

# Development and Outreach Officer for Northern Ireland

## Recruitment Pack, February 2026

Thank you for your interest in the position of Development and Outreach Officer (Northern Ireland). This pack is intended to provide all the information you need to decide whether you wish to apply for this role. If you have further queries, please contact our Development and Outreach Manager, Sarah Pearce, at [sarah@heritagenetwork.org.uk](mailto:sarah@heritagenetwork.org.uk).

### Equality and Diversity

Heritage Network recognises the value that people from all backgrounds bring to the heritage sector and our organisation. It is important that the way we provide advice about community heritage regeneration reflects the diverse histories, cultures and interests of the localities in which we work. A diverse, representative workforce, where views are valued and championed, will enable us to achieve this. Heritage Network is committed to providing equality of opportunity. If you have a disability, we would be happy to discuss reasonable adjustments to enable you to fulfil the role.

### How to apply

1. Read the information in this pack in full.
2. Complete the [online application form](#) by 12 noon on 16th March 2026. If you cannot access the hyperlink, paste this into your browser: <https://www.tfaforms.com/5212520>

If completing an online form presents a problem for you, please get in touch.

This post has been made possible thanks to funding from the National Lottery Heritage Fund, the Department for Communities Northern Ireland and the Swire Trust.

### Recruitment timetable

Dates	Details
Deadline for applications	12 noon 16 <sup>th</sup> March 2026
Shortlisting	Week commencing 16 <sup>th</sup> March 2026
Interviews (online using Zoom)	Week commencing 13 <sup>th</sup> April 2026
Unsuccessful interviewees notified and successful candidate appointed	Week commencing 20 <sup>th</sup> April 2026



## Summary of employment details

<b>Job Title:</b>	Development and Outreach Officer for Northern Ireland
<b>Salary:</b>	pro-rata of £30,900 p.a.
<b>Hours:</b>	part time (20 to 28 hours per week dependant on candidate's availability) with a 6-month probationary period
<b>Reporting to:</b>	Development and Outreach Manager
<b>Holidays:</b>	pro-rata of 25 days per year plus 3 days shutdown between Christmas and New Year
<b>Pension:</b>	as per statutory auto-enrolment requirements
<b>Location:</b>	Working from home or from an agreed shared workspace, anywhere in Northern Ireland

## About the Network

Bringing historic buildings and spaces back to life brings joy to so many people. It restores local pride and identity and creates jobs, workplaces, visitor attractions, educational facilities, arts venues and more. By reusing existing buildings our members are retaining embodied carbon and challenging the notion that regeneration means demolish and rebuild. There are thousands of people undertaking this amazing work, either professionally or as volunteers, in all parts of the UK.

Heritage Network is the membership body for independent community organisations, charities and social enterprises that are saving, restoring and managing historic buildings, parks, gardens, canals and railways. Our membership includes both organisations specifically set up to save heritage sites, and community organisations that deliver other types of services who have chosen to operate from historic buildings and spaces. We also welcome individuals, businesses and local authorities that support local heritage action. Together we organise conferences, site visits, meetings and online resources where we can network and learn from each other and meet experts and funders.

We...

- Encourage people to get involved in saving local heritage buildings and places by forming new community organisations or working through existing ones.
- Support these organisations to restore and reuse local heritage by providing information, advice, training, networking and peer-to-peer learning.
- Champion the work and raise the visibility of community heritage organisations and highlight the range of public benefits they provide.
- Advocate for a legislative, policy and funding environment that facilitates grassroots action for heritage.
- Promote diversity and inclusion in the heritage sector.

The Network is growing and currently has over 1,000 members and a staff team of 11. The staff are currently:

David Tittle, Chief Executive

Vicki Cox, Membership and Digital Manager

Beverley Gormley, UK Operations Manager



Sarah Pearce, Development and Outreach Manager

Izabella Maar, Development and Outreach Officer for Wales and Conference Organiser

Charlotte Tomlinson, Development and Outreach Officer for England

Beth Crockett, Marketing and Communications Officer

Sophie Bodenham, Heritage Trainee (England)

Phoebe Shanley, Heritage Trainee (UK)

Samya Kelly, Heritage Trainee (Scotland)

Fran Healey, Finance Officer

New Heritage Trainees for England, Scotland and the UK will be starting in April.

We are also currently recruiting for the post of Events and Partnerships Officer.

The Network is governed by a board of directors which currently consists of twelve people drawn from our members and other professionals working in the field.

### Essential Networks

This role is being created as part of Essential Networks, a major development and resilience project that will transform the Network's ability to empower people to rescue and reuse historic buildings and spaces for the benefit of their communities. It started in November 2024 and will run to March 2029.

With a £1,364,588 grant from The National Lottery Heritage Fund, we aim to empower thousands of people, from a wide range of backgrounds, throughout the UK to come together to rescue and reuse historic sites for the benefit of their communities. We want to take Heritage Network to the next level of effectiveness and resilience with the staff team, digital infrastructure and financial sustainability it needs to:

- provide a comprehensive programme of support, expertise, information, peer-learning and networking for all those working on local heritage regeneration.
- effectively celebrate, support and promote the importance of community-led heritage for sustainable regeneration.
- develop complementary networks of supportive businesses, local authorities and individuals.
- enable young people to participate fully in the community heritage sector.

This will enable hundreds more community organisations to successfully save and re-use the buildings and spaces their communities love and build a more resilient Network that is able to develop this work into the next decade.

We will develop a new member portal and website creating a single place for community heritage organisations to interact with the Network, access information and advice, renew memberships and book events. Initiatives, such as learning programmes, organisational health checks and an expert panel will provide new ways for community heritage organisation to become more effective and resilient. Outreach to marginalised communities will make the community heritage sector more diverse and inclusive.



