Job Description

Job title:
Campaigner (North Sea just transition advocacy)

Job purpose:
Working with Platform’s North Sea just transition Organiser, to lead Platform’s advocacy to government and political decision-makers towards a just, well-managed energy transition.

Hours: 4 days per week (32 hours per week based on a 40 hour week).

Contract: Fixed term for 2 years. Subject to 6 months’ probationary period.

Salary: Circa £33,000 per annum pro rata, depending on circumstances (see Terms & conditions below)

Location: Working from home during the coronavirus pandemic. Thereafter based in our London office at least 2 days per week. Remote working can be arranged for the right candidate, particularly if based in Scotland or North East England, but some travel to London would be required.

Responsible to: Management Group and Trustees

Platform
Platform works towards a just future beyond fossil fuels, by uplifting marginalised voices, building energy democracy, and working toward a just transition. Platform brings together researchers, organisers, educators, environmentalists, artists, and community activists.

The project: Just transition for the North Sea

The UK cannot continue opening up new oil and gas fields in the North Sea if we are to meet climate change commitments. At the same time, the transition away from fossil fuels needs to safeguard workers’ livelihoods, create decent jobs and revive UK industry.

To safeguard both workers’ livelihoods and a managed transition away from oil and gas in the UK, it is necessary to break the political consensus that supports oil and gas companies, and establish a worker-led energy transition agenda.

In 2020, Platform conducted the first ever large-scale survey reaching 1,383 offshore oil and gas workers (5% of the offshore workforce), asking for their views on industry conditions and the energy transition. Notably, 81.7% of respondents are looking to change industries. By far the most significant concern among workers is job security, but 91% have never even heard the term ‘just transition’.

Building on trade union organising principles and working in partnership with trade union officials, this project resources long-term relationship-building, education and consultation with oil and gas workers, and supports worker advocates to make demands on industry and UK and Scottish politicians. Alongside this, the project uses research and modelling to back up workers’ demands and create realistic, evidence-based policy pathways.
Responsibilities

- Build relationships and partnerships with relevant decision-makers (MPs, civil servants, Combined Authority officials, trade union officials)
- Develop interventions supporting Just Transition demands: e.g. place Parliamentary Questions, publish opinion pieces, respond to government consultations and parliamentary enquiries, organise parliamentary or public events
- Working with coalition partners, organise meetings for North Sea workers participating in the project to directly lobby decision-makers
- Working with coalition partners, co-ordinate big advocacy outputs e.g. cross-party letters to Government, Early Day Motions
- Plan and collaborate on mass media interventions and research publications
- Support the Organiser in carrying out a programme of consultation with North Sea oil and gas workers
- Contribute to funding reports and bids
- Contribute to regular staff meetings, annual performance reviews and other organisational tasks

Person specification
We expect the applicant to meet most of the essentials listed here, and some of the desirable. (But nobody meets everything!). A university degree is not a requirement. Experience can be in a paid or unpaid context.

Essential experience and skills
- Strong interpersonal skills
- Some understanding of parliamentary and/or devolved policy-making processes
- Able to summarise campaign demands and the evidence behind them in a form appropriate for briefing decision-makers
- Able to write social media content, press releases, or opinion pieces
- Campaigning experience (paid or unpaid)
- Committed to worker-led organising and the trade union movement
- Understanding of climate justice; commitment to anti-racist and anti-oppressive values
- Able to work in a non-hierarchical organisation and participate in consensus based decision-making
- Able to think strategically about how to make change happen

Desirable experience and skills (a reminder: we do not expect applicants to cover a majority of these, you are welcome to pick several to focus on)
- Campaign strategy and planning experience
- Experience in parliamentary advocacy in UK and/or Scottish context
- Experience in commissioning research for a campaign
- Experience in generating mass media coverage
- Understanding of the trade union movement
- Interest in arts or creative methods
How to apply:

Application Deadline:

Please submit your application by 10.00am on Tuesday 2 February. We are aiming to conduct interviews on Tuesday 9th February, and if necessary second round interviews on Wednesday 17th February.

