



Working with us:

Project Officer (National Projects)



Job Pack – June 2023

Contents

A note from our CEO, Derek Mitchell	3
About Citizens Advice Scotland	4
Employee benefits	5
About the role	6
Job description	7
Person specification	9

A note from our CEO, Derek Mitchell

“Thank you for your interest in joining the Citizens Advice Scotland team. Our employees play a critical role in helping to make society fairer, and in supporting our network of Citizens Advice Bureaux across Scotland.

We hope this pack will give you the information you need to decide if a role with us is right for you. We rely on each member of the team to bring their own unique skills, experience, views and commitment to our goals – it’s that combination which makes our organisation what it is.

The Citizens Advice network in Scotland provides much-needed advice and information to people of all walks of life, on a huge range of issues. We give a piece of advice every 19 seconds – face to face, online and by phone. The services we and our members provide make a difference in communities across Scotland and the rest of Great Britain, ensuring people are aware of their rights. It’s a powerful thing to be part of.

We look forward to hearing from you if you decide to apply, and to learning more about what you can bring to this role, and to the team.”



Derek Mitchell, CEO
Citizens Advice Scotland



About Citizens Advice Scotland

The Citizens Advice network in Scotland is the largest independent advice service in the country. Citizens Advice Scotland is a charity within this network – we act as a national organisation supporting and representing the service as a whole and the interests of citizens.

At the heart of the network there are 59 individual citizens advice bureau organisations across Scotland, all operating as independent charities in their own right, and generally focusing on providing support directly to clients. Each of these organisations is a member of Citizens Advice Scotland. Also providing significant added value are the national elements of the service run out of Citizens Advice Scotland, such as the Extra Help Unit.

We believe that every citizen should have access to free, impartial and confidential advice that helps them make informed decisions, whenever they need it and however they choose to access it. Whether that's face-to-face, over the phone or online, people know that wherever they see the familiar blue and yellow of our brand, they are guaranteed the same high quality of free, impartial and confidential advice.

Citizens Advice Scotland is committed to promoting diversity and inclusion. We offer a range of family friendly, inclusive employment policies and flexible working arrangements to support all our staff. We are also committed to equality of opportunity for all and applications from individuals are encouraged regardless of age, disability, sex, gender reassignment, sexual orientation, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief and marriage and civil partnerships.

Find out more at www.cas.org.uk.

Employee Benefits

Our people are our greatest strength and make Citizens Advice Scotland a great place to work. We place our people at the forefront of everything we do, and we offer a wide range of benefits to show how much we value everyone who works for us.

Work-life balance



- > **35 hour full time working week**
- > **Flexible working opportunities for everyone**
- > **Flexitime system**
- > **Blended/Hybrid Working**
- > **Generous leave:** 30 days annual leave + 10 days public holiday

Health and wellbeing



- > **Occupational Sick Pay:** up to 6 months full pay and 6 months half pay dependant on length of service
- > **Life Assurance Scheme:** financial security and reassurance for employees and their families.
- > **My Gym Discounts:** join gyms, health clubs, leisure centres, yoga studios, boot camps and outdoor activities at a discounted rate.
- > **Annual On-site Employee Health Checks**
- > **Employee Counselling Service**

Financial benefits



- > **Pension scheme:** save for your future with an 8% employer and 4% employee contribution.
- > **Capital Credit Union:** access ethical financial services with a credit union membership.
- > **Independent Financial Advice**
- > **Access to Employee Benefits/Discounts:** including special offers, discounts and deals from over 200 suppliers

Other benefits



- > **Generous Maternity, Adoption and Paternity Pay**
- > **Enhanced occupational Sick Pay**
- > **Family Friendly Policies and Support**
- > **Season ticket loans:** take out an interest-free season ticket loan to save on travelling to and from work
- > **Salary sacrifice schemes:** Various schemes including Cycle to Work and Home Technology schemes.
- > **Paid time off to volunteer**
- > **Learning and Developing Opportunities for all**

About the role

- > **Job title:** Project Officer (National Projects)
- > **Location:** Edinburgh (with options for Blended Working)
- > **Hours per week:** 35 hours per week
- > **Type of contract:** Permanent
- > **Appointable salary range:** £21,532 - £26,319 per annum* (Level2), commensurate with experience

*The successful candidate's salary will be determined in line with their skills and experience. New employees are normally appointed at the lower end of the salary scale and potential candidates should not expect to be appointed above the midpoint of the salary scale.