## Who you are

You are a self-motivated and hard-working team member who is committed to equality, diversity and inclusion. Team spirit and excellent customer service runs throughout everything you do from timely communication with colleagues, to the satisfaction of a job well done when supporting members and building relationships. You are digitally literate, confident in using and receiving training in new tech platforms. You are a natural people-connector and your interest in regeneration, heritage and sustainability in the built environment is evident, as is your willingness to help those who are rescuing, restoring and reusing older buildings.

## Role

This is an important role within Essential Networks, a major development and resilience project for the Heritage Network, our members and UK heritage. The post-holder will be responsible for developing the Network in Northern Ireland including undertaking targeted outreach activity, recruiting new members, supporting existing members, organising events and developing partnerships. The Development Officer will be supported by the UK Operations Manager, Development and Outreach Manager, Chief Executive, other UK staff and the Northern Ireland Committee.

## Key responsibilities

1. Identify community organisations in Northern Ireland who are restoring and managing historic sites (or are concerned about or wish to re-use local historic sites) and promote the benefits of Network membership to them in order to provide access to support.
2. Provide advice, information, signposting and facilitation of peer support to Network members in Northern Ireland.
3. Develop and maintain regular contact with Network members in order to understand their needs and ambitions, to support them and signpost them to other sources of support.
4. Work with the Marketing and Communications Officer to regularly issue a Northern Ireland e-newsletter to inform members of specific Northern Ireland events and opportunities and promote the achievements of Network members through the production of case studies, articles, presentations and through social media.
5. Work with the UK Operations Manager, Northern Ireland committee and where relevant the Events and Partnerships Officer, plan and organise Network events in Northern Ireland.
6. Organise and co-ordinate Northern Ireland Committee meetings. When required organise the recruitment of new members to the committee.
7. Act as a point of contact for the Network in Northern Ireland and working with the Northern Ireland Committee, represent the Network on networks, forums and committees as required.
8. Work with the Development and Outreach Manager and Northern Ireland Committee to make and maintain contact with existing and potential partner organisations in the voluntary and private sectors, local government and Northern Ireland Executive and explore how we can work together to promote and support community heritage.
9. Work with the Marketing and Communications Officer and Northern Ireland Committee work to improve awareness and understanding amongst statutory organisations, other agencies and



funders, as to how Network members can deliver community cohesion, economic regeneration and wellbeing objectives and save heritage sites at risk.

10. Work with the Membership Manager to support member retention and upgrades in Northern Ireland.
11. Provide regular reports to the UK Operations Manager, Northern Ireland Committee and the Heritage Network Board, on your work.
12. Each year, in consultation with the staff team, Board and Northern Ireland Committee identify potential outreach areas and research their potential. Identify and agree at least one to pursue.
13. Undertake research to identify organisations in the target area, contact them and inform them about the outreach project and the wider benefits of Network membership.
14. Arrange one-to-one meetings with outreach programme participants, give advice and signpost to other sources of support.
15. Organise online peer learning and networking events for the outreach programme participants.
16. Work closely with the Marketing and Communications Officer to ensure all events and outreach activity is marketed according to the Network's agreed processes.



Department for  
**Communities**  
[www.communities-ni.gov.uk](http://www.communities-ni.gov.uk)

An Roinn  
**Pobal**

Department fur  
**Communities**



## General responsibilities

17. Carry out duties in a transparent manner, communicating daily with colleagues.
18. Integrate the recording of activities with daily tasks, using the Network's internal Outlook calendar system, SharePoint digital file storage, logging all activity on the Salesforce CRM.
19. Utilise the Network's agreed digital systems and protocols, including Eventbrite, Form Assembly, Dext, Zoom, Teams, social media channels and all other policies and procedures.
20. Work as a member of the Network team, covering for colleagues where required, and ensuring activities are complementary and deliver the Network's Strategy and Business Plan.
21. Help to champion the rescue and reuse of historic sites across the UK, particularly by charities, social enterprises and community organisations.
22. Ensure that all Network activities and communications to members are accessible, inclusive and of a high standard.
23. Represent the Heritage Network at online and in-person events.

## Person Specification

Essential	Desirable
Training, experience and qualifications	
Experience relevant to the key responsibilities.	<p>Experience in a community or customer service role which involved working with diverse audiences.</p> <p>Experience of using *CRM, *CMS and social media.</p>
Knowledge and skills	
<p>Good interpersonal skills with the ability to work with a diverse range of people.</p> <p>Good organisational skills including the ability to keep detailed records.</p> <p>Good verbal and written communication skills including the ability to adapt communication styles to a variety of circumstances.</p> <p>A good level of digital skill and confidence.</p> <p>Demonstrable commitment to heritage, community development or another area relevant to this role.</p> <p>Ability to prioritise, be flexible and adaptable to suit a demanding workload.</p>	<p>Research skills.</p> <p>Understanding of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• community engagement with places</li> <li>• the benefits of the historic environment for people and places</li> <li>• the development process and the planning system</li> <li>• historic environment organisations, policies and practices</li> <li>• issues around diversity and inclusion in the heritage sector</li> <li>• the voluntary and community sector</li> </ul>

*\*A CRM is a digital 'customer relationship management' system that helps us to manage our interactions with members, potential members and other stakeholders. CMS is 'content management system' which*





is software that helps users create, manage and modify content on a website. We currently sue the platforms Salesforce and Sanity.



Department for  
**Communities**  
[www.communities-ni.gov.uk](http://www.communities-ni.gov.uk)

An Roinn  
**Pobal**

Department fur  
**Communities**

