



Project Lead – Green Health Routes

- Home-based/on-site at [Chopwell Wood](#) (Gateshead) and [Guisborough Forest](#) (Teeside), with monthly travel to Oxford encouraged.
- Part-time: 18.75 hours per week
- Salary: £36,071 per annum pro rata (£18,036 for 18.75 hours)
- Fixed term until 31st December 2025
- **Closing date: Wednesday 20th November 2024**
- Interviews are set to take place on: Thursday 28th November 2024

About The Centre for Sustainable Healthcare

The Centre for Sustainable Healthcare provides research, training, and strategic input to national and local health programmes. Our Education Programme provides training in sustainable healthcare and planetary health for health professionals in educational institutions, professional bodies and healthcare organisations. In our other work, the Clinical Transformation Programme mainstreams environmental sustainability within clinical areas so that it is integral to the planning of health systems and the practice of healthcare professionals. Our Green Space for Health Programme works to realise the value of the NHS green estate for physical and mental health, supporting NHS sites to develop their green space for the benefit of patients, staff and communities through the [NHS Forest](#), while improving biodiversity and combatting climate change.

About the Green Health Routes project

Our [Green Health Routes](#) project supports communities to connect with and get to know the parks, meadows and woodlands on their doorsteps. Green Health Routes can help patients in accessing local green spaces as part of a healthy lifestyle, and our programme works closely with healthcare practitioners including GPs and social prescribing link workers. Maps, leaflets and walking groups can be offered as part of a ‘green prescription’. Medical research from around the world, collated by the University of Exeter, demonstrates how green prescribing can deliver physiological and psychological benefits for patients.

We have recently secured funding in partnership with Forestry England to develop two new Green Health Routes in the North-east of England, piloting activities at two Forestry England sites - Chopwell Wood and Guisborough Forest – to compliment the organisation's [Feel Good in the Forest](#) green social prescribing project.

About the role

The Project Lead will work at both sites in collaboration with Forestry England's 'Feel Good in the Forest' team, local community groups and healthcare professionals to develop permanent, well-signed walking routes and support the delivery and development of outdoor physical activity and 'green prescription' initiatives. The Project Lead will be expected to live within commuting distance of both Chopwell Wood and Guisborough Forest, visiting both on a regular basis.

Over the course of a year, the Project Lead will run a series of engagement activities involving local people using nearby Forestry England greenspace, such as community walking events and workshops. This will be complemented by engaging volunteer walk leaders and overseeing their training. They will then run organised walks during and after the funding period, ensuring that the health routes are embedded within their local community for people's long-term benefit. Maps or alternative resources will enable people wishing to access the Green Health Routes independently to follow the route on their own – a crucial factor for community members who may be less able to join group activities.

The Project Lead will build partnerships with environmental organisations and healthcare representatives to strengthen the relationship between the CSH Green Space for Health programme and key stakeholders. The post requires someone who is a proactive self-starter with excellent organisational skills as well as a good understanding of the importance of green space for human health and wellbeing. They will be a clear communicator with the ability to engage effectively with people from a wide range of backgrounds, and committed to Equity, Diversity and Inclusion.

Key responsibilities:

The Project Lead – Green Health Routes will:

1. Lead on the development and delivery of all project activities, ensuring they are delivered on schedule and within budget.
2. Lead project update meetings and communicate regular project updates to the CSH Greenspace for Health Programme Director and Forestry England Wellbeing Projects Manager.
3. Conduct initial and ongoing stakeholder meetings and community engagement sessions, identifying and building relationships with community groups to facilitate access to a wider demographic of beneficiaries.
4. Engage with and develop the processes necessary to enable local healthcare professionals and social prescription link workers to support their patients' use of the new routes via 'green prescriptions'.
5. Develop two permanent walking routes, install signage and co-create and share route maps and other resources in liaison with local stakeholders.
6. Design, publicise and lead themed group walks and local celebration events at each site to promote engagement and encourage use of the new routes.
7. Support the delivery and development of other related outdoor physical activity opportunities at both sites.
8. Identify and recruit volunteer walk leaders, and develop, coordinate and deliver walk leader training for volunteers.
9. Oversee monitoring and evaluation of the project activities and feed learnings into sustainable legacy work at the sites and plans for a wider future programme.
10. Contribute to the future development of the Green Space for Health programme, including the development of new projects as opportunities arise.
11. Work with the Communications, Marketing and Engagement Lead to research and produce news stories, case studies and blogs for the NHS Forest website and newsletter and contribute to the annual NHS Forest conference.
12. Contribute to the Green Space for Health team activities and wider work across CSH as required.

About you

Essential

- Strong project management, coordination and record-keeping, and organisational skills.
- A proactive self-starter, good at innovation and problem-solving.
- Good at purposeful networking and relationship-building, including the ability to work diplomatically and empathetically with stakeholders from a wide range of backgrounds.
- An understanding of the importance of green space for human health and wellbeing, and enthusiasm for increasing public access to and active enjoyment of green space.
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills, including the ability to present ideas and information clearly.
- IT skills - proficiency in: word processing, using and maintaining a databases/spreadsheets, use of email, online discussion forums.
- A demonstrable commitment to equality, diversity and inclusion and to reaching and working with under-represented groups within communities.

Desirable

- Relevant experience in communications e.g. producing web materials, news stories and case studies.
- Relevant experience in partnership working across different organisations and on collaborative projects.
- Experience in organising and running community engagement events and initiatives.
- Experience leading walks/delivering walk leader training.
- Experience in woodland management, ecology or conservation.

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.

- **Closing date: Wednesday 20th November 2024**

For any questions, please contact info@sustainablehealthcare.org.uk

Location

The role will require regular travel to the two Forestry England sites in Gateshead and Teeside, as well as 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 encouraged to attend office meeting days in person once a month. Travel costs for attending these meetings are reimbursed.

Appointment

This is 18.75 hours/2.5 days per week part-time post, at a salary of £36,071 per annum pro rata (£18,036 for 18.75 hours) plus contributory pension. The appointment is for a fixed term position until 31st December 2025. You will be based remotely but are encouraged to attend 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.