



## 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. The Trust provides a digital infrastructure to facilitate the sharing of 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. To date, over 200 million records have been shared via the online [NBN Atlas](#).

### THE NBN TRUST SECRETARIAT

The post holder will be part of the NBN Trust Secretariat. The Secretariat is a small but dedicated team who carry out the objectives of the Trust, 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 full stack developer to complement our small technical team. The developer's role is varied and includes the design, development, testing, implementation and ongoing support and maintenance of the NBN Trust's data sharing infrastructure the NBN Atlas. Much of the work involves maintenance (bug fixes, minor enhancements) within a large and diverse codebase, for which only limited documentation exists.

Working as part of a small team, this is key role reporting to the NBN Atlas Project Manager. The post holder may also be involved in providing technical advice and support to the NBN Secretariat team.

The right candidate for this role needs 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 manage 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. Furthermore, the NBN Trust Team is a mixture of office and home based staff, therefore you need to be self-motivated and comfortable working in a dispersed team.

The NBN Trust's Technical Team is small and only has one other systems developer, however, you will be supported by the NBN Atlas Project Manager, and a Technical and Data Support Officer, along with the wider NBN Trust Team.

### **NBN Atlas tech stack**

The NBN Atlas is based on a microservices REST architecture and is deployed on a number of Ubuntu servers hosted on AWS and Azure. The main technologies in use are:

- Cassandra, SOLR, MySQL, PostgreSQL
- Geoserver
- Java, Scala, Groovy, Grails
- HTML, CSS, various Javascript frameworks (jQuery, Leaflet)
- Tomcat and Apache web servers

### **Key Responsibilities**

- Development and support of the NBN Atlas infrastructure
- Elicit agreed user requirements from stakeholders and document these appropriately
- Develop solutions to technical problems
- Develop high quality software specifications, project plans and documentation
- Providing guidance and advice to other members of the NBN Secretariat regarding technical aspects of the NBN Atlas
- Providing support for the wider work of the NBN Secretariat as required

### **Essential experience**

- Working knowledge of Linux and cloud service environments
- Grails and/or Java programming
- Web standards and protocols including API development, CSS and Javascript
- SOLR and Cassandra management experience

### **Essential Skills**

- Ability to communicate effectively with a wide range of people from novice users to technical experts
- Self-motivated with the ability to effectively prioritise workload
- Ability to work within a (thinly documented) extensive codebase
- Project management skills particularly as applied to computing
- Ability to learn technical skills quickly
- Willingness to investigate new technologies as required

### **Desirable Experience**

- Working with Geospatial projects
- Prior work on UI/UX design
- Full software development life-cycle including organising, planning, liaison with stakeholders, development, testing, release and maintenance of projects.
- Data management, particularly for large datasets
- Biodiversity informatics knowledge

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
- develop your skills in software development.

all in a flexible working environment

## HOW TO APPLY

To apply send a CV and covering letter detailing how your experience matches our requirements to [support@nbn.org.uk](mailto:support@nbn.org.uk)

## DETAILS OF EMPLOYMENT

### 1. PAY

The salary for the post of Developer will be £30,000 - £40,000 per annum depending on experience.

### 2. TERMS OF EMPLOYMENT

This post is initially on a 12 month contract with the potential for extension.

### 3. WORKING WEEK

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

### 4. WORKING CONDITIONS

We can offer a great deal of flexibility with this role, with the option of being based in our Nottingham city centre office (once any Covid-19 restrictions are removed) or home based. Additionally, we can offer flexibility in working hours, meaning that 9 to 5 is not essential. We would also consider applications to work part-time or as a job share for the right candidate(s).

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

### 5. LEAVE

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

## EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES

We aim to be an equal opportunities employer and we are determined to ensure that no applicant or employee receives less favourable treatment on the grounds of gender, age, disability, religion, belief, sexual orientation, marital status, or race, or is disadvantaged by conditions or requirements which cannot be shown to be justifiable.

## THE SELECTION PROCESS

1. The interview panel is responsible for the selection process and will consist of the CEO, the Systems Developer and NBN Atlas Project Manager
2. Applications will be assessed as they are submitted, if your application meets our criteria you will be contacted within two weeks of submission to discuss your application further. If you do not hear from us within 14 days of submitting your application you have unfortunately not been successful this time.

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

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