



GROUNDWORK SOUTH AND NORTH TYNESIDE RECRUITMENT PACK

Green Exercise Project Officer

Groundwork South and North Tyneside

Charity Registration Number 1007918

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<https://www.groundwork.org.uk/south-and-north-tyneside/>



Better Health
at Work Award
Maintaining Excellence

The Groundwork Approach



The Groundwork movement began 40 years ago at a time of political, social and economic challenge, as an experiment to help communities cope with change and work together to make their lives and neighbourhoods better. That experience and that spirit of enterprise and innovation have never been more needed than now. What drives us is the recognition that in every community - however disadvantaged - there are deep reserves of pride in the local area and people with the passion and ideas to improve their circumstances and surroundings. Groundwork South and North Tyneside exists to harness that pride and unlock that passion through services, projects and programmes that change people's lives now but also make our communities across our region more resilient for the future.

We know that many people face multiple challenges - living in isolation or with significant health issues in communities with few facilities and limited employment prospects. We work with partners to address these challenges in three ways: we create better places, we improve people's prospects, and we promote greener choices.

Wherever and however we deliver, our approach will always be informed by our commitments:

- **We will invest in the places and people that need us most**
Prioritising our resources to bring about lasting change by building skills and capacity within local communities where we can make most difference.
- **We will grow a culture of equity and inclusion**
Operating transparently and with integrity and seeking out a diversity of viewpoints, both in the work we do and the people we employ.
- **We will be committed to collaboration**
Forging strong partnerships, contributing to a thriving community sector and helping others lead where this will achieve greater impact
- **We will act as environmental exemplars**
Championing practical action to combat the climate and nature emergency and measuring and reducing our own environmental impact



Why our Work is Needed

We believe that working with local communities to build their resilience is vital in facing up to the challenges of a globalised economy and a changing climate. We know that the negative effects of climate change and environmental breakdown impact first and worst on those who have the least power in society, and who contribute least to the cause of the crisis. A 'just transition' to an inclusive, net-zero economy must tackle, rather than entrench, this inequality and provide a springboard for better work and healthier, happier lives in the places that need it most.

This means creating green jobs that build wealth in local communities, changing behaviour to reduce wasted food, energy and water, providing biodiverse, accessible green spaces, supporting businesses to be more responsible and empowering communities to lead activities that improve their quality of life and promote health and wellbeing.

The UK is one of the richest nations in the world, yet many people in many communities face significant hardship

- > Continued reductions in public spending means there is a risk of greater social inequality and greater geographic disparity as services people rely on, are cut
- > The neighbourhood services that enhance our quality of life - from youth clubs to parks - have felt the brunt of spending reductions
- > As our economy and welfare system change, some people feel marginalised and vulnerable
- > Environmental impacts - from flooding to energy price rises - impact disproportionately on those who have least protection
- > Addressing these challenges requires new ideas and approaches, engaging communities and businesses and shaping new ways of delivering public services

- ✓ 89% of community groups say their work is needed more than ever, but more than half say it got harder for them to operate in the last ten years
- ✓ 75% of people say they feel unable to influence decisions about what happens in their local area
- ✓ Nearly half of young people say they feel they don't belong to their neighbourhood
- ✓ 2.69 million people do not live within a ten minute walk of a green space. Those who are at greatest risk of poor physical and mental health, are more likely to miss out on the benefits of green space
- ✓ Around half a million young people were 'economically inactive' - not in learning or employment and not looking for work
- ✓ One in ten households in England is experiencing fuel poverty, rising to almost one in five for ethnic minority households
- ✓ 76% of adults say they are concerned about climate change
- ✓ 40% of young people admit to feeling 'overwhelmed' by the climate change
- ✓ 90% of SMEs said being sustainable was important for their business but more than half said they were finding it difficult to take action



Working for Groundwork South and North Tyneside



VALUES

Our values inform what we do and how we do it.

We are **environmentally aware** and focused on **communities in need**.

We are **collaborative**, show **integrity** and strive for **quality** in everything we do.



EQUALITY & DIVERSITY

We are fully committed to eliminating discrimination and promoting equality and diversity in our workforce and employment practices, in the work we undertake, and in the provision of all our services.



SAFEGUARDING

We commit to doing everything we can to ensure the safety of those involved in our projects, programmes and services. Our safeguarding team ensures that our safeguarding policy and practices are rigorously implemented and continually reviewed and improved. Safeguarding is embedded in our organisational culture.



SUSTAINABILITY

Our federation strategy commits us to being environmental exemplars, which means embedding the principles of sustainable development in what we deliver and the way we work. Sustainable development means meeting our own needs without depleting natural resources for future generations. It also means recognising that our environment, economy and society are all connected.

Groundwork believes that the needs of local communities must be central to the way we tackle the climate and nature emergencies. Our ISO14001 accreditation supports our achievements.

What are we looking for?



Green Exercise helps people to connect with nature and each other while building levels of physical activity, supporting people to move away from a sedentary lifestyle and live a good life. We seek to deliver long-term programmes delivered across local green spaces, parks, riverside and coastline, to provide entry level accessible activity.

