



The countryside charity
Lancashire, Liverpool City Region
and Greater Manchester



CPRE Researcher - Heritage for the Liverpool City Region Walking and Cycling Ringway R&D Project

(this is one of four part-time freelance roles for the R&D project, the others being:
Walking Route Researcher; Cycling Route Researcher; Community Engagement Specialist)

CPRE campaigns for a better future for the countryside. We work locally and nationally to protect, shape and enhance our beautiful countryside and green spaces for everyone to value and enjoy.

The LCR (Liverpool City Region) Walking and Cycling Ringway project is intended to be a new route or routes around the region that will connect residents of all six LCR boroughs with their natural and cultural heritage.

Before a full bid for the project is submitted, CPRE wish to undertake a six-month Research & Development process. This will result in a comprehensive feasibility study whose findings will help us get to the next stage of work to implement and deliver the LCR Walking and Cycling Ringway. It will also ensure that we can meet our primary objective of increasing the number of people who walk and cycle in the region in the most user-friendly, impactful, inclusive and sustainable way.

The R&D project, which has been made possible with the support of The National Lottery Heritage Fund, will ensure that the LCR Walking and Cycling Ringway is implemented effectively as a permanent resource for the Liverpool City Region.

Project elements include:

- Mapping the walking and cycling route(s)
- Scoping of the major natural, industrial and cultural heritage of the region through which the route(s) might pass
- Delivering an extensive community engagement programme
- Working in partnership to build a robust network of stakeholders and collaborators
- Scoping the sustainability and legacy of the project
- Exploring a volunteer programme and skills development opportunities
- Exploring the potential for guided walks, information platforms, waymarking initiatives, public talks and workshops, and other ways in which people can access the route(s) easily

Main purpose of the Researcher role:

Spanning 349sqm and encompassing coastlines, estuaries, open countryside and historic urban areas, the richness of the Liverpool City Region's heritage is unique. We are recruiting a dedicated and skilled Researcher to scope, assess and document the natural, physical, historical and cultural heritage of the proposed route(s), which will, in turn, help

determine the final route(s) that the LCR Walking and Cycling Ringway will take, and the ways in which we can connect this heritage to the people who live here and visit the area.

The results of the Heritage Research programme will feed into a final feasibility report for the LCR Walking and Cycling Ringway at the end of the six-month R&D.

Main responsibilities:

- Undertake in-depth research of the major features and sites of natural, industrial and cultural heritage within the Liverpool City Region - focused on the proposed route(s), giving detailed information about this heritage, including its special features, history, condition reports, and any specific relevance to the surrounding communities
- Establish objectives, targets, processes and evaluation methods that align with overarching Project objectives, supported by Project Lead and Project Manager
- Identify specific 'at risk' heritage within the region
- Compile and organise research findings into accessible formats that can impact on future funding bids

Connecting heritage and people initiatives

- Explore the synergies between more walking and cycling and heritage at risk, identifying any demand and/or interest that can be driven by heritage
- Explore how the region's heritage connects to its people, and how this heritage can be used and activated in practical ways to encourage people to make use of, enjoy and increase their knowledge of it
- Identify the importance and unique nature of the heritage in relation to local expertise, exploring potential links with local universities
- Liaising with the Community Engagement Specialist, discover oral histories and primary/secondary sources to uncover heritage stories and assets

Research

- Research a potential workshop/talks programme that establishes links between local communities and heritage experts
- Explore how the LCR heritage links to the heritage around the Greater Manchester Ringway, and explore any collaborative opportunities
- Explore existing opportunities with heritage and visitor economy officers at the LCR Combined Authority, looking at how the LCR Ringway can work with visitor economy to promote the heritage of the region and maximise economic impact
- Make links with relevant key local visitor attractions eg museums at Liverpool Waterfront (currently undergoing a major transformation programme) and explore potential partnerships in the cultural sector
- Explore potential opportunities for internships and jobs/skills training focused on the region's heritage

Reporting and monitoring

- Liaise with Community Engagement Officer, Walking Route Researcher and Cycling Route Researcher to ensure smooth communication and alignment with their outputs
- Monitor, track and evaluate work effectively and clearly; update Project Manager and Project Board at scheduled meetings to ensure Project objectives are being met

- Attend team meetings with wider Project team and Project Manager as and when required
- Maintain accurate records of sources and permissions for intellectual property compliance

Required skills and competencies:

- Proven experience in research with a heritage focus, historical research, or a closely related field
- Strong knowledge of research methodologies, including archival work and oral history collection
- Excellent analytical and organisational skills, with attention to detail
- Ability to communicate complex ideas effectively to diverse audiences, both written and verbally
- Strong understanding of heritage preservation and interpretation principles

Essential

- Proficiency in using research tools, databases, and digital archives
- Knowledge of funding streams and grant-writing for heritage projects
- A knowledge of the social, economic and physical geography of Liverpool City Region, as well as knowledge of the region's history

Desirable

- Proficiency in GIS mapping or digital storytelling tools.

Key Employment Terms

- Fee £6,500
- Six-month contractual period
- Home-based, flexible working
- You must be able to travel to and within the Liverpool City Region as part of your research. All reasonable travel expenses will be paid

How to apply

- Please email a CV (maximum 2 pages of A4) and covering letter (maximum 2 pages of A4) setting out how you meet the requirements of the post to: info@cprelancashire.org.uk, or if you would like to talk to someone about this role, contact Nickthompson1947@gmail.com
- We are also open to applications from people with the skills and experience to take on two of the four part-time freelance roles (listed at the top of this document). If this is you, there's no need to apply separately for each role. Simply state clearly that you are applying for both.

Closing date: Monday 19th May, 6pm.

The English countryside is wonderful - help us look after it.

This R&D project has been made possible with The National Lottery Heritage Fund, with thanks to National Lottery players.