

Housing Policy Lead (Part-time)

Positive Money UK

JOB DESCRIPTION

About Positive Money:

Positive Money is the leading civil society organisation re-imagining our money and banking system for the wellbeing of people, communities and the planet. We are part of a growing and collective force for economic systems change. Our mission is to reform money and banking to build a *fair, democratic* and *sustainable* economy.

We produce ground-breaking research and policy, educate the public and politicians, penetrate the media, and mobilise the public behind people-powered campaigns. We work across four key areas: democratising money and banking, a green and fair Bank of England, a wellbeing economy, and new economy thinking. Our current priority campaigns are 'a fair and green transition', 'a wellbeing economy' and 'housing as homes not assets'. We have offices in London, Brussels, and the US. Read more about our five-year organisational strategy [here](#).

About the role:

We are looking for a talented public policy professional to lead our housing project. The role will involve creating political and policy change at national and local levels to shift policy on one of today's most pressing social issues - housing affordability. In March 2022, Positive Money published [Banking on Property: what's driving the housing affordability crisis and how to solve it](#). This role will build on this research, developing and managing influencing and campaigning activities to ensure our policy proposals to tackle housing affordability are adopted by politicians and policymakers; and support the work of housing campaign groups. This is a great opportunity to learn and work collaboratively with a variety of experts in housing, build connections with housing justice groups, and bring about change to ensure housing is a right for all, not an asset for the few.

About you:

You will be an experienced public policy professional able to lead and manage the development of our housing project. You will be comfortable learning about and working across diverse themes within housing from the macroeconomic drivers to private rent and social housing. You will work closely with our Head of Campaigns and Head of Policy and Advocacy to develop and implement an effective campaigns and influencing strategy, in order to promote alternative policy solutions to solve housing affordability. You will have experience of project management, the ability to work independently and collaborate as part of a team. You will also have strong written and verbal communication skills, and the ability to present complex ideas clearly to different audiences.

ACCOUNTABILITIES

Strategy

- Develop and oversee the strategy for our housing project, including developing campaigning and influencing activities in collaboration with key team members across our programmes of research, influencing and campaigns.

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- Lead on communicating the strategy across teams and the wider organisation and ensure it is kept updated to reflect any changes in the external environment.

Delivery

- Lead our housing work, and plan and oversee the delivery throughout the 11-month contract.
- Project manage, and be accountable for, all deliverables within our housing project.
- Monitor the external environment related to housing policy, and adapt work plans as needed, leading on problem-solving in coordination with other senior colleagues.
- Build cross-party support for our policy proposals through disseminating our report and organising meetings with national and local politicians and policy makers.
- Write policy briefings, submissions, blogs and op-eds on housing policy. Feed into our education work including content for shareable videos.
- Develop and manage good relations and partnerships with housing campaign groups and housing policy experts working in this space. Where relevant, represent Positive Money by attending roundtables, external meetings and events related to the housing policy sector.
- Identify and seize opportunities to mobilise the public to lobby MPs and decision makers for policy change including working on joint letters and/or petitions to politicians.
- Work with others to organise a key event that brings together MPs, economists, housing groups and the public.
- Anticipate and manage risks within our housing project.
- Manage the housing project budget.

People

- Work collaboratively across our three programmes: research, influencing and campaigns; encouraging teamwork and ensuring good communication between staff in support of our housing work.
- Work with the campaigns team to engage our local supporters on our housing work and support mobilising opportunities to lobby MPs and decision makers

External

- Create and develop strategic external relationships with housing policy experts, researchers, policy makers and politicians, and housing campaign groups.
- Lead on evaluation reports and relationship management with key funder(s).
- Proactively engage with national and regional policymakers and politicians (via meetings, policy briefings, and relevant consultations, inquiries, select committees), and build support amongst them for alternative housing policy solutions.

