

Net Zero Strategic Fundraising Manager - Job Description

NE Cluster: Dioceses of Durham, Leeds, Newcastle, Sheffield and York

Background

The Church of England has developed a national Net Zero Carbon programme to fulfil its commitment to reach net zero by 2030. It aims to equip, resource and support all parts of the Church to reduce carbon emissions from energy used in its buildings, schools and work-related transport by 2030.

There is a National Net Zero Carbon fundraising team, who lead on the strategy to coordinate and support plans being developed by dioceses, churches, cathedrals, schools, and departments to secure some funds and distribute grants to leverage further fundraising.

In line with the Church of England's national route map, the Dioceses of Durham, Leeds, Newcastle, Sheffield and York are collaborating on this joint ambition to achieve net zero by 2030 across the area. Each diocese has developed a detailed Net Zero Carbon Action Plan to decarbonise their churches, other buildings and schools, and each has taken its own approach to fundraising.

Whilst the national Church of England is providing some financial support towards this extensive programme of net carbon zero work, all parts of the Church will need to raise additional funds to implement this plan.

We are now seeking an experienced fundraiser to work alongside the NE cluster and lead a strategic approach to NZC fundraising across the whole area, by accessing statutory bodies, grant-making trusts and other sources willing to finance net zero and other environmental improvement activities. **NB** Schools are excluded from the scope of this role.

This post is funded by the Church of England Net Zero Programme on a full-time basis for a period of 3 years, and, although working remotely, will be employed and line managed by the Diocese of Newcastle on behalf of the cluster.

Job Title: Net Zero Strategic Fundraising Manager

Salary: £38,230

Hours: Full-time (35hrs per week)

Term: Fixed-term for 3 years

Reporting To: Newcastle Diocese NZC Programme Manager

Key Relationships

Including:

- National and local stakeholders and funders such as grant-making trusts, charities, government departments, other relevant organisations
- Net Zero Carbon Hubs
- Relevant Mayoral and other local authority contacts

Internal:

- Diocesan Environmental and Net Zero leads
- Diocesan Advisory Committees and Church buildings teams
- Archdeacons, Area Deans
- Giving/Stewardship/Funding Advisors
- National Net Zero Carbon Programme team

Salary Scale

A starting salary of £38,230 is offered, plus expenses & non-contributory pension scheme.

Base

Home based with regular visits to Newcastle Diocese offices; occasional desk space available at other Dioceses' offices.

Job Purpose:

- Lead a strategic approach to NZC fundraising across the five dioceses
- Engage key funders and prepare compelling grant applications
- Work with all five staff teams within the cluster to secure additional funding to deliver their Net Zero priorities

Key Responsibilities:

- Build productive relationships with key stakeholders such as national and regional funders, including Regional NZC hubs and Community Energy umbrella groups
- Draft compelling bids to appropriate bodies and measure success rate
- Stay up-to-date with current and upcoming funding opportunities and cascade them to the region
- Maintain excellent links with the National Net Zero team
- Work closely with diocesan teams to understand their priorities and develop a project pipeline ready to respond to funding opportunities
- Engage deaneries and local clusters in fundraising for NZC work in collaboration with diocesan teams
- Develop and maintain a grant management and tracking system to enable collaboration across the dioceses
- Compile and manage progress reports and other grant monitoring documentation required by funders
- Provide training and guidance to regional fundraising teams to increase local fundraising capacity. For example, using church buildings as community assets in order to secure funding
- Support the development of and fundraising for Community Energy projects
- Assist key contacts with securing statutory and other grants for clergy housing energy efficiency upgrades and retrofit
- Organise regular meetings of key contacts and others as required, such as 'Green NE Powerhouse' network meetings

Communication, training and support

- Develop and cascade regular communications on upcoming and current sources of funding to key contacts
- Provide national and regional teams with information for digital channels
- Build good working relationships with clergy and lay people, respecting differing church traditions

- Create and maintain excellent links with the Regional and National Giving Advisor Network and other organisations
- Participate in NZ Regional Fundraiser network and share learnings and insights