Please send us:

1. Your CV
2. A 2-3 page Supporting Statement. Please include:
   - How you meet the Person Specification. Please use the Essential experience and skills, and the Desirable bullet point list, above as a template and give specific examples of how you meet any of the criteria. Examples can be from paid or unpaid experience. We do not expect anyone to meet every single criterion.
   - Why you want this job
   - Why you would like to join Platform
   - Where you saw the job advertised
3. A filled out Equal Opportunities form. These are used for our own monitoring purposes so we can improve our recruitment process to make it more accessible and inclusive. The information will not be used for selection purposes except for the positive action described below.

Email your application to info@platformlondon.org by 10.00am on Tuesday 2 February 2021. Please use the subject heading: ‘Campaigner vacancy’.

We would particularly like to encourage applications from people of colour / black or brown people, who are currently underrepresented in Platform. Where two or more candidates are judged to be of equal merit, priority may be given to a BME candidate who belongs to a less well represented group.

Due to limited capacity we are unable to reply to applicants who have not been invited for interview.

Equal opportunities / Decolonising our work

Platform strives to apply equal opportunities principles both in its recruitment and in its work. We oppose all forms of unlawful or lawful discrimination on the grounds of colour, race, nationality, ethnic or national origin, gender, sexuality, marital status, religion, age or disability.
The successful candidate will be selected purely on the basis of how well they fit the person specification, as judged by their application materials and their interview performance.

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Due to the ridiculous and racist border restrictions in the UK, Platform is unfortunately unable to arrange work permits for applicants without UK leave to remain.

Let us know if there’s any reasonable adjustments you’d like us to make in the application and interview process in view of a disability or health issue.

If you would like to discuss the role or the application process informally, contact us on info@platformlondon.org (you can ask us to ring you back!). If you’re unsure about something in the person specs, please do get in touch!

Further background on Platform:

Platform is a leading charity campaigning for social and environmental justice. Our methods are interdisciplinary, combining the power of art with the tangible goals of campaigning, the rigor of in-depth research with the vision to promote an alternative future.

The arts are a central part of Platform’s work. This allows us to be consistently innovative and creative in our campaigns. Platform’s cultural profile enables the work to reach a wide and diverse audience. Our unique blend of arts, environment, activism and education is also central to our diversified fundraising strategy. Our work is led by our values (you can read more in our values statement).

Our work delivers results. Working with Iraqi colleagues, we succeeded in stopping an oil law that would have given companies like BP and Shell long-term control over Iraq’s oil, in spite of intense pressure from US and UK occupation forces. We were part of pushing Tate to drop BP sponsorship, getting RBS to stop financing tar sands, blocking BP’s $12 billion Idku gas plant and supporting social movements from Uganda to Egypt to Scotland and in London.

We are internationally recognised for our analysis, ideas, methods and impacts.

Organisational structure:

Platform promotes shared leadership and collaboration and our structure reflects this. We value everybody’s work equally and support each other to make ambitious projects possible. As a charity, ultimate responsibility for and control of the organisation lie with the Board of Trustees. However, the role of Executive Director role is carried out by a rotating Management Group (MG) drawn from permanent members of staff. MG members have specific responsibilities for running different aspects of the organisation, and report to Trustees and the wider organisation.

Terms & conditions
Salary:

Your salary will be determined by Platform’s ground-breaking Social Justice Waging System, based on a core rate £33,000 per annum, pro rata. Under this radical scheme, not only are all staff subject to the same salary levels (regardless of position in the organisation), the levels are adjusted according to need. For example, those with substantial inherited savings are paid less than those without, and there are extra salary increases available to those with children or dependents. We believe this system constitutes a major step forward in providing equal opportunities.

The details of the System are reviewed regularly, with all staff encouraged to participate in the review. Details of the System (including principles, rationale and mechanisms) are available on request from, info@platformlondon.org.