Culture

- Ensure that engagement with issues of race, class, gender and with the lived experience of those at the sharp end of housing unaffordability, is built into our housing work.
- Proactively support others to be excellent in their roles.
- Take personal responsibility for work within the housing project.

PERSON SPECIFICATION

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Essential Skills & Experience:

- Experience working on housing issues and/or in the housing policy sector.
- Knowledge and understanding of housing policy in the UK.
- Strong written and verbal communicator, able to express complex ideas internally and externally to engage diverse audiences, align different perspectives and recognise mutual interests. Excellent active listening skills.
- Strong facilitator, able to plan, facilitate and review an effective group session with our team or other stakeholders.
- An ability to proactively manage a varied workload, and to work both independently and as part of a team.
- Experience of project management and meeting deadlines.
- Proven ability to build and manage new strategic relationships.
- A passion for progressive ideas and solutions to achieve economic and social justice.

Desirable Experience and Skills:

- Awareness and/or experience of promoting alternative perspectives and policy solutions to problems in the housing sector.
- Experience of engaging and influencing policy makers and politicians to bring about policy change.
- Previous experience of writing blogs, op-eds and speaking to journalists.

Values and behaviours:

- Self-reflective with a high degree of empathy and self-awareness, as well as literacy about your own emotions and an ability to communicate them.
- Able to reflect on personal strengths, weaknesses and behaviours, and implement change.
- Commitment to our vision for a fair, democratic, and sustainable money system.
- High degree of maturity, able to respond positively in pressured situations, to multitask, and to manage interruptions.
- Commitment to demonstrating our principles and behaviours (copied below) in your work, and to encouraging these amongst colleagues

POSITIVE MONEY PRINCIPLES & BEHAVIOURS

Principles:

Innovation: *experimentation and learning, being flexible in our plans, seizing opportunities and staying responsive*

Open-mindedness: *embracing complexity, not pretending to have all the answers, being positive to those who challenge or disagree with us*

Trust: *working autonomously, assuming everyone aims to do their best work, and being agile in our ways of working*

Behaviours:

- *Prioritising the organisation and team over self-interest*
- *Dismantling oppression*
- *Self-awareness and self-reflection*
- *Empathy*
- *Collaborating and working with others*
- *Appreciation of different working preferences*
- *Being responsive to own and others' needs*
- *Working autonomously when necessary*

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- *Trying to find solutions*

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Contract: The role is for a fixed term employment contract of 11 months (maternity leave cover), with 3-month probationary period.

(We are also open to applications from freelance candidates who may prefer to take on the role in a contracted position, rather than as an employee).

Salary: Grade 5, full time rate of **£38,000** per annum + 8% pension contribution. (pro-rata for part time hours of 2-3 days per week, and for temporary contract)

Hours: Part-time (14-21 hours, or 2-3 days, per week). Requests for a flexible working pattern will be considered. The post holder may be expected to work the occasional evening or weekend for time off in lieu.

Holiday: 25 days per annum for full time equivalent, in addition to statutory holidays.

Location: Flexible between working in our London Office (Davina House, Goswell Road, London, EC1V 7ET,) and working remotely.

Our London based staff work a hybrid of office and remote working. We're also open to candidates located in other parts of the UK working fully remotely, with travel to the London office expected up to two days per month.

How to Apply: Please download and fill out the [APPLICATION FORM](#) in full.

Please email your completed application form to: recruitment@positivemoney.org.uk

If you are interested in the role and would like to find out more information, please contact Danisha Kazi, Danisha.Kazi@positivemoney.org.uk.

Please also **submit two writing samples**. These can relate to any topic and can be essays, articles, reports, blog posts, or any other form of writing. Individual authorship is preferred. Pieces that have been authorised in collaboration with others will be accepted if you detail your individual contributions.

Closing date for applications: 8am Friday 30th September

Interviews will take place on: Wednesday 5th or Thursday 6th October

Start Date: We hope the successful candidate will be able to start in the week commencing Monday 24th October.

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.

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