The Green Exercise project officer will develop and implement a diverse range of activities and events. They will be responsible for facilitating the implementation of the health and wellbeing projects and developing and delivering Green Exercise sessions with the aim of getting people active in the outdoors and building nature connection across South Tyneside and North Tyneside, increasing levels of physical activity and healthy lifestyle choices within the target communities.

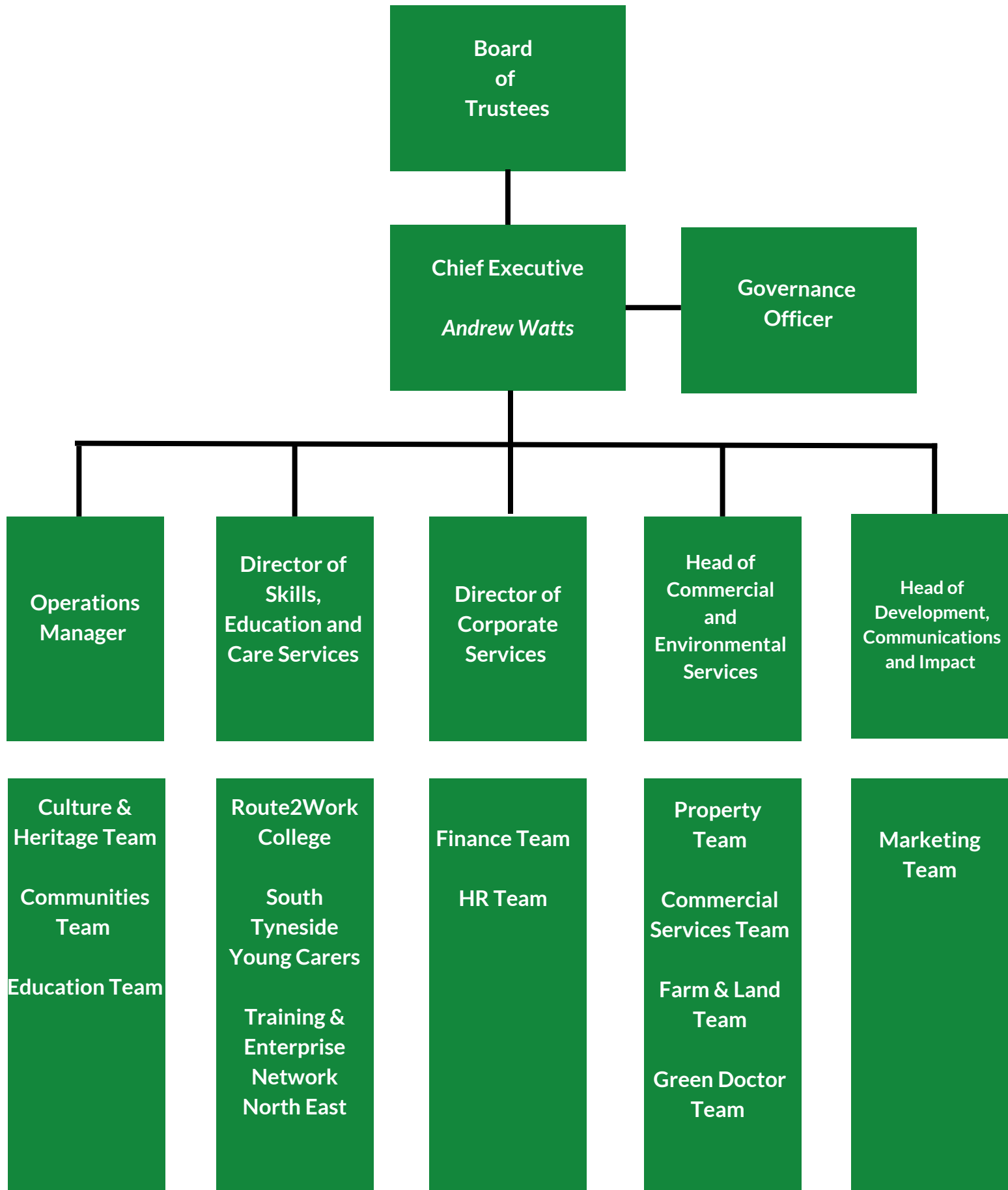
Activities delivered may cover themes of horticulture (including grow it, cook it, eat it sessions), conservation and heritage skills, health walks, Nordic walks, sports and games and healthy lifestyle activities. The post holder will work with a cross section of the community including school or enrichment alternative education groups, families and adults, seeking to target those most in need of support.

The project officer will work in partnership with local statutory/non statutory services, community groups and interested individuals to ensure the success and sustainability of the programme, developing clear routes of referral and participant progression opportunities.

You will also enjoy the freedom to work using your own initiative and fully develop your creative flair.



Our Groundwork Team



Role Details

Hours of Work: 37 hours per week; may include weekend and evening work. Standard terms and conditions apply.

