

Isles of Scilly Community Research Network

## **Network Lead**

**Hours:** full-time (37.5 hours per week)

**Contract Type:** permanent

**Location:** Isles of Scilly

**Salary:** £35,100 - £40,950 depending on experience

An exciting opportunity is available to join the Isles of Scilly Community Venture (IOSCV) to lead the delivery of a new project – the Isles of Scilly Community Research Network.

IOSCV have partnered with the Isles of Scilly Wildlife Trust, Five Islands Academy and the University of Exeter to create a Community Research Network (CRN) for the Isles of Scilly. The objective of the CRN is to enable people on Scilly to undertake research projects that matter to them, their businesses and the community, in collaboration with academic experts. Traditionally, most research has been defined and led by academics, but the CRN will reverse this, giving local people the ability to identify their own research questions and assisting them to find answers. This will involve providing people with the research skills, resources and expertise they need to develop new ideas and implement change.

This role will be challenging. However, IOSCV and the wider partnership which governs the Community Research Network are in no doubt that this will be highly rewarding for the right person; it's a job which has the potential to make a real difference for Scilly.

The Network Lead will be responsible for developing and delivering the Isles of Scilly CRN. You will champion community-led research, lead the delivery team, encourage our community to create research projects and ensure the CRN helps those projects to succeed. You'll be taking on a lot of responsibility but will also receive a lot of support, from the IOSCV team and our champions at the other CRN partner organisations, as well as from our funders.

### **Responsibilities**

- Take overall ownership of the CRN, as project manager and partnership coordinator, to ensure it is a success.
- Work with funders and other funded networks across the UK to develop the concept of community led-research, meeting funder reporting requirements as required.
- Manage the CRN's budget.
- Manage relationships with project partners and strategic stakeholders.
- Organise and facilitate regular meetings of the CRN Partnership board.
- Coordinate the design and implementation of the CRN's research journey to enable community-led research.
- Be the public face of the CRN on the islands.
- Communicate effectively with and engage people from all walks of life on Scilly, and in academia.
- Sustain and manage the Community Advocate team.

- Collaborate with and give direction to the CRN Communications Officer at the Isles of Scilly Wildlife Trust.
- Work closely with partners at the University of Exeter, especially the Research Broker, to build relationships and facilitate research activity.
- Support each CRN-supported research project.
- Continuously evaluate the CRN and identify opportunities to adapt and improve the programme of work.

### **Person Specification**

These are the key skills and experiences we think you will need to thrive in this role:

1. Communication skills, including the ability to relate to people from all walks of life on Scilly.
2. A genuine passion for the CRN concept and a desire to make it work on Scilly.
3. A constructive, nurturing approach to people management and the ability to recruit, retain and develop a high impact team.
4. Plenty of enthusiasm and a positive, problem-solving attitude.
5. Project management skills.
6. Strong written communication and media skills.
7. Financial/budget management experience.
8. Understanding of research methodologies.
9. Experience in an academic setting.

If you don't quite meet all the criteria in this person specification, please do still consider applying – you could still be the person we are looking for, especially if you have the passion and interpersonal skills, and the ability and determination to learn the rest!

### **Benefits**

- 25 days holiday + bank holidays
- Defined Contribution Pension Scheme with 3% employer match on full pay
- Cycle to work scheme
- A supportive, friendly working environment with opportunities for professional development and growth

This role will require frequent travel within the Isles of Scilly, and occasional travel to the University of Exeter campuses in Cornwall and Devon, as well as mainland events further afield.

For more information, please contact George on 01720 575 301 or by email to [george@ioscv.co.uk](mailto:george@ioscv.co.uk).

To apply, please download and complete the attached application form and send it to [george@ioscv.co.uk](mailto:george@ioscv.co.uk) by 10am on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> December.

*Whilst we welcome applications from anyone eligible to work in the UK, applicants not resident on the Isles of Scilly should be aware that Scilly is suffering from an acute*

*housing crisis which severely limits the availability of rental property. Accommodation is not provided with this role, and the Isles of Scilly Community Venture and our partners are severely limited in our ability to assist with finding accommodation on the islands.*

### **About IOSCV**

The Isles of Scilly Community Venture is a non-profit community interest company working to develop and manage infrastructure to support the long-term sustainability and viability of the community on Scilly. Our core activities involve generating solar electricity, operating the GO-EV community electric car-share scheme, and managing the public electric vehicle charging infrastructure on the islands. We are also involved in a variety of other projects ranging from operating a LoRaWAN communications network to setting up a food waste composting solution for the islands.

We are governed by an independent board of volunteer directors and work closely with local stakeholders including the Council of the Isles of Scilly, the Duchy of Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly Wildlife Trust. We are a small but fast-growing organisation - the successful candidate for this role will become the sixth member of our team.