

NHS Forest – Green Space for Health Project Lead

- Home-based with monthly travel to Oxford and some travel to sites within the UK
- Full time (37.5 hours per week)
- Salary: £34,000 per annum
- Fixed term contract - October 2023 – March 2025, with a view to extend subject to funding
- **Apply by 9am Monday 9th October, interviews will take place on Thursday 19th October**

About CSH

The Centre for Sustainable Healthcare (CSH) inspires and empowers people to transform healthcare for a sustainable future. We collaborate with partners inside and outside healthcare to engage professionals, patients and the wider community in understanding the connections between health and environment, and to reduce healthcare's resource footprint. We support NHS sites to develop and manage their green estate for health and wellbeing. This includes tree planting and woodland creation to provide ecosystem services and to increase tree canopy cover in areas where there is low canopy cover. Additionally, we support sites to consider how such spaces could be enjoyed and used by staff, patients and the wider community for nature-based activities that deliver health benefits.

About the NHS Forest

Our NHS Forest project helps to realise the value of green space for physical and mental health, both at healthcare sites and in the wider community. We support and encourage NHS sites in developing tree planting and other green space improvements for health and wellbeing, biodiversity and carbon capture. This can mean planting trees in a wide variety of contexts, creating therapeutic gardens, vegetable gardens, orchards, meadow areas and outdoor trails, and offering outdoor wellbeing activities. The NHS Forest is the flagship project of our Green Space for Health programme. We have thousands of trees to plant and a network of sites with an interest in making the most of their green space for the wellbeing of patients, health staff and communities, with benefits for biodiversity and carbon storage. To find out more about our green space projects, see <http://sustainablehealthcare.org.uk/what-we-do/green-space-and-health>

About the role

As Green Space for Health Project Lead you will lead on our Trees Call to Action funded project, expanding the NHS Forest, coordinating bespoke ecological advice to NHS sites, and assessing the NHS green estate to ensure it is being used to its full potential. You will also

contribute to the development and delivery of our new NHS Forest and Green Space training courses.

The Green Space for Health Project Lead will build partnerships with environmental organisations and healthcare representatives to strengthen the relationship between the NHS Forest and key stakeholders. You will also have the opportunity to influence national policy, through attending national policy forums such as the Green Infrastructure Partnership.

The post requires someone who is effective in engaging others, with excellent communication skills, a good understanding of biodiversity, conservation and nature recovery, a strong commitment to climate action and the ability to get things done.

Job Specification

As Green Space for Health Project Lead you will:

1. Deliver a programme to facilitate planting 11,000 trees at NHS sites, including liaising with health organisations and tree suppliers, providing advice and information, and monitoring and reporting on programme progress
2. Coordinate the delivery of ecological advice on trees and woodlands to the NHS
3. Work with NHS Forest advisory board to design and deliver horizon-scanning work on the state of and future of the NHS green estate
4. Collaborate with new and existing partners to build the reach and influence of the NHS Forest programme
5. Maintain and update the NHS Forest evidence database, preparing research and policy summaries for the website
6. Research and review relevant documents and contribute to national policy forums
7. Communicate about the NHS Forest and Green Space for Health Programme to a wide range of audiences, including giving presentations at conferences, webinars and other events
8. Work with the Green Space for Health Director and education teams on developing and delivering Green Space for Health training courses
9. Work with the Green Space for Health Engagement, Marketing and Communications Lead to contribute to developing and running the annual NHS Forest conference, coordinating the annual NHS Forest award scheme, and researching and writing news stories, case studies, blogs and other good practice materials for the NHS Forest website and newsletter
10. Contribute to the future development of the Green Space for Health programme and the NHS Forest programme, including the development of new projects as opportunities arise
11. Contribute to the Green Space for Health team activities and wider work across CSH as required.

Person Specification

Essential

- Excellent written and verbal communication skills, including the ability to present ideas and information clearly
- Good at purposeful networking and relationship-building, including the ability to work diplomatically and empathetically with others
- Good at project management, coordination and record-keeping, with strong organisational skills
- Good at innovation and problem-solving
- Relevant background in ecology/conservation and experience in advising on woodland management or conservation
- Ability to understand, synthesise and communicate findings from relevant research
- IT skills - proficiency in: word processing, using and maintaining a databases/spread-sheets; use of email, online discussion forums
- Relevant experience in communications e.g. producing web materials, news stories and case studies
- Enthusiasm for improving the environmental sustainability of health services.

Desirable

- Relevant experience in partnership working across different organisations and on collaborative projects
- Relevant experience in policy engagement
- Experience or training in research methods
- Demonstrated commitment to environmental sustainability and/or improving healthcare.

How To Apply

Please email a cover letter and CV to Info@sustainablehealthcare.org.uk

Your cover letter should detail how you fit the Person Specification and be no longer than two pages long. Your application will be assessed solely by how well you fit these requirements and to what extent you demonstrate your experience and/or knowledge of the tasks you will be required to complete as part of the role.

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Location

The role will require some travel within the UK for visits, meetings, and conferences. We encourage the use of sustainable travel wherever feasible. CSH is based in Oxford, UK. Staff are expected to attend office meeting days in person once a month. Travel costs for attending these meetings are reimbursed.

Appointment

This is a full-time post at a salary of £34,000, plus contributory pension. The appointment is for a fixed term position until March 2025, with a view to extend subject to funding. You will be based remotely but should be able to come to team meetings in Oxford at least once a month.

Benefits

CSH is a registered charity, and our salary levels are competitive within the charity sector. We aim to increase salaries in line with cost-of-living at least annually. Working with CSH has many additional advantages: CSH cares for every staff member as a whole person and as a valued part of the team; CSH provides support for people working in different circumstances and is flexible in terms of working patterns to accommodate individual needs.

Equal opportunities and eligibility to work in the UK

As an equal opportunities employer, The Centre for Sustainable Healthcare is committed to the equal treatment of all current and prospective employees and does not condone discrimination on the basis of age, disability, sex, sexual orientation, pregnancy and maternity, race or ethnicity, religion or belief, gender identity, or marriage and civil partnership.

The Centre for Sustainable Healthcare aspires to be a diverse and inclusive workplace and strongly encourages suitably qualified applicants of the global majority, people with disabilities and men to apply, as these groups are currently under-represented in the organisation.

If you require reasonable adjustments at any stage of the application process, please contact info@sustainablehealthcare.org.uk

Please note, we have a legal responsibility to ensure that all our workers and employees have the legal right to live and work in the UK. As such you may be asked to provide proof that you have the right to work in the UK.

Data Protection

CSH is committed to ensuring your data is protected and is only used in line with GDPR guidelines and we do not collect unnecessary personal data from applicants during the recruitment process. Data collected as part of the recruitment process is held securely and accessed by, and disclosed to, individuals only for the purposes of managing the recruitment exercise effectively to decide to whom to offer the job. Please see our [privacy policy](#) for more information.