- > **Closing date:** 06 July 2023, 5pm
- > **Interviews:** 17 July 2023

About the job

Citizens Advice Scotland runs a series of national specialist services as projects which require centralised project co-ordination and support. The Project Officer will work alongside the rest of the allocated project team, ensuring successful delivery and development where appropriate. At Level 1 the Project Officer will have a lower level of responsibility for allocated projects than Level 2, either due to the complexity of the project or the accountability of the work being undertaken.

As well as providing project coordination and support, the role will be responsible for the collation of management information and for the coordination and engagement with key stakeholders as well as assist with the drafting of project reports. This will be used to determine how the project or service is performing and inform recommendations and decisions as to future service development and changes affecting advice delivery.

This role will support a number of projects and therefore a dynamic and flexible individual who can multi task is required. The national projects are delivered by the bureau network, providing the advice and support people need. The Project Officer must have the ability to communicate clearly and to proactively gather information from a wide stakeholder and participation base ensuring deadlines are met.

Job description

- > **Position:** Project Officer (National Projects)
- > **Responsible to:** Project Manager
- > **Line manager responsibility:** No
- > **Budget responsibility:** No

Key responsibilities

Project support

- > Provide an effective and efficient project support and administration service to the Project Team
- > Maintain all monitoring, reporting and project plans to ensure operational delivery is tracked against key objectives
- > Provide support to key stakeholders to ensure that all data is compiled and reported on to the standard and format required in any linked agreements

Reporting

- > Collate, analyse and interpret data, proactively identifying emerging or potential issues and identify appropriate solutions to ensure the service's operational effectiveness
- > Prepare reports for relevant stakeholders with accessible, accurate and up-to-date information
- > Formulate recommendations or feedback based on findings, highlighting concerns and improvement areas in an authoritative, but concise way

Authorities and limitation

- > The post holder will focus on operational elements of service delivery for projects which are mostly straightforward in nature, for example smaller projects which involve only a small number of stakeholders with limited funding. Expected to coordinate and analyse the majority of key data day-to-day within project parameters
- > Guidance from the Project Manager / Coordinator but considerable freedom in relation to day-to-day activity
- > Outside the normal reporting boundaries of project structure, the post holder will consult with the Project Manager / Coordinator on any variation, delay or threat to the project or any identified solution
- > The post holder will follow Citizens Advice Scotland data processor agreements with Citizens Advice Bureaux and ensure that the authorisation process is followed

Problem solving

- > The type and scope of problems encountered varies on a day-to-day basis, so the post holder must demonstrate flexibility in approach and logical thought processes
- > Resolution of occasional one-off ad hoc problems
- > Problem solving and role complexity will be mostly around capturing and interpreting relevant information and data in a timely manner and preparing reports to meet deadlines

The above job description is not exhaustive and is clarified to include broad duties inherent in the post.

Person specification

Knowledge, skills and experience

Essential

- > Knowledge and experience of project support or administration, including the use of project administration tools and techniques
- > Proven ability to gather and co-ordinate project information in order to undertake analysis, produce quality reports and formulate recommendations for improvement
- > Ability to apply a logical and analytical approach to work
- > Strong written communication skills, including the ability to communicate complex information clearly, accurately and accessibly to non-specialists
- > Demonstrable influencing and verbal communication skills including managing expectations, monitoring quality levels, resolving issues and building relationships
- > Excellent IT literacy with proven ability to use IT packages, including spreadsheet, word processing and presentation software

Desirable

- > Direct knowledge of, and experience with, advisory services
- > Experience of working within a public or voluntary sector corporate environment
- > Knowledge of the Citizens Advice service

www.cas.org.uk



[@CitAdviceScot](https://twitter.com/CitAdviceScot)



[CitizensAdviceScotland](https://www.facebook.com/CitizensAdviceScotland)

The Scottish Association of Citizens Advice Bureaux – Citizens Advice Scotland. Scottish charity (SC016637) and company limited by guarantee (89892)