

About Positive Money:

Positive Money is a fast-growing organisation that combines the activities of a think-tank, pressure group, and international movement. Our mission is to restore democratic control and transparency over the creation of money. Current monetary policy and the money system cause a wide range of economic, social and environmental problems; most notably house price bubbles, high levels of debt, and rising inequality. Our vision is a fair, democratic, and sustainable money and banking system.

About the role:

Our ideas on reform to the banking system have been advocated by the Financial Times' chief economics commentator, Martin Wolf, and cited by influential economists including former Bank of England governor, Mervyn King and former Financial Services Authority chairman Adair Turner. Our team has developed a significant body of work looking at the nature of the current monetary system and the potential of reforming the banking system to implement a 'sovereign money system'. This work has resulted in the publication of two books and 12 research reports. There are many examples of the growing momentum behind our ideas:

- In September 2016, KPMG (one of the largest consulting companies in the world) published an official report on sovereign money, commissioned by the office of the Prime Minister of Iceland.
- In the Netherlands more than 110,000 people signed a petition in favour of a sovereign money system, triggering a debate in the subject in Parliament and the commissioning of a report by the Scientific Council on Government Policy (WRR).
- In Switzerland, Positive Money's sister organisation collected enough petition signatures to trigger a national referendum on whether to implement a sovereign money system.
- In December 2016, the Dutch National Bank (DNB) hosted a private workshop on sovereign money, attended by representatives of many European central banks, including the Bank of England (and Positive Money)
- A growing number of Masters and PhD candidates are dedicating their theses to this topic.
- The Cambridge Journal of Economics recently dedicated an entire special issue to proposals to reform the monetary system.

Positive Money aims to become globally-recognised thought-leaders on monetary policy and central banking and we want our research to have significant political impact. The chief economist will work with the Positive Money team to develop and implement the research strategy. This will include researching how the current monetary system contributes to economic, social, and environmental problems, and researching Sovereign Money and developing Sovereign Money proposals. The role will involve engaging with economists (including academics, professionals and policymakers), encouraging them to engage in the debate around monetary reform (even if they do not fully support our proposals) and maintain relationships with them. The chief economist will ensure the research team supports the influencing and supporter network teams by providing them with technical expertise, and ensuring the accuracy of our public communications. The chief

economist will work with the team to identify how to broaden Positive Money's analysis of the dysfunctional money and banking system, and the role of central banking.

About you:

You'll have a strong economics background, ideally with a focus on the monetary system (this could be from academia, policy, or the financial sector). Ideally you would have published work demonstrating research and writing ability. You are a clear, creative thinker with developed influencing skills, who can build relationships with and influence key players across academia, private and public sectors. You have experience in public speaking, and would be comfortable explaining complex economic concepts to a range of audiences. You are able to work in an open-minded way, understanding the complexity of the money and finance system, being open to criticisms of Positive Money's research. You are able to help the organisation evolve and build on criticisms.

Key responsibilities:

- To ensure that the Positive Money's proposals remain relevant to external changes in the economy, policy, regulation, technology, and politics.
- Represent Positive Money externally: at events, on panels, speaking engagements, interviews etc.
- Implement and evaluate the 2017-18 research strategy.
- To be accountable for day-to-day delivery of the research programme, including the management of staff time and programme budget.
- Project manage our research area, prioritising focus areas and adapting the plans as and when the external situation changes.
- Undertake own research and commission research where necessary.
- Engage external researchers in our research agenda (including university academics, PhD candidates, central bankers, regulators and professionals within the financial sector).
- Facilitate and coordinate external research to ensure knowledge sharing and avoid duplication of work.
- Support external investigations (such as the Dutch Scientific Council for Government Policy or KPMG) to understand how a sovereign money system would work.
- Engage with economists (in academia, and in regulatory institutions) who are thinking about how to implement sovereign money.
- Respond to criticism of the proposals, taking valid criticism on board and addressing it through the research agenda, and rebutting invalid critiques.
- Manage and update our existing publications, including our book *Modernising Money*.
- Monitor developments in the banking industry and in monetary policy.
- Collaborate with other members of the team to write funding proposals when required.
- Ensure we have an active and engaged Advisory Panel.
- To deputise for the Executive Director where necessary.
- Be actively involved in, and support or lead as appropriate, in various areas of organisational development.

Person specification

Experience and skills

- Masters or PhD desirable but not essential if other evidence of research ability can be provided.
- A strong understanding of economics and the financial system, in particular:
 - A high-level of understanding of banking, including concepts such as: balance sheets, assets and liabilities, asset-liability management, capital and liquidity, interbank settlement and payment systems.
 - A strong understanding of monetary policy and central banking, including the management of interest rates, Quantitative Easing, and the objective, target, tools and transmission mechanisms of monetary policy.
- A keen interest in how changes to the structure of the banking system and monetary policy could help to address a wide range of economic, social and environmental problems.
- A good understanding of current debates in economic and monetary policy from a political economy perspective.
- The ability to understand and appreciate a wide range of economic and political points of view, including understanding different schools of economic thought.
- Excellent written English for a range of audiences.
- Proven project management skills. Experience in managing similar multi-stakeholder research projects is desirable.
- The ability to manage research projects that may not have immediate deadlines, successfully managing scope and appropriate allocation of time and resources, including effectively managing researchers.
- An effective relationship-builder. Excellent interpersonal skills to work with external researchers.
- A creative and critical thinker, someone who is capable of thinking outside of the box.

Values and behaviours

- Be committed to our vision for a fair, democratic, and sustainable money system
- Enjoy working with a high level of autonomy, trust, and open-mindedness
- Be committed to working in an innovative and collaborative way
- Friendly and professional manner
- High degree of maturity and able to respond positively in pressured situations
- Ability to work well alone or within a team, as required, and be self-motivated
- Ability to multi-task and manage interruptions
- Ability to work in time-pressured situations and to meet deadlines
- Be self-reflective with a high degree of empathy and self-awareness

Terms and conditions

Contract: The role is for an initial fixed term of 1 year with a 6-month probationary period.

Salary: Depending on experience £32,000 - 40,000 pro rata + 8% pension contribution

Reporting to: Executive Director, Positive Money

Hours: 28-35 hours per week with some flexibility; the post holder would be expected to work the occasional evening or weekend for time off in lieu. 2 – 4 weekends a year may be affected.

Holiday: 25 days per year in addition to statutory holidays.

Location: The role is based at 212 Davina House, 137-149 Goswell Road, London, EC1V 7ET with occasional work away from home and outside normal office hours.

How to Apply

Please send a CV (max 2 pages, including links to any published work) & cover letter (max 2 pages) answering the questions below to recruitment@positivemoney.org

- Why do you want this role?
- What skills and experience do you have that make you suitable to apply for this role?
- How does this job fit with your career aspirations?

Closing date for applications: 20th February 2017

Interview dates: 2nd and 3rd March 2017

Positive Money is committed to providing equal opportunities for everyone regardless of their background. We welcome applications from everyone irrespective of gender, sexual orientation, disability and ethnicity but, as women and Black, Asian and minority ethnic people are currently under-represented within the Positive Money network, we would encourage applications from members of these groups.

If you have any queries about the role and would like to have an informal chat - we would love to talk to you. Please contact Positive Money's Frank van Lerven, frank.vanlerven@positivemoney.org.uk, 020 7253 3235.

Please note that Positive Money can only accept applications from individuals with the right to work in the UK.