

Community Rail Officer **South West Wales Connected (4theRegion)**

Salary £24,375 per annum or £12.50 per hour
Full time, part time or flexible hours

Leveraging the value of the railway in our region for the benefit of people, places and planet

In partnership with Transport for Wales, 4theRegion has created a Community Rail Partnership for South West Wales, accredited by the UK Community Rail Network, to help raise the profile of the railway and leverage its value for the communities and destinations of South West Wales.

In the context of the climate emergency, South West Wales needs a massive shift to sustainable modes of transport, including more rail, bus, cycling and car sharing.

Meanwhile, the Wellbeing of Future Generations Act calls for a more prosperous, resilient, equal, and healthier region, where the wellbeing of people and the planet are prioritised. Cohesive, vibrant communities are at the heart of this vision.

And sustainable tourism presents an opportunity to strengthen local economies and create jobs, in a way that's good for people, places and the planet. By encouraging more people to visit and explore the region without a car, our organisation can help to grow our region's tourism offer and make it more sustainable.



The role of the Community Rail Officer is to manage the Community Rail Partnership and have responsibility for the delivery of the Activity Plan that is agreed by the steering group each year. It's a small organisation that needs a self-motivated leader - someone who wants to maximise the impact of the Partnership, developing SWWco as a well-known and well-regarded regional partner and stakeholder in the fields of sustainable transport, sustainable tourism and community involvement.

The Community Rail Officer is a job you can make your own, within the remit laid down by Transport for Wales and the Community Rail Network. The four pillars of community rail are:

- Providing a voice for the **community**;
- Promoting sustainable and healthy travel (the extra mile);
- Bringing **communities** together and supporting diversity and inclusion;
- Supporting social and economic development.

You will be someone who:

- Likes building relationships and working in collaboration;
- Is a positive advocate for South West Wales;
- Is organised and comfortable keeping records and writing activity reports;
- Is happy to attend meetings with Transport for Wales, Community Rail Network etc;
- Is confident chairing and facilitating meetings with partners and community groups;
- Is experienced in preparing funding bids or willing to learn;
- Loves getting about in Pembrokeshire, Carmarthen, Neath Port Talbot & Swansea;
- Is able to manage their own workload and work independently;
- Is happy to work as part of a very small team to deliver a varied range of projects;
- Is keen to be “the face” of the Partnership and engage widely with the community.

How do you think we can encourage more people to use the train and other sustainable transport? How do you think we can attract more visitors to our region by rail? How do you think we can maximise the benefit of the railway in communities across South West Wales? And how do you think we can involve communities and promote partnership working to achieve all this? Your ideas and interests will shape what the organisation does.

- You will be responsible for agreeing an Activity Plan with the Steering Group on an annual basis, and then delivering that plan, whilst managing the Partnership budget.
- You will be able to propose projects, find new collaborators, and, where possible, identify and bid for additional project funding to deliver your ideas.
- You will present to the Steering Group on a monthly basis, and will be responsible for keeping partners informed, involved and engaged in the work of the Partnership.

You will be supported by a small team, including a part time Admin and Marketing assistant, a part time Communications & Social Media assistant, and the two co-founders of 4theRegion, who will help to determine the strategy of the organisation and support the delivery of its projects. The Partnership intends to also employ a part time Community Involvement Officer to support the goal of involving communities in everything we do.



Place of Work

Location is flexible but you will need to be willing to travel to our office at Swansea Train Station on at least a monthly basis (when safe and legal to do so). Freedom to work from home, and the role will necessarily involve lots of travel within the region of South West Wales, which includes the four counties of Neath Port Talbot, Swansea, Carmarthenshire and Pembrokeshire.

Start Date & Hours of Work

This job will start in or before September 2021. We are happy to discuss a working pattern that suits you. This could be a full time post, 37.5 hours per week, Monday to Friday. Or it could be a more part time / flexible position. You may occasionally need to attend some meetings in the evenings, in return for *time off in lieu*. Start and finish times can be flexible.

The Ideal Candidate

This is the perfect role for someone who loves South West Wales, knows the region well, and wants to play their part in transforming the region over the coming decade.

The ideal candidate will be:

- On board with our vision of a flourishing region, and enthusiastic about the potential of the new Community Rail Partnership;
- Great with people, keen to get out and about meeting people, attending events, giving presentations and networking across the region;
- Able to lead and manage varied projects, from initiation to delivery - which means taking ownership of outcomes, able to think on your feet and work flexibly, confident in your own ideas and able to motivate and inspire others;
- Experienced in community and/or business engagement, with a genuine interest in co-production, involving people and enabling collaboration;
- Knowledgeable about marketing and communications, able to identify key messages and present them effectively, and able to manage the delivery of print, digital and community-based campaigns;
- Innovative and creative, able to think for yourself and with others, with a lot of value to add in a diverse range of ways;
- Meticulous and consistent when it comes to organisational and admin tasks;
- Happy working as part of a small close-knit team at 4theRegion, willing to work hard and contribute proactively to the mission of creating a flourishing future for South West Wales.

If this sounds like you, or mostly sounds like you, please submit your application via the online Application Form at https://bit.ly/CRO_apply, outlining why you think you're the right person for this role, when you would be available to start, and a brief CV detailing employment and/or life experience. Shortlisted candidates may be invited to give a presentation to a small interview panel outlining what you understand the role to be and why you are the right person for the job.

Updated application deadline: 9am 16th August 2021 via the online application form:

https://bit.ly/CRO_apply

For your reference:

<http://www.southwestwales.co/> (Partnership website)

<https://www.4theregion.org.uk/> (Host organisation)

<https://communityrail.org.uk/> (Community Rail Network UK)