



Mission Director: Sustainable Economic Recovery

The UK has a legally binding goal to reach net zero emissions by 2050 (2045 in Scotland). As we transition to a net-zero economy, we cannot afford to leave people behind. Action on climate heating must go alongside action to improve people's economic well being, particularly in the context of COVID-19.

At Nesta, our aim is to help the UK transition to a net-zero economy that works better for people and the planet. To get there, we will be focusing on reducing household carbon emissions and increasing productivity - bringing new methods and coalitions together to design, test and scale solutions in these areas.

We are looking for a candidate who can deeply understand the enablers of a low-carbon economy, think creatively about solutions that target different levers of change, and develop and implement high-impact and scalable solutions.

In this role, you will think critically about how to tackle this challenge, and then design, test and scale solutions that help ensure the UK meets its net zero emissions goal while creating economic opportunity in the process. Key to the role will be the ability to assemble and lead world class teams to tackle complex social problems, bringing together different disciplines - data science, design, experimentation, arts and culture, and others - to drive large-scale impact.

You will represent Nesta's work on Sustainable Economic Recovery externally, building relationships with key partners and audiences, and communicating our work with authority and credibility.

As a senior leader at Nesta, you will role model exceptional team management and talent development, celebrate success and failure, and champion our commitments to diversity, equity and inclusion.

Your role

This role oversees the work of one of Nesta's three Missions. The Mission team will be drawn from across Nesta, meaning that some of its members will permanently work under the Director, while others will be drawn in for specific projects. The Mission Director will therefore need to be an excellent line manager and a strong broker who can bring together the right mix of skills and inputs from specialist teams and externally on a project-basis.

As the Director, you will be expected to:

- Oversee and guide large-scale complex programmes of work, ensuring focus on the strategic goal;



- Set the direction for and lead a multidisciplinary team across multiple programmes of work;
- Represent Nesta externally to a range of audiences and act as an expert voice on sustainability and, to a lesser extent, labour market policy;
- Represent Nesta in external fora and the media as an expert;
- Help develop an organisational culture of mixed-methods innovation, in which skills are combined in new ways to produce better outcomes;
- Champion an culture of exploration, learning, development, and rigour;
- Contribute to development and delivery of our Diversity, Equity and Inclusion goals, particularly in relation to the health outcomes we focus on;
- Demonstrate excellent leadership and management skills.

Person specification

Essential

- ◆ A strong understanding of energy policy and research, and the fundamental drivers of success and failure in this domain.
- ◆ A track record in leading programmes and delivering social impact at significant scale, running a range of complementary projects underneath a shared strategic goal, with the aim of tackling multiple levers for change.
- ◆ Either a strong understanding of experimental and quasi-experimental research designs as well as an appreciation of qualitative methods, OR expertise in any of the cross-cutting methods that will be applied to this work (e.g. data science, collective intelligence or design).
- ◆ Experience leading teams with a variety of different skill sets.
- ◆ A deep understanding of use of evidence and the strengths and limitations of different kinds of research.
- ◆ Experience influencing local and national government, translating evidence into applied insights for policy and practice.
- ◆ Excellent partner and stakeholder relationship management.
- ◆ An inclusive leadership style.

Desirable

- ◆ A strong understanding of economic policy and research, and the fundamental drivers of success and failure in this domain.
- ◆ Deep expertise in net-zero policy, research and/or practice, especially with regards to household emissions
- ◆ Deep expertise in productivity policy, research, and/or practice

What we offer

Nesta offers an array of benefits such as a health cash plan, dental insurance, and the ability to buy and sell annual leave, among many others.



Location: Our office is based in London; we offer flexibility to work remotely
Salary: £90,000 - £110,00
Term: Permanent
Hours: The scope and scale of the role do not preclude it from being conducted flexibly (e.g., varied working times/compressed hours/job share)
Reports to: Chief Programmes Officer

How to apply

Please complete the application found here: <https://www.nesta.org.uk/jobs/>.

The **closing date** for applications is **2 November 2020**.

At Nesta, we believe that a diverse workforce leads to an organisation that is more innovative, more creative and gets better results.

We want our workforce to represent the diversity of the people and communities we serve. We also want our workplace to be one where different experiences, expertise and perspectives are valued, and where everyone is encouraged to grow and develop.

This means that when we are recruiting, we actively seek to reach a diverse pool of candidates. It also means that we are happy to consider any reasonable adjustments that potential employees may need to in order to be successful.

We recognise the importance of a good balance between work and home life, so we do everything we can to accommodate flexible working, including working from home, compressed or part-time hours, job shares and other arrangements.

Please just let us know in your application or at any stage throughout the process (and beyond) if these are options you'd like to explore.

Please note: After the job advert closes, your answers will go through a blind sift process. We will randomise and anonymise your answers - all identifying information will be removed, and reviewers will not be able to see your CV. Each answer will then be independently reviewed by multiple people.

Please try your best to answer questions without rephrasing your CV - reviewers will see this at the second stage. [You can read more about the principles behind the blind review process here.](#)