to buy land; help its members share knowledge and information, encourage communities to consider landownership and to promote the benefits of community landownership to Scotland. It helps to raise awareness of community landownership and support knowledge exchange between community landowners through the running of local and national events.

Urban communities have been able to access the Scottish Land Fund and use Community Right to Buy legislation since 2016. Rural community landownership is now relatively well-established in Scotland with many good case studies and a support and funding infrastructure. Urban community landownership is still an emerging model but we are beginning to see a new wave of communities buying land in Scotland's towns and cities. This role provides an exciting opportunity to support and learn from an emerging wave of urban community landowners; be involved in the implementation of new legislation and influence the support environment.

Applicants may wish to read our research on urban community landownership, which can be found at: <http://www.communitylandscotland.org.uk/urban/>

Further information about Community Land Scotland can be found at: www.communitylandscotland.org.uk

Applications

Applicants should complete our application form and return it to: linsay.chalmers@communitylandscotland.org.uk by 5pm on Friday 25th May. Interviews will be held on the week beginning 4th June. Applications can also be returned by post to: Community Land Scotland, Aves Business Centre, 11 Jamaica Street, Greenock PA15 1XX

If you have any questions about the role or the application process, contact Linsay Chalmers at: linsay.chalmers@communitylandscotland.org.uk or 07884 314297

Job description

Tasks	
Guidance and support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work with aspiring community landowners to assist them on their journey towards acquiring land. This is likely to include working with communities that will be using the new Community Right to Buy Abandoned, Neglected and Detrimental Land
Information and promotion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop an 'Ambassadors Programme' that will identify inspiring people within the emerging urban community land sector and support them to visit other communities to inspire them • Produce written case studies on urban community landowners • Oversee the making of films on urban community landowners • Assist urban community landowners to get their stories in the national and local media • Assist with the organisation and delivery of Community Land Scotland events • Provide content on urban community landowners for Community Land Scotland's newsletters and social media feeds
Developing partnerships	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Build relationships with local authorities and bodies representing landowners and developers in urban areas with the aim of opening up the supply of land • Build relationships with other intermediary and regeneration bodies working in urban areas and work with organisations supporting communities to build their understanding of community landownership
Research	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Undertake a feasibility study into developing a Community Land Hub in one of Scotland's cities. This hub would work at a strategic level to help communities access and develop land • Build up Community Land Scotland's knowledge base on urban community landownership • Feed learning from urban communities into Community Land Scotland policy development
Other	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Any other duties as required

Person Specification

Key Criteria	Essential	Desirable
Experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At least three years' experience in a development role • Experience of working in the community or social enterprise sector • Experience of managing and delivering projects • Experience of presenting at public meetings 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A knowledge of community ownership • Experience of land or asset development in an urban environment • An understanding of the planning system • Experience of social media and marketing / PR • Experience of undertaking research • Full driving licence
Personal qualities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Excellent communication and interpersonal skills • An enthusiasm for community-led development • An ability to engage at all levels with communities, agencies, local authorities, politicians and other stakeholders • An ability to process and analyse complex information • Self-motivated and able to work remotely from line manager • Ability to work in a small, busy organisation • Ability to work under pressure • Flexibility 	
Job circumstances	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This job is likely to include extensive travel and attendance at community meetings which are often in the evening. Some out of hours work and overnight stays will be required 	