



CFGN Network Co-ordinator

Job description & Person specification

October 2016

About Community Food Growers Network (CFGN)

CFGN is a member-led network of London community food projects putting land into community use to grow natural foods and support others to do so.

We believe community food growing has many important benefits such as access to nutritious foods and green space, physical health and well-being, skills and training, and creates empowering spaces for people to collaborate with each other.

Since 2010 the network has organised 25 seasonal gatherings at gardens across the capital to support each others projects and to cooperate in building ecological community-run food systems on a regional and national level.

CFGN membership spans across London from inner city educational programmes, community kitchens, to peri-urban market gardens. Our full members list is online here - <http://www.cfgn.org.uk/how-wework/our-members/>

In 2014 after three CFGN members lost their spaces in Tottenham, Elephant & Castle and Brixton the network decided to focus on the issue of '*access to land*' as community space becomes a shrinking resource in the capital partly due to the sale of public land and an inflated London property market.

Each year CFGN runs a spring/summer event series and in recent years has been involved in:

- [London is Not for Sale](#) – 2014
- [UK Food Sovereignty Gathering](#) – 2015
- [Reclaim Our Food System](#) – 2015
- Oxford Real Farming Conference Fringe - 2016
- [Future of London's Food System](#) - 2016
- the [Land for What?](#) weekend to be held on 12 + 13 November 2016.

For more information on our manifesto, 'ways of working' and history please see the website www.cfgn.org.uk.



About the Role

The role will be a dynamic position responding to the needs of network members and requests for support from London food projects, running innovative community events and strengthening CFGN's relationships with partner organisations.

In 2014 CFGN created a [London Community Food Map](#) asking food projects *what are the barriers preventing you from expanding?* and *how can a network of growers support your work?* In tandem the network conducted an internal strategic review resulting in a campaign plan to respond to the vital need of secure land access for member organisations and the wider community food sector.

With the support of network members the co-ordinator will participate in the development of a broad coalition for UK land reform and facilitate a campaign working towards replicable policy change to secure appropriate land access for London community food growers.

The successful candidate will be getting involved with CFGN at an exciting moment for the organisation as it consolidates increased opportunities and partnerships with expanded positions, capacity and resources.

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There is potential for the role to be split between two candidates with complementary skill sets and experiences. So if you feel you meet some of the person specifications please do apply and feel free to make contact at cfn@riseup.net to ask any questions.

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Time: 4 days per week (7 hours a day)

Salary: £23,660 pro rata (£18,928 per annum)

Responsible to: Network Co-ordinator Steering Committee and quarterly reports to network members

Contract term: 2 years, with 6 month review

Location: London region



How to Apply

Please send a CV and an A4 covering letter demonstrating how your skills and experience meet the person specification and job description below. It would also be good to hear what motivates your application and what you would bring to the role.

As there is potential for a job share please state:

- if you would like to apply for the full four days or two days part-time
- if there are other people applying that you would like to work with
- if you are applying as an agreed pair for a job share

Application Deadline: Tuesday 1st of November (midnight)

E-mail: cfn@riseup.net

Find out if you have an interview: Friday 4th November

Interviews: Thursday 10th November

Start date: As close to 21st November as possible

Job Description

The main responsibilities of the role are outlined below:

1. Strengthen the network

- Organise and attend public events with CFGN members such as seasonal gatherings, community meals, and film screenings
- Support network members activities
- Support the facilitation of relevant trainings and skill exchanges between members
- Maintain project budgets and communicate these to network members

Long-term projects

- Facilitate research into activities and history of London community food projects to update the London Community Food map

2. Facilitate mobilisation on 'access to land' for community food

- Collaborate with [Just Space](#) to lobby for policy change at Greater London Authority (GLA) and local authority level for increases in long-term access to land, training and resources for community food production.

This will include publicity work and supporting the development of mutually supportive relationships between CFGN members and London borough councils.

- Participate in the development of a '21st land movement' working towards long-term land reform as part of the '[Land for what?](#)' coalition. Attending coalition meetings and collaborating in running public events and workshops.

Long term projects

- Work with a film-maker to produce a short campaign film highlighting innovative community food projects in London, and making the case for regional policy change for long-term access to land
- Facilitate research and produce a 'Council-community food partnership toolkit' highlighting case studies for mutually supportive relationships between local authorities and community food projects.

3. Communications

- Maintain a members e-mail list, and public e-mail list of over 400 subscribers

- Collate information for a monthly news E-Bulletin
- Responsible for maintaining and responding to enquiries to the network's e-mail account
- CFGN website: Collate articles and publish food-growing news on CFGN members, campaign updates, and useful resources
- Run CFGN twitter and facebook accounts building narratives on campaign work and strategic aims of network
- Work with designers and contributors to publish the network's quarterly printed newsletter 'The Plot'

Personal specification

The successful candidate will have the following knowledge and experience:

Essential

- Organised and able to work independently
- Able to use a computer and applications (word documents, spreadsheets)
- Excellent communication skills (verbally, written)
- Proven event management experience
- Experience of working in socially and culturally diverse groups
- Commitment to developing community-led and sustainable food systems (see CFGN manifesto)
- Experience and training in facilitation of empowering group processes
- Understanding of social justice issues and experience of working in social justice organisations
- Experience of project finance management

Desirable

- Experience supporting the development of new food growing projects
- Experience co-ordinating and editing newsletters and updating wordpress websites
- At least one years experience of organic food production in a community setting

- Experience of campaign work for governmental policy change
- Experience of working with borough councils on the development of sustainable food practices