



Information pack

Head of natural environment

November 2018

1. Introduction

Green Alliance is a charity, independent think tank and advocate, committed to achieving a greener future. We believe that ambitious political leadership is the route to change at the speed and scale necessary.

We play a central role in shaping the environment, energy and resources agendas in the UK and are known for our cross party influence and the clarity of our insights.

The high quality of our work, our experienced team and our collaborative approach have enabled us to develop excellent relationships at the highest levels, with political parties, businesses, NGOs and academia.

2. About Green Alliance: our vision and strategy

Our vision is for a green and prosperous UK. A country with a healthy environment, beautiful landscapes and flourishing nature, where the zero waste economy is built around thriving green businesses, and where everyone benefits from affordable high quality food, energy efficient homes and sustainable transport.

Green Alliance's unique role on environmental policy and politics is more important now than it has ever been. We are helping the environment sector respond to Brexit, providing space for new thinking and offering policy solutions to major challenges such as decarbonisation, plastic pollution and air quality.

Our current work is guided by our 2018-21 strategy, which states that we will:

- Build political support for a vision of a green and prosperous UK, based on the highest environmental and social standards. One in which clean growth and environmental leadership contribute to the UK's competitive advantage.
- Secure new laws and governance arrangements to ensure strong environmental protections after Brexit, including campaigning for a new Environment Act to underpin investment in the environment and people's wellbeing.
- Generate new ideas for world class environmental policy.

Further details of our strategy, annual report, work programme and recent activities are at www.green-alliance.org.uk

3. The role

We are looking for an exceptional individual to develop and shape our Natural Environment theme. You will lead our work to improve political leadership on the natural environment and advocate new solutions to the serious decline in biodiversity and natural systems.

Brexit is creating opportunities to develop new policy in this area for the first time in over forty years and Defra has set a high ambition through its 25 year environment plan. This is the time to land radical ideas to restore and enhance the natural environment now and for generations to come.

You will have a good knowledge of existing policy and an instinct for influencing the policy debate. Your knowledge, analytical thinking and creativity will translate into ideas which appeal to funders, businesses and policy makers alike. You will be as confident advocating your ideas to a government minister as you are pitching ideas to secure support from major funders. A background in research and analysis or experience of the environmental NGO sector will be an advantage, but we will be most interested the ability to generate and deliver innovative ideas and communicate them effectively.

Green Alliance has a track record of developing genuinely novel schemes that connect policy areas to achieve real world impact. Our Natural Infrastructure Scheme is one example. Developed with the National Trust, it is a way to establish natural markets that bring new income streams into farming and support a fundamentally different approach to land use. It has been recognised in the government's 25 year environment plan and *Health and harmony* consultation, and is now being piloted.

Our two recent reports, *Setting the standard* and *Protecting standards in UK food and farming through Brexit*, have shifted the conversation on farming by bringing food production and environmental interests together to make the case for high standards.

4. Position in the organisation

The head of natural environment reports to the policy director. The post holder is responsible for leading the Natural Environment theme and will contribute to Green Alliance's strategy and planning as required.

The head of natural environment will be supported by a full time policy adviser with input from other staff as required.

5. Key tasks

Impact and advocacy

- To maintain high political and policy saliency for the Natural Environment theme and contribute to meeting Green Alliance's objectives.
- To lead the development of an advocacy plan for the theme and deliver it with support from the head of politics.
- To maintain Green Alliance's reputation as a respected thought leader on the natural environment, through high quality analysis, insight and challenge.
- To represent Green Alliance at meetings, seminars, conferences and consultations at the highest levels.

Development

- To maintain strong relationships with existing and prospective funders and have an entrepreneurial approach to developing new sources of income to support the work.
- To contribute to the development of strategic priorities and narrative for the Natural Environment theme in conjunction with the senior management team.

Project work

- To create and develop proposals to deliver Green Alliance's strategic objectives on the natural environment.
- To undertake salient analysis (quantitative and qualitative), leading to new insights on relevant natural environment policy issues.
- To lead, manage and deliver project-related work (both independently and in conjunction with other staff) to time, budget and high quality.
- To write articles, policy insights, blogs and reports for publication by Green Alliance and outside bodies to achieve agreed organisational outcomes.

External relationships and communications

- To build strong relations with key individuals across our networks, with government, Whitehall, the environmental NGOs, think tanks, business and opinion formers.
- To embed innovative and effective communications planning in all projects.
- To develop resonant messages and sell them in to the media.

6. Person specification

Skills and competencies

Essential

- Proven leadership and management skills.
- Innovative thinker.
- Excellent influencing/advocacy skills.
- Excellent drafting and writing skills and creative approach to producing communications and policy publications.
- Ability to work as part of a team.
- Good project planning, prioritisation and delivery skills.
- Strategic vision and understanding of the external policy and political environment.
- Relationship management skills (for funders and other external stakeholders).
- Ability to formally represent the theme and Green Alliance at events and in the media.

Knowledge and experience

Essential

- Significant work experience in a relevant role.
- Proven knowledge of environmental policy and broader, relevant government policy.
- Understanding of, and interest in, UK politics.
- Experience of successfully developing and managing multiple policy projects to time, quality and budget.
- Proven experience of attracting funds for an organisation or individual projects.
- Experience of stakeholder management and developing relationships and alliances to support project goals.

Desirable

- Experience of developing new policy projects and attracting funding for them.
- Experience of working with business.
- Track record of successfully developing new policy insights which have influenced expert opinion.
- Proven expertise in one, or more, of the following areas:
 - UK or EU agricultural policy or conservation policy
 - Natural capital accounting
 - Food policy
 - Agribusiness or the food sector
 - Water policy

7. Terms and conditions

Terms:	This post is a full time, permanent position, but we are happy to consider secondments and flexible working arrangements for the right candidate.
Salary range:	£37,000-£42,000 (Candidates will usually start at the bottom of the scale)
Location:	Green Alliance's office is in Pimlico and is fully accessible.
Hours:	35 hours per week with some flexibility; the post holder would be expected to work the occasional evening for time off in lieu.
Holiday:	25 days per year pro rata in addition to statutory holidays and the period between Christmas and New Year.
Additional benefits:	Green Alliance aims to be a progressive and considerate employer and encourages employees in maintaining a healthy work-life balance.
Pension:	Green Alliance provides an auto-enrolment pension with Aviva. All employees receive a pension contribution up to 7.5 per cent of gross salary which may be paid into this scheme or another of their choice.

8. Application process

Applicants should complete and return the application form available on the Green Alliance website. You should focus in particular on how you meet the person specification outlined above. Applications by CV will not be considered.

The closing date for applications is Monday 10 December at 10am.

Interviews for this post will take place in the week of 17 December.

If you have any queries about the role and would like to have an informal discussion, please contact Jo Rogers, operations director, jrogers@green-alliance.org.uk.

Green Alliance welcomes applications from all members of the community. We strive to be an equal opportunities employer. We will accommodate special requirements wherever possible.

Please note that Green Alliance can only accept applications from individuals with the right to work in the UK. We are unable to sponsor working visa applications.