Work Locations: Based at Jarrow Hall with travel to various sites across South and North Tyneside

Salary: £24,454 per annum

Reporting to: Service Manager - Land and Farm

Main Duties & Responsibilities

Operational and Financial Performance Management

- To take an active role in project delivery which will include session planning and delivery, output recording, monitoring and reporting with evaluation of impact.
- To provide guidance for assistant project officers and volunteers in a variety of tasks and activities, ensuring that quality remains high and consistent.

Business Development

- Support the Service Manager and Head of Business Development to identify opportunities for business development and growth
- Marketing activities of all key projects to raise awareness of opportunities.

Relationship Management

- To positively raise the awareness of Groundwork through engagement with a variety of partners and clients such as local residents, community groups, voluntary organisations and private companies.
- Develop effective relationships with a range of individuals and organisations to support additional activities and events, as well as new areas of work.

Quality

- To deliver projects for strategic partners, public, and private sector clients in a professional manner and to a good quality standard.
- Contribute to improvement plans relating to Trust wide activities including policies, procedures and systems and processes.

Physical Demands

- Travel will be required for project delivery





Organisational Responsibilities

- **Investors in People** - Groundwork South and North Tyneside is committed to working within the principles of Investors in People (IIP) status and you are expected to support the ongoing development to support this.
- **Health & Safety** - All staff and volunteers have responsibility for ensuring that their working environment is healthy and safe and that staff and volunteers for whom they are responsible for, or working with, are not placed at risk. All staff and volunteers will be expected to familiarise themselves with and adhere to the current Health & Safety Policy.
- **Equal Opportunities & Diversity** - Groundwork South and North Tyneside strives to be an equal opportunities employer and operates an Equal Opportunities policy. It also recognises the benefits that a diverse workforce brings to the organisation and welcomes this.
- **Data Protection** - Groundwork South and North Tyneside endeavours to comply with the Data Protection Act 2018. It may be necessary to disclose personal data to funding bodies - where a role is funded externally - in order to comply with their funding requirements. If this applies to you we will inform you about what information is shared.
- **Personal Development** - All staff and volunteers will be expected to participate in a broad range of personal development activities in line with best practice and take responsibility for identifying own learning needs in order to fulfil the requirements of the role and support career progression.
- **Corporate Training** - All staff and volunteers will be expected to attend and fully participate in the Trust's Corporate Training Programme.



Person Specification

	ESSENTIAL	DESIRABLE
Education/ Teaching Qualifications	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• GCSE A* - C or Grade 5 or above or equivalent in English and Maths• Relevant health qualification	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Level 2 Gym Instructor• Level 3 Exercise Referral• Health Walk Cascade Training• Recognised teaching qualification• Qualification in Health, Environmental Science, Management, or similar• IOSH Managing Safely
Experience and Knowledge	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Delivery of health and wellbeing sessions, particularly in an outdoor environment• Experience or knowledge of exercise or health programmes• Experience of working within a community or environmental setting• Experience of project delivery and development• Monitoring and evaluating project and participant outcomes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Experience of partnership working• Knowledge and experience of social prescribing• Knowledge of Public Health, CCG and NHS systems.• Experience of working with and supporting colleagues• Experience of managing a budget.• Experience of working with children and families.



Person Specification

	ESSENTIAL	DESIRABLE
Competencies	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Horticultural and conservation skills• Well-developed communication skills and excellent presentational skills.• Efficient in using computer applications and software• Excellent interpersonal skills• Ability to motivate others, to deliver programmes and objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Report writing skills• Effective networking skills
Personal Qualities and Commitments	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Confidence and professionalism• Green Exercise Project Officer• Focused and flexible• Amicable and approachable• Team player with sound initiative• Enthusiasm for the outdoors	
Additional Requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• A full driving license• Able to undertake some evening and weekend commitment	



What will we offer you

As a charity, we have a great team of passionate people who are committed to our vision, supporting our local communities and delivering the best outcomes for local people across a large and diverse range of projects. You can learn more about the great work we do by visiting our website

<https://www.groundwork.org.uk/south-and-north-tyneside/>

You'll get;

- Enhanced Pension Scheme
- Excellent holiday entitlement of 25 days, rising to 28 days per annum plus public holidays
- Family friendly policies to support work/life balance and time off in lieu for out of hours work
- Business travel expenses
- Better health at work activities
- Access to a Cycle to Work Scheme
- A commitment to equality, diversity and inclusion which ensures everyone can make best use of their skills, free from discrimination or harassment
- Staff Death in Service scheme
- Friendly, team environment where we support each other to achieve





Groundwork South and North Tyneside strive to have a diverse and inclusive workforce that is representative of the communities we serve. We want you to be yourself at Groundwork and we value everything that makes you unique. We recognise and celebrate your difference and together we make Groundwork a special and great place to work.

Groundwork South and North Tyneside is committed to safeguarding and protecting the welfare of children, young people and vulnerable adults and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

Join Our Team

Groundwork South and North Tyneside

www.groundwork.org.uk

