



## **Food Project Officer**

To apply please email [ruthjarman@greenchristian.org.uk](mailto:ruthjarman@greenchristian.org.uk) by 11pm on Monday 20 November 2023 with your CV and a cover letter.

### **Background**

Green Christian is a community of Christians who, inspired by our faith, seek to care for creation. For many years we have advocated the consumption of sustainable food, framing this work around principles known as LOAF: Locally produced, Organically grown, Animal friendly and Fairly traded.

Progress towards sustainable food and farming has been limited and there is little evidence to suggest that Christians or church-based organisations have adopted behaviours that differ markedly from the general population. We believe that by encouraging sustainable food and farming practices, we would enable God's creation to flourish. Our Food Project was recently established to -

1. Review Green Christian's current food and farming activities and resources.
2. Increase public awareness and understanding of Christian attitudes to food and farming.
3. Campaign nationally and locally for sustainable food and farming.
4. Assess the need for funding to develop a three year Green Christian initiative on sustainable food and farming based on the above activities and clearly defined aims.

### **Job purpose**

The aim of this role is to enable Green Christian to develop activities aimed at sustainable food and farming. You will help us to critically review our current activity and resources in this area, increase public awareness and understanding of Christian attitudes to food and farming, engage with relevant organisations, and contribute to campaign activity.

### **Reporting**

The Food Project Officer will report to, and be advised and supported by, the Food Project Team, to which you will provide a monthly progress report. The Food Project Team is led by a Trustee of Green Christian. The project is overseen by Green Christian's Board of Trustees.

### **Salary and hours**

The salary is £12.50 per hour. This is a part-time role, initially for 3.5 hours per week. The Food Project Officer will be an employee of Green Christian and the role is for one year initially, with the possibility of extension. Work will take place from your home and on Zoom. Some occasional travel may be required, for which expenses will be paid.

### **Job description**

The Project Officer will be responsible for supporting the Food Project Team by undertaking the following tasks, with the help of Green Christian volunteers and guided by priorities agreed with the team:

1. Develop, maintain and manage project documentation, such as committee minutes, discussion papers and publications.
2. Review the quality and effectiveness of Green Christian's LOAF and Harvest materials and the need for additional resources. Consolidate, enhance and promote food-related content on the Green Christian website.
3. Organise a series of online workshops on food-related topics in 2024 (in collaboration with Project Lead and Administration Group Convenor).
4. Develop Green Christian's relationships with other Christian and church-related organisations with an interest in food, and with Sustain (a broad alliance of organisations working for a better system of food, farming and fishing). Explore collaborative opportunities (e.g. universities, YCCN Food campaign, Eco Church).
5. Undertake desk research on the food-related policies of church-related organisations, including denominational organisations, the Church Commissioners and church schools, and of the UK Government. Communicate to Green Christian Trustees and members.
6. Support and promote the findings of a survey on attitudes and behaviour towards food among churchgoers.
7. Promote the project to the wider Green Christian community through meetings, articles, social media etc.
8. Explore the potential for a three-year initiative on sustainable food and farming, and the need for funding.
9. Undertake any other duties which may reasonably be required as within the nature of the duties and responsibilities of the post as defined.

## Person specification

The postholder should be sympathetic to the ethos of Green Christian, including the LOAF principles, and will either have a first degree or be able to provide evidence of equivalent knowledge and experience.

<b>ESSENTIAL</b>	<b>DESIRABLE</b>
<i>KNOWLEDGE</i>	
Active interest in food and farming, rooted in a personal commitment to the Christian faith.	Connections with relevant organisations.
Knowledge and understanding of key issues in sustainable food and farming.	
<i>SKILLS AND COMPETENCES</i>	

Administrative and project management skills. Able to maintain effective records of meetings, conversations and sources of knowledge, and to judge when to transmit information to others.	Campaign and advocacy skills.
Able to work on own initiative with minimal supervision, plan workload and meet deadlines. Seeks advice where necessary. Persistent when faced with difficult problems or challenges.	Creative thinking and critical analysis.
Able to develop strong and collaborative relationships with other organisations. Tactful and, where necessary, able to judge the need for confidentiality and handle sensitive issues diplomatically.	Able to work with Christians from a wide range of backgrounds and traditions.
Effective communicator, orally and in writing.	Skilled in theological reflection and application of Biblical insights.
Able to contribute effectively to a team. Aware of equality and diversity issues.	
Demonstrates willingness to learn. Responsive to feedback. Motivated by professional rather than personal concerns.	
<i>EXPERIENCE</i>	
Providing support to a committee and/or team, and reporting to Trustees/Directors/managers.	Serving committees, including taking minutes.
Using Word Document formats and using (or willing to learn) Google Drive. Aware of the latest technological developments.	Fundraising.