



Head of Community News Operations

Social Spider CIC

Local news, created by and for local people

Social Spider CIC is a social enterprise based in north London.

We publish four local newspapers on a monthly basis and have an overall print circulation of 35,500.

We are a small, fast paced organisation at an exciting stage of our development, having launched four papers in 5 years. We are at the cutting edge of the industry - developing a sustainable model for accountable and engaged local news at a time when traditional models are in severe decline.

www.medium.com/@startspreadingnews

Closing date for applications is 6pm
on Monday November 25th 2019.



Job description - Head of Community News Operations

35 hours per week

Salary: £25,000

Based in Walthamstow

At Social Spider CIC we publish four monthly community newspapers, written by and for local people. We launched our first newspaper, Waltham Forest Echo, in 2014 and have since launched Tottenham Community Press (2016) and Enfield Dispatch (2018). In November 2019, we launched a new newspaper, EC1 Echo, in partnership with Clerkenwell-based charity, The Peel.

We are a not for profit social enterprise that puts the concerns of our community at the heart of our publications. We are at the forefront of developing a sustainable model for creating local news; this role is an exciting opportunity for someone who would like to work for a small and innovative social enterprise that is changing local media for the better.

We are looking for a new Head of Community News Operations to help us take our innovative social enterprise model for independent local journalism to the next level.

Duties include:

- Coordinating the work of the community news team including editors, local managers, advertising sales and designer
- Developing and exploring new revenue streams for our community news activity
- Creating proposals for community news projects
- Overseeing the digital output of our community news operation including overseeing our websites, social media and blog
- Developing an online revenue strategy for the community news operation
- Writing grant funding proposals for community news activity
- Advocating for independent community news at a local and international scale
- Developing relationships with local and national partners



Person Specification

At this exciting point in our development, we are looking for an independent and confident social enterprise leader who is enthusiastic about shaping a social enterprise solution in response to the decline of corporate local news.

The post-holder should be keen to play an integral role in the development of an independent news publisher. They should take the initiative to explore new possible revenue streams for local news and have an active interest in the future of the sector.

This is a project management and business development role in a sector where the social need is clear and where business models are unclear but are evolving fast. Previous experience in media is desirable but is not essential if an applicant has a strong interest and commitment to journalism, combined with business development skills.

This role requires strategic thinking and creative solutions, we are looking for an ambitious person who is excited by this challenge.

Essential skills and experiences

- Business development
- Project management
- Writing tenders and proposals
- Identifying funding opportunities and writing applications
- Developing relationships with partners
- Interest in local media
- Strong organisational skills
- Compelling communicator (written and verbal)
- Experience of using Wordpress and other basic web skills

Responsible to

The Head of Community News Operations will be responsible to David Floyd, Managing Director and Mark Brown, Development Director. There will be an opportunity to join the management board of the organisation following a 6-month probationary period.

Deadline and contact

Please send a CV and cover letter to David Floyd at david@socialspider.com
Closing date for applications is 6pm on Monday November 25th 2019.

Social Spider CIC does not discriminate in employment matters on the basis of race, colour, religion, gender, age, sexuality or any other protected class. We support workplace diversity and believe it creates dynamic, relevant organisations, fostering spaces for innovation and creativity. We are working hard to increase the diversity of our team and encourage you to be a part of it. We are committed to making our roles and culture inclusive. We can make reasonable adjustments throughout the application process and on the job. If you have particular accessibility needs, please get in touch and let us know any requirements you may have.

