INFORMATION FOR APPLICANTS

The National Biodiversity Network Trust

Background

Okay – this is worth a read but take a look at our [website](#) for more information about who we are and what we do. The interesting bit about the job itself is further down.

The National Biodiversity Network Trust is a charitable organisation with a membership that shares biological data and information under the banner of the National Biodiversity Network, usually referred to as the NBN. The NBN membership includes most of the UK's national biological recording schemes and societies, many of the UK's largest wildlife charities and Local Environmental Record Centres, as well as government agencies, research institutions, museums, botanic gardens and members of the public.

The NBN Trust was set up as an independent charity in 2000 to oversee and facilitate the development of the Network. By engaging with our membership, we are able to draw upon a broad range of skills and resources needed to develop the building blocks for an effective NBN.

The NBN provides a digital infrastructure to facilitate the sharing wildlife information in the UK. By providing easy access to the information people need about wildlife, informed decisions can be made to ensure our natural environment is diverse and sustainable now and in the future. The principal objectives of the Trust are:

- to improve and ensure the accuracy and verifiability of collected biodiversity data and to promote its effective collation and interpretation;

- to develop an electronic network connecting all known data holders through the internet, and to promote public access, with appropriate safeguards for sensitive and personal data.

To date, over 217 million records have been shared within the NBN, via a new set of online *[NBN Atlases.](#)*

THE NBN TRUST SECRETARIAT

The post holder will be part of the NBN Trust Secretariat. The Secretariat is a small but dedicated team who aim to carry out the objectives of the Trust, mostly in collaboration with NBN partner organisations. You can find out more about us in the [Meet the Team](#) section of our website.

THE DEVELOPER (What you really want to know!)

We are looking for a system developer to fill a new role for the NBN Trust. The developer's role is to take the lead in the design, development, testing, implementation and ongoing support and maintenance of the NBN's data sharing infrastructure the NBN Atlas.

Working as part of a small team, this is a new and key role reporting directly to the CEO. The post holder will also be involved in liaising with our users, primarily by phone or email and providing technical advice and support to the NBN Secretariat team.

As this is a new technical development post you will be our IT department! Dont panic, you will have the support when required from our current external developer who has deployed this platform up till now and is employed by [CSIRO](#).

Front end design of the NBN Atlas is externally provided by [Red Paint](#) but there may be some design work required for the layout of pages within the Atlas itself.

This role will be required to attend technical advisory group meetings to discuss the NBN Atlas development and progress and may be required to attend UK and international meetings and conferences.

Key Responsibilities:
- o Development of the NBN Atlas infrastructure – based on the [Atlas of Living Australia's](#) open source software and developed by CSIRO
- o Providing guidance and advice to other members of the NBN Secretariat regarding technical aspects of the NBN Atlas
- o Dealing with feedback and issues raised by NBN Atlas users
- o Providing advice to the NBN's Data Partners on technical issues
- o Building relationships with developers in our partner organisations and the wider Atlas development community, including in other countries
- o Develop solutions to delivery problems
- o Develop high quality software specifications, project plans and documentation
- o Providing support for the wider work of the NBN Secretariat as required

System development experience:
Ideally the following is Essential:
- oExperienced in Grails and/or Java programming and documentation
- oExperience of web standards and protocols including CSS and Javascript
- oExperience of Unix, Linux and Windows operating systems
- oExperience of working with relational databases

Desirable:
Experience in one or more of the following:
- o Good knowledge of NoSQL databases
- o Experience of working with Geospatial projects
- o Biodiversity informatics knowledge
- o Experience with virtualised environments
- o Web API design skills and good knowledge of HTTP and WordPress

Other essential skills and experience:
- oAbility to communicate effectively with a wide range of people from novice users to technical experts
- oSelf-motivated with the ability to effectively prioritise workload

Other desirable skills and experience:
- oExperience of full software development life-cycle including organising, planning, liaison with stakeholders, development, testing, release and maintenance of projects.
- o Project management skills, particularly as applied to computing,

oAbility to learn technical skills quickly
oDevelopment of applications for mobile devices
oWillingness to investigate new technologies as required

In Return we can offer you

The opportunity to work on developing the largest species data base for any country in the world
The opportunity to make your mark by developing the NBN Atlas as a world - leading database
The opportunity to use your ideas in developing software to share data freely and openly
The opportunity to develop your skills in software development
The opportunity to work with a great team based in the centre of Nottingham

COMPLETING THE APPLICATION FORM

Guidance on how to complete the application form is enclosed. Please follow the advice given as it is in your interest to complete the form in the way we require. If you do not do so, you are unlikely to be shortlisted.

DETAILS OF EMPLOYMENT

1. PAY

   The salary for the post of Developer will be £35,000 - £45,000 per annum depending on experience. Salaries are paid on the 25th of each month via bank credit transfer.

2. TERMS OF EMPLOYMENT

   This post is initially on a 3 year contract with the potential for permanency.

3. WORKING WEEK

   The working week for this post is 35 hours per week, exclusive of lunch breaks.

4. WORKING CONDTIONS

   The location of this post is in Nottingham. Some travel around the UK for meetings may be required. A driving licence is not essential. This may involve long working days, unsociable hours and overnight stays.

5. LEAVE

   Annual leave entitlement is 28 days per year plus bank holidays.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES

The NBN Trust is striving to be an equal opportunities employer and selection of applicants is based on merit.

THE SELECTION PROCESS

i   The interview panel is responsible for the selection process and will consist of the CEO, current NBN Atlas Developer employed by CSIRO and 1 other NBN staff member.

ii   A selection schedule is determined in advance so that recruitment may proceed in a timely manner. Key dates are identified for the receipt of application forms (the closing date) and interviews.

iii   The interview panel meet shortly after the closing date to study the returned application forms and compile a shortlist of applicants.

The closing date has been extended so please get in touch if you wish to apply!

Please note: If you would like us to confirm receipt of your form by email please indicate this on the application

iv   The interview panel compares the information provided on the application form to the requirement of the job, as listed in the person specification. The most suitable applicants (those who meet all or most of the requirements) are invited to attend an interview.

Unfortunately, we do not have the resources to respond to those candidates who have not been shortlisted and if you have not heard from us within three weeks of the closing date you should assume that your application has not been successful on this occasion.

v   Interview date TBC * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *

THANK YOU FOR YOUR INTEREST IN WORKING FOR THE NATIONAL BIODIVERSITY NETWORK TRUST. WE LOOK FORWARD TO RECEIVING YOUR APPLICATION FORM.