



## INFORMATION FOR APPLICANTS

The National Biodiversity Network Trust

### **Background**

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 215 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 ROLE**

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 may also be involved in liaising with our users, primarily by phone or email and providing technical advice and support to the NBN Secretariat team.

The right candidate for this role needs to be comfortable being the “full stack” developer. Not only will you be required to provide the software development tasks using a range of languages, but also managing back-ups, migrations and setting up virtualized environments from scratch. There are a range of skills set out in the essential experience and **all of these** will be required for the role to varying degrees. Therefore, the right candidate will need to be able to demonstrate experience with the majority of these and be willing to pick up the rest.

The NBN's Technical Team will consist of this role and another newly recruited member of staff, the Technical and Data Support officer. However, you will have support when required from our current external developer who has deployed this platform up till now and is employed by [CSIRO](#). As well as an international community of developers working on the Atlas infrastructure and developers within our network partners.

This post holder will also 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 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

### **Essential experience:**

- o Strong working knowledge of Linux and cloud service environments
- o Grails and/or Java programming and documentation
- o Web standards and protocols including CSS and Javascript
- o Background in developing RESTful services
- o Management of relational databases

### **Essential Skills**

- o Ability to communicate effectively with a wide range of people from novice users to technical experts
- o Self-motivated with the ability to effectively prioritise workload
- o Project management skills, particularly as applied to computing
- o Ability to learn technical skills quickly
- o Willingness to investigate new technologies as required

### **Desirable Experience**

- o NoSQL databases
- o working with Geospatial projects
- o Biodiversity informatics knowledge
- o full software development life-cycle including organising, planning, liaison with stakeholders, development, testing, release and maintenance of projects.

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