Job Description

SevernNet Walking and Cycling Officer

Job Title: SevernNet Walking and Cycling Officer

Rate of pay: £15.50 per hour

Hours: 22.5 hours per week

Fixed Term: until 31st March 2021

Base: SevernNet's office in Avonmouth

This is a 2 year part time fixed contract for a sessional worker on a self-employed basis, funded until 31st March 2021.

Job Purpose

To deliver a programme of work that supports the establishment of a clearly recognised SevernNet area Walking and Cycling network which instils confidence in its users and achieves a growing number of users, over the period of the contract and beyond. Behaviour change, removing barriers and the sustainability of the network are essential elements.

About SevernNet

SevernNet is a social enterprise run by, and for, the businesses and community interests across the SevernNet area from Royal Portbury Dock in N. Somerset through Avonmouth and Severnside in Bristol to Western Approach Industrial Park and Aust in S. Gloucestershire.

Our aim is to facilitate collaboration and cooperation across the area, tackling challenges, opportunities and common problems to support the area in reaching its full potential and in becoming an exemplar for inclusive sustainable development.

About the Role

An area wide network of well-maintained cycle and walking paths enabling safe access to and from work is a long held SevernNet ambition. With funding support from Highways England, and working in partnership with Sustrans, this is now a realisable ambition.

Highways England has, and is, investing in improvements to local cycle and walking paths, and providing funding to support the additional work needed to enable sustainable use of the cycle and walking network by local people, employers and their colleagues. This investment by Highways England is linked to development of the M49 Junction.

Sustrans is designing and delivering the new cycling and walking infrastructure and jointly providing, with SevernNet, a behaviour change programme.

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Registered with Companies House, number 8319758

We're looking for a colleague to work with us who shares our vision for cycle and walking and more widely sustainable travel, across the area, and can work with local people, employers, colleagues travelling to/from work, local authorities, Sustrans and other stakeholders to make this happen.

The role will involve engaging and connecting with businesses, their staff, local communities and others, encouraging people to work together towards an increase in cycling and walking, particularly to and from work. You will be building on existing networks, groups and relationships to achieve this.

The work will include:

- Spending time engaging with people 'in situ' such as travelling on the local buses, rail network, and talking to people in the workplace.
- Information gathering and intelligence building to better understand behaviour and attitudes towards walking, cycling and sustainable travel within businesses, their staff and local communities
- Gaining a better understanding of the barriers and enablers to increasing cycling and walking across the area and identifying key things that will make a difference such as links to other means of transport, regular maintenance, signage, mapping, cycle hubs and repair facilities, public infrastructure e.g. pumps.
- Looking at 'Join-My-Journey' as a tool to help link cyclists, walkers and others wishing to travel more sustainably across the area and keep in touch with others and useful travel information
- Working with the Sustrans Officer, SevernNet team and others to put in place the means to increase cycling and walking over the period of the contract and beyond.

The role is to work very closely with, and complement, the work of Sustrans and the local authorities, rolling out both a general awareness campaign and a targeted campaign focused on particular businesses including **Lidl,** Tesco, Nisbets and Accolade Wines. This will include social media, digital and paper resources, SevernNet e-newsletter, website and regular events, supporting a network of local cycle and walking champions, bespoke events and options for access to bikes; facilitate and convene a regular Cycle and Walking Taskforce to enable progress to be shared and lessons learnt and supporting the quarterly SevernNet Transport Forum.

A key aspect of the role is building a legacy to ensure sustainable use of the infrastructure, and through the Project and the Taskforce, making sure that, for example, appropriate signage and mapping is in place and a sustainable maintenance programme.

As detailed above the post holder will be working with the Sustrans Active Travel Officer who will also be engaging with workplaces and the communities to deliver for example Travel Action Plans (TAPs) for businesses, facilitating a bike loan scheme, delivering Active Steps (an intensive 10-week health focused programme) and providing a wide range of standalone initiatives such as information stands, Dr Bikes, incentive schemes, cycle confidence sessions and led rides and walks exploring existing and new infrastructure.

The Role Holder

With a good standard of education, you will have experience of working with business, employees and community members, delivering engagement events, partnership working within a business, community-based or environment project, and physical activity. Your excellent written and verbal communications skills will enhance your ability to build and maintain strong working relationships and motivate and enthuse others. You will be IT literate, with excellent presentation and organisational skills and have the ability to plan and organise your own workload effectively. You will, ideally, have a knowledge of the SevernNet area, it's employers and community, an understanding of the health benefits of active travel and be committed to the promotion of sustainable transport. Clearance by a DBS Enhanced Disclosure check is requested for this role.

Place in Organisational Structure

The post holder will report to the SevernNet Director, with support from the SevernNet Chair.

Key Relationships

Internal

- SevernNet Director
- SevernNet Chair
- SevernNet Board and other SevernNet staff

External

- Sustrans Active Travel Officer, Avonmouth & Severnside Enterprise Area
- Other members of the Sustrans' project team
- Area's employers and colleagues
- Area's community organisations and residents
- Highways England (funder) and Mott MacDonald
- Travelwest (West of England Local Authority Partnership)
- Local Authorities
- Transport providers and associated organisations e.g GWR, Network Rail, Stagecoach, First, Severnside Community Rail Partnership
- Delivery providers e.g. cycle trainers, bike mechanics and bike retailers
- Local media

Working Conditions:
The postholder's office base will be SevernNet's office in St. Andrew's House, Avonmouth.
Travel across the Avonmouth and Severnside area will be required on an almost daily basis.

Occasional overnight stays away from home, weekend and late working may be required.

The post holder must be prepared to walk, cycle and use public transport for the majority of daily work journeys.

How to Apply:
To apply, please email a CV together with an application letter summarising why you feel you are suitable for the job and what you could bring to the role.

Applications should be received by 17:00 on Wednesday 24th January 2019. We are aiming to interview on Thursday January 31st (to be confirmed).

Any questions, please email kate.royston@severnnet.org and/or call 07969 569 444.

Special Note:
This job description does not form part of the contract, but indicates how that contract should be performed. The job description may be subject to amendment in the light of experience and in consultation with the jobholder.

Compiled by: Director, SevernNet
Date: January, 2019