



Community Action Northumberland

CAN Development Officer

Many thanks for your interest in this brand-new post at CAN. The information below provides a little more background.

About CAN

Community Action Northumberland (CAN) was established in 1951 to support the rural communities of Northumberland. We are a charity and a company limited by guarantee, governed by a board of trustees and currently with 9 staff (7.5 full-time equivalents.)

CAN is a member of the ACRE Network (Action with Communities in Rural England) and has strong connections with a wide range of local organisations.

Throughout the covid-19 pandemic, we have continued our operations without the need to furlough any staff and we are a financially robust organisation. You can find out more about CAN via our [website](#).

The new post

This post combines three core elements:

- Acting as Project Officer for Haltwhistle Partnership, a role our Chief Executive has fulfilled for over 5 years. CAN has a rolling contract with the Partnership to provide this role for 25 hours each month. This includes attending the Partnership Office each month and Board meetings 6 times per annum.
- Acting as Development Officer for Prudhoe Community Partnership. CAN has embarked on a new rolling contract with the Partnership to fulfil this role for 50 days each year, building on the success of the relationship established in Haltwhistle. This will include attendance at Board meetings and the Partnership Office as necessary.
- Acting as Innovation Associate to the National Innovation Centre for Rural Enterprise (NICRE). CAN has a wider agreement to support the work of NICRE and this new role will help to drive these efforts.

About the partners

Haltwhistle Partnership was formed following a Civic Trust study of the town in 1993. The study identified a series of key weaknesses and growing needs which could best be addressed through partnership working led by the local community. Haltwhistle Partnership Ltd became a registered charity in 1997 and is also a company limited by guarantee.

The [Partnership](#) owns three property assets: Westbourne House – a three storey building comprising two ground floor retail units with offices to let above, currently the subject of feasibility into potential conversion to residential use; Water Tower – a small freestanding building at Haltwhistle Station, currently let to a local business; Hardware House – a three storey building with a ground floor retail unit and two upper floors recently refurbished to provide 5 flats for rent to local people.

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Patron Duke of Northumberland President Lord Curry of Kirkharle CBE

Community Action Northumberland is a company limited by guarantee (reg no.07805401) and a charity (reg no.1144604)

The Partnership also runs a number of projects including an Older People's Project, a Community Garden and a project to support local people with mental health and related issues.

The Partnership has developed close working links with the [Rural Design Centre](#) and NICRE and has ambitious plans to develop new projects to support decarbonisation, energy generation and sustainable housing.

Prudhoe Community Partnership is working hard to make Prudhoe a great place to live and work, welcoming for all. The Partnership vision is of a friendly thriving town that has attractive facilities, great shops and good services – a town which looks after and values everyone.

The Partnership, established as a charity and company limited by guarantee in 2006, owns and manages the [Spetchells Centre](#), a one stop community hub on Front Street, and is involved in a range of [projects](#) that are informed by a community survey carried out in 2018 including current plans to redevelop the East Centre in the town.

The National Innovation Centre for Rural Enterprise (NICRE) is led by Newcastle University and funded by Research England. [NICRE](#), established in 2020, aims to collaborate, research and co-design ideas to develop innovative solutions. These solutions will foster rural enterprise and unlock the potential of rural economies. NICRE now has a full staff team at the University and is developing its portfolio of innovation projects and activities. CAN's role is to support NICRE in its efforts in rural Northumberland.

CAN's role

Our role is to support the two Partnerships and NICRE to develop, deliver and manage a range of projects and other activities, both capital and revenue, as agreed with the respective Boards. This work is significantly enhanced by CAN's extensive networks, expertise and wide-ranging existing activities and our Chief Executive will support the postholder to maximise the impact of the role.

The post is for one year initially with a view to extending this, subject to performance and subject to anticipated agreement from the three partners involved.

More information

If you are keen to find out more about the role, which we hope you are, please email our Chief Executive, Andy Dean, to arrange a time for a telephone discussion: andydean@ca-north.org.uk

The deadline for applications is 5.00pm on Wednesday 24th March 2021.