

Job description and person specification

Job title: Community Right to Buy Research Associate/Intern

Hours: 21 hours a week for three months

Salary: £9.90 per hour

Location: home working, flexible working space in Glasgow available

Reporting to: Urban Hub Manager

Background

This is an exciting opportunity for a research associate intern to work with Community Land Scotland to help us develop the research evidence base on Community Right to Buy. This key piece of work will inform our research and policy work preparing for the forthcoming Land Reform Act.

At Community Land Scotland, we hope that our interns get as much out of the experience as we do. Community Land Scotland is the representative body for Scotland's community landowners. Its vision is for the community ownership of land and buildings to be a significant driver of sustainable development across the whole of Scotland.

We work to: be a collective voice for community owners; encourage more community ownership of land and buildings; facilitate mutual support and knowledge exchange between community landowners and collaborate with other organisations to ensure community landowners get the support they need.

Further information can be found at: www.communitylandscotland.org.uk

Overview of role

Scotland has world leading community rights to buy land, extending back to the 2003 Land Reform Act, and updated and added to through the 2015 Community Empowerment Act and Land Reform Act 2016. These rights provide an important basis for building fairer land ownership in Scotland. A new Land Reform Bill will be introduced to the Scottish Parliament in 2023, and provides an important opportunity to improve existing Community Rights to Buy.

The intern will work with Community Land Scotland (through its Urban Hub Project) to develop our evidence base on previous Community Right to Buy applications. This evidence base will be used for future analysis and policy development by Community Land Scotland.

This role will focus on the development of our evidence base in two key ways. We want to (1) build a database of freely available information on the Registers of Scotland on Community Right to Buy applications, suitable for qualitative analysis and (2) document our members' and other communities' experiences of Community Right to Buy applications, with a focus on those application which were abandoned before they were registered. If desired, the intern will then have an opportunity to work with the Community Land Scotland team to develop policy around Community Right to Buy.

The first task will require desktop data management and analysis skills, and the second task will require social research methods including focus groups and interviews.

This project would suit a student with a keen interest in the legal basis of community rights, and research methodology and design.

Applications

Applicants should complete our application form and return it to:

carey.doyle@communitylandscotland.org.uk by 5pm on the 24th of June 2022. If you have any questions about the role or the application process please get in touch.

Job description

The role will include the following key tasks.

Area of work	Key tasks
Planning and reporting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work with the Community Land Scotland team to create a more detailed workplan for this project.
Document Analysis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop approach to systemic collection of available data from the Registers Scotland, and storing securely in an evidence base for future analysis. Develop initial research structure for evidence base, such as basic categories and analytic themes. Assist with design of research and analysis.
Social Research	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> With support, develop research design for collecting community groups experiences of Community Right to Buy. Initial analysis of research collected.
Policy development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Working with the Community Land Scotland team to develop possible policy changes.
Other	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any other tasks as required by Community Land Scotland

Person specification

Key Criteria	Essential	Desirable
Experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A background in legal research, sociology, social research, or similar. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Experience building mixed method evidence bases. Enthusiasm for document-based research. Experience with social research, including focus groups and interviews. Experience of policy development.

Personal qualities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A commitment to community ownership and community led approaches • Strong written and oral communication skills • Strong interpersonal skills and an ability to work with a diverse range of people • Self-motivated and able to work remotely from a line manager as well as in a small team 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Experience volunteering or working in the community or third sector
Other	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This role may occasionally include travel and attendance at meetings outwith normal office hours 	