



## **NETWORK DEVELOPMENT OFFICER, CAPACITY TO COLLABORATE**

Fountainbridge Canalside Community Trust aims to make our local community a better place to live, work, play and visit. We work with others to support and strengthen opportunities for economic, environmental and cultural activity that benefit the community, and promote social inclusion, sustainability and well-being.

We are seeking a **Network Development Officer**, initially (due to funding) on a short-term contract from Sept 2022-March 2023 (further applications for post-March 2023 have and will be submitted)

By employing a Network Development Officer, we aim to better engage with other organisations who work in the area (some of which are already known to us and engaged), to create a more cohesive network of organisations who, by working and communicating well together, will have greater impact and be more than the sum of their parts. We see this role as a key way to establish the FCCT as a Community Anchor Network, and bring benefit to a number of organisations working in the area and for those benefits to pass on to the people in our community who we and they work with.

Location: We are based at the Scottish Canals Office, 23 Lower Gilmore Place, EH3 9NY. Hybrid working (mix of work from home and in office) is possible.

Rate of pay: £13,400 per annum, for 18 hrs/week (based on £28,000 pro rata)

Hours of work: This opportunity is for 18 hours per week for 7 months (Sept 2022 – March 2023). Whilst we have to fulfil the needs of our organisation, we will endeavour to be as flexible as possible when agreeing days and hours of work.

### Tasks include to:

- Engage with organisations and individuals in our local area to create a more formal community network
- Consult with members as to what they require from a community network
- Deliver network activities such as meetings, events, newsletters
- Look for opportunities for collaborative projects and lay the ground work for making them happen
- Build-up the following and content on our social media channels
- Further develop our organisation's website
- Keep good records of activities and member details
- Take an active role in our other projects (e.g. Lochrin Belle canal boat, Health Walks and Mental Health Programme)

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- Any other reasonable duties, as directed by Development Manager

Candidates must have:

- relevant work experience in the third sector
- great interpersonal skills
- proven results in building partnerships and organisational relationships
- Good ICT and marketing skills
- a flexible and positive attitude
- knowledge of the local area (desirable)

How to apply:

Please send an email or covering letter explaining your suitability for the role, with CV attached, to [rachel@fcct.scot](mailto:rachel@fcct.scot). You can phone Rachel (Development Manager) for more details or an informal chat (but not between 21<sup>st</sup> July and 3<sup>rd</sup> August due to annual leave).

DEADLINE for applications: Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> August 2022. Interviews on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> August.

This project is being funded by Edinburgh Health and Social Care Partnership's Capacity to Collaborate scheme.

### **CAPACITY TO COLLABORATE**

The Edinburgh Wellbeing Pact recognises that collaboration (between people, organisations, communities, services across 3<sup>rd</sup>, public, private and academic sector) is at the core of the Pact and needs to be encouraged and nurtured. We want to support existing collaborative work and new collaborations that are focused on our shared purpose of **more good days** for people.

### **FOUNTAINBRIDGE CANALSIDE COMMUNITY TRUST**

FCCT aims to work with others to create and manage new projects. It will support and strengthen opportunities for economic, environmental and cultural activity that benefit the community, and will promote social inclusion, sustainability and well-being. We have recently been formed through the coming together of Re-Union Canal Boats and Fountainbridge Canalside Initiative (FCI).

The area around Fountainbridge and the Union Canal is currently the subject of a significant set of construction projects, involving social housing, community space, business units and development of the common open spaces. Using the community voice created by FCI and the assets and social enterprise experience of Re-Union, we believe we can create an enterprising, community-led organisation that will ensure that developments by the canalside make use of the resources of the Union Canal and that the local community's spirit and vision will maximise the social and economic benefits.

During the forming of FCCT we consulted and communicated with approximately 30 other local organisations including schools, community councils, churches, local projects and community groups, local charities and social enterprises. We completed a Community Consultation in 2021,

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which 356 people responded to. Lastly, in June 2022 we co-ordinated the first Edinburgh Canal Festival since 2019, and changed the format from a Gala Day to a Community Doors Open Day. Over 40 individuals and groups were involved.

Much as Edinburgh Wellbeing Pact has simplified their mission to 'more good days', we can summarise our vision to 'making Fountainbridge a better place to live, work, play and visit'.

### **NETWORK DEVELOPMENT**

There are a lot of good projects working in our area, but none that has a focus in looking out for the sustainable economic, social and environmental development of the area. Our organisation is looking to bring together the good work that already goes on and to create an umbrella for new projects for opportunities or gaps found within the community.

The Network Development Officer will bring together a variety of community and social enterprises and build on the work we have already done to find out what we can put in place to help us all work better for the people and place we want to have impact on. This could include organising network meetings, initiating a local newsletter, developing social media channels, promoting activities that happen in the local area, looking at key barriers or issues local groups face and come together to try and solve them, keeping people abreast of what stage the construction and development sites are at, organising community events, and much more.

To be effective as a Community Anchor Network for the area, we need to offer support and things of value to our member organisations (and find out what these are and what local people would perceive to be valuable). We would also aim to establish several communications between groups, networking meetings and events as well as communication to the public, which could widen opportunities and audiences for both ourselves and other groups.