Experience and Qualifications

Experience of developing and maintaining excellent working relationships with decision makers in grant making organisations	Essential
Experience of advising on and running successful fundraising campaigns	Essential
At least 3 years' experience in securing funding from grant making bodies	Essential
Experience of delivering and leading fundraising training sessions aimed at a variety of audiences	Essential
Experience of working within the church, heritage or environmental sector, either in a paid or voluntary capacity, ideally in relation to giving or fundraising	Desirable

Skills/Aptitudes

Highly organised, able to work to tight deadlines and manage conflicting priorities across multiple clients/stakeholders	Essential
The ability to communicate in a clear and lively manner both in writing and verbally	Essential
Ability to work collaboratively across a diverse organisation	Essential
Ability to deal sensitively and diplomatically with a range of people	Essential
Excellent IT competency	Essential
An understanding of diversity and cross-cultural dynamics	Essential
Ability to maintain a high level of confidentiality	Essential
Ability to develop good relationships, and work with people from a wide range of backgrounds.	Essential
Understanding of the environmental and church fundraising landscape, with particular reference to grants, statutory and community fundraising	Desirable
An understanding of, and a commitment to the promotion of, the principles and practice of Christian generosity and giving and a willingness to teach others	Desirable

An understanding of the challenges facing local churches	Desirable
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Character and Personal Qualities

In sympathy with the ethos of the Church of England and comfortable engaging with a worshipping community	Essential
Have a clear customer-focused outlook	Essential
Be strongly self-motivated, with the ability to work well both independently and as part of multiple teams	Essential

Any Other Duties

The post holder may be required to work occasional evenings and weekends as required.

The post-holder will be required to visit diocesan offices and attend meetings in person. While the use of public transport is encouraged, access to a vehicle insured for business purposes is essential.

This job description details responsibilities but is not prescriptive and does not direct any particular priorities or amount of time to be spent carrying out the duties. The post holder may be required to undertake other duties and responsibilities commensurate with the level and scope of the post. This job description may be subject to amendment, to meet the changing needs of the 5 Dioceses, following appropriate consultation.

General Responsibilities

The post holder will comply with all standards, policies and procedures set by the Dioceses including, but not limited to, those governing safeguarding, health and safety, data protection and confidentiality and equal opportunities.

The post holder will be required to travel across the dioceses and to meetings in other locations on a regular basis, and may be required to work outside normal office hours including occasional weekend working, subject to time off in lieu.

The Diocese of Newcastle is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, young people and vulnerable adults. All post holders are expected to share that commitment.

Diversity

We understand the benefits of employing individuals from a range of backgrounds, with diverse cultures and talents. We aim to create a workforce that:

- values difference in others and respects the dignity and worth of each individual;
- reflects the diversity of the nation that the Church of England exists to serve;
- fosters a climate of creativity, tolerance and diversity that will help all staff to develop to their full potential.

We are committed to being an equal opportunities employer and ensuring that all employees, job applicants, customers and other persons with whom we deal are treated fairly and are not subjected to discrimination. We want to ensure that we not only observe the relevant legislation but also do whatever is necessary to provide genuine equality of opportunity. We expect all of our employees to be treated and to treat others with respect. Our aim is to provide a working environment free from harassment, intimidation, or discrimination in any form which may affect the dignity of the individual.

Standards of Behaviour and Conduct

Employees are expected to act at all times with due consideration for others and in a manner befitting their position as employees of the Church and as professionals, whatever their job.

Health and Safety Responsibilities

The Newcastle Diocesan Board of Finance takes Health and Safety at work very seriously and require their employees to familiarise themselves with, and follow, their policy.

How to Apply

For application details please click [here](#)

Closing date for applications: Sunday 16th November 2025.

Interviews: To be held online 3rd or 4th December.

For wider information about the Church of England Net Zero Programme please visit: <https://www.churchofengland.org/about/church-england-environment-programme>

For an informal conversation about the role please contact Marion Schooler at info@newcastle.anglican.org