



Development Officer - Our Island Home

Salary: £22,000 (pro rata)
Hours: 17.5 hours per week

Operational Area: Hebrides

Location: An Roth, Craignure, Isle of Mull and/or home (negotiable)

Island housing is scarce, costly to build and in high demand as second and holiday homes. For young people wanting to set up home, securing affordable housing is difficult, yet it is these people that island communities need to be able to remain and return to help secure island services and schools, to set up new businesses and to help existing island businesses to thrive.

We are looking for a dynamic individual who can help to deliver affordable island housing to help sustain island communities and provide housing options for young people.

As Our Island Home Development Officer, you will lead the development and delivery of housing support to island communities in the Hebrides. Working with island communities you will provide support to develop housing projects which meet local housing needs. You will help island communities to explore affordable housing options and to utilise funding such as the Scottish Government's Island Housing Fund. You will work closely with community land owners and community trusts to make effective use of their resources to deliver affordable housing. In addition you will help raise awareness amongst young people of housing options and amongst housing bodies of the housing needs of young islanders.

The role will require you to work with island communities across the Hebrides. You will have excellent communication skills, an ability to work with groups as well as organisational and planning skills. You will be able to inspire, motivate and support communities to bring about change, and to broker positive and effective relationships between communities, housing associations and local councils.

To apply for this exciting role, please send a CV and covering letter to <u>derek@ruralhousingscotland.org</u>, for more information please contact Derek Logie on 01620248220

We ensure fairness and equal opportunities in all we do. We welcome applications from suitably skilled candidates regardless of ethnicity, gender, disability, sexuality, religion or age.

Closing Date: Midnight 9th April 2017

Interviews will be held on 20th April.



Development Officer – Our Island Home Job Description & Person Specification



Main Tasks and Activities

Support island community groups/ trusts to develop affordable housing projects

- meet island communities to raise awareness of community action on housing
- help communities to develop proposals for new island housing
- find land and funding for new housing.
- support applications to the Island Housing Fund
- promote the development of the Our Island Home house design

Provide housing information and advice to young islanders

- highlight island housing options through island housing guide, housing surgeries and housing education
- respond to enquiries by phone, email and social media
- maintain active presence on social media to highlight housing options
- provide one to one support at different locations in island communities

Maintain islands housing networks on social media and web

- liaise with Scottish Islands Network and other island groups to ensure thorough dissemination of housing information/advice material
- maintain islands housing information on RHS website
- establish and maintain OIH presence on Facebook, Twitter and other social media

Skills and experience

Essential

- Project management skills
- Good verbal and written communications skills
- Ability to think creatively and solve problems
- Current UK Driving Licence
- Computer literate
- Flexible approach to working hours as evening and weekend working will occasionally be required
- Experience of working on own initiative



Desirable

- Knowledge of architecture and/or building sector
- Understanding of rural issues and rural housing markets
- Negotiation, facilitation and mediation skills
- Marketing Experience
- Event Organisation
- Experience of working with groups

Responsible to:

The Development Officer is managed by the Chief Executive of Rural Housing Scotland.

Contract

The post is currently funded until 31st March 2019.

Salary

£22,000 (pro rata)

Hours

17.5 hours per week - working week structure negotiable

Pension

Rural Housing Scotland offers a Defined Contribution pension scheme with employer contributions up to 10%.

Operational Area

Hebrides

Location

An Roth, Craignure, Isle of Mull and/or home - working location is negotiable

Annual Leave

12.5 days + 5.5 public holidays

