



Candidate Specification

Senior Policy Advisor - Inclusive Innovation

Salary: Circa £38k
Pay range: £38-50K per annum, plus benefits
Location: Blackfriars, London
Term: Permanent
Hours: 37.5 or 30 hours per week. We would consider and welcome candidates interested in job shares and secondments from other organisations.

Overview

Nesta is looking for a Senior Policy Advisor to help us develop creative policy ideas for building a more equitable and inclusive innovation economy.

Our work on [inclusive innovation policy](#) asks who benefits from government investment in innovation and looks at how policy can be designed so that the risks and rewards of innovation are more equally shared. In the past year we've published a series of reports arguing for radical change to broaden participation in the innovation economy ([Imagination Unleashed](#), [Opportunity Lost](#)), challenging existing approaches to allocating innovation resources ([The Biomedical Bubble](#)) and proposing new ways to evaluate innovation policies ([How inclusive is innovation policy?](#)).

To take this work forward we are recruiting a Senior Policy Advisor to help us work with partners inside and outside Nesta to craft, test and campaign for ambitious, creative policy proposals that spread the benefits of innovation to more people.

You'll be based within Nesta's Inclusive Innovation team, collaborating with other teams working on innovation policy, the future of work and skills, government innovation and communications.

This is an exciting opportunity to work in an independent organisation that bridges policy, research and practice. If you've been working in a research or programme delivery role and want to use your insights and experience to influence national policy debates, or working in a policy role within government and want to challenge the system from outside, this could be the role for you.

The Role

The Senior Policy Advisor will:

- Collaborate with relevant colleagues across Nesta and beyond to craft clear, creative and insightful policy proposals, building on our research and analysis
- Help to develop an influential position for Nesta in national and international policy debates
- Proactively work with policymakers in the UK and internationally as well as other stakeholders (like civil society organisations) to advocate for change
- Be an influential spokesperson in print, broadcast and social media, providing commentary and opinion on new policy developments
- Write policy briefings, working papers and responses to government consultations
- Work with colleagues in the Inclusive Innovation Team and others to develop new project ideas to further our work in this field - this could include research projects, practical pilots and/or communications-led pieces

The Person

You will need:

- A good grasp of UK policy relevant to innovation policy and/or related areas such as labour market issues, local economic development, education and skills policy or the future of work
- An ability to engage with technical detail of policy and legislation as well as to propose creative and more provocative ideas that can stimulate debate
- Strong writing skills and ability to compose briefings, reports, blogs and media pieces for expert and general audiences
- Ability to build good working relationships with a wide range of stakeholders including people working in policy, the private and civil society sectors, the research community and the media
- Strong analytic capabilities, including an ability to critically assess and justify policy proposals with research evidence
- An interest in, and aptitude for, representing Nesta in print and broadcast media
- The ability to review and synthesise (often technical) information and produce reports
- Ability to work to tight deadlines with proven ability to manage workload between shorter term pieces of work and longer-term pieces of research

Desirable, but not essential experience:

- Policymaking in UK government and/or in a relevant policy role elsewhere
- Experience in think tank or research environment
- Experience of print and or broadcast media and providing policy/political opinion

- Strong grasp of economic policy/background in economics

We expect that applicants may have stronger experience in some of these areas than others, and we're committed to helping staff develop their potential. If you would like to discuss the role further, please get in touch with Madeleine Gabriel (madeleine.gabriel@nesta.org.uk).

About Nesta

Nesta is an innovation foundation. For us, innovation means turning bold ideas into reality. It also means changing lives for the better.

We use our expertise, skills and funding in areas where there are big challenges facing society, from the frontiers of personalised healthcare to stretched public services and a fast-changing jobs market.

Nesta is based in the UK and supported by a financial endowment. We work with partners around the globe to bring bold ideas to life to change the world for good.

How to Apply

To complete our short Application Form, please click on the relevant link on this advert.

Closing date: 10th June 2019 (8:00am).

First interviews will be held **17th June 2019.**

Second interviews will be held **24th June 2019.**