## Churches Together in Cumbria (CTiC)

## Ecumenical Social Responsibility Officer (ESRO)

## Context and Background

The Churches Together in Cumbria Social Responsibility Forum (SRF) facilitates the work of Christians to help those in need and to promote justice. It is supported by a wide range of denominations including those committed to the 'God for All' vision.

## ROLE DESCRIPTION

Job Title: Ecumenical Social Responsibility Officer (part time)

Reports to: Chair of Social Responsibility Forum

Purpose of Role: The ESRO will exercise a creative and enabling role assisting churches in Cumbria to work together in matters of social, political and economic import affecting the county and country, formulating appropriate Christian responses to such issues in consultation with the SRF, its chair and Trustees of CTiC.

## THE ESRO TASKS

1. Undertake oversight with the SRF of current and future projects of CTiC and develop new initiatives relative to current day societal issues.
2. Facilitate others to undertake tasks for and on behalf of CTiC.
3. Assist with the planning and implementation of SRF events.
4. Attend in whole or part, meetings of CTiC Trustees and executive and provide a report on their work and the work of the SRF. The ESRO will be a full member of the SRF and CTiC executive.
5. Communicate with church leaders, civil authorities, political leaders, and Third Sector networks concerning issues of import in the County representing at all times a Christian perspective.

6. Participate in the operational group meetings of 'God for All' to enable shared working between 'God for All' and CTiC.
7. Liaise where possible with local Churches Together groups, Mission Communities and other ecumenical initiatives encouraging participation in matters of Social Justice as a sign of Christian unity.
8. Remain aware, as far as possible, of the many forms of delivery of social justice / responsibility.
9. Maintain Continuous Professional Development in matters of Social Justice as agreed with the line manager.
10. Undertake such other tasks as may reasonably be required and agreed with a line manager and chair of the SRF.

PERSON SPECIFICATION

Essential requirements

1. A mature Christian faith with a commitment to mission and unity. (Occupational Requirement exists for the post-holder to be a Christian in accordance with the Equality Act 2010.)
2. The post is opened to ordained or lay persons in membership and in good standing of a Church eligible for membership of CTiC or Churches Together in England.
3. Knowledge of current issues of Social Justice in the county of Cumbria and in wider society.
4. A commitment to ecumenical working and an ability to relate to a wide variety of church traditions, holding personal convictions with integrity whilst not allowing these to hinder partnership. The ability to promote critical ecumenical thinking. Some theological knowledge.
5. A collaborative working style and ability to relate well to lay and ordained Christians, to Church Leaders and to colleagues.
6. A proven ability to work alone and on their own initiative. Able to manage time and flexible working hours.

7. A positive and optimistic outlook and the skill of encouraging, inspiring, and supporting others.
8. The ability to listen, exercise discretion and manage conflict.
9. The ability to think creatively, take initiatives and plan strategically. Able to balance the need to fulfil core tasks with the flexibility this post offers to develop the work according to their own gifts and experience.
10. Administrative, organisational and committee skills, including clear and accurate record keeping essential.
11. Skill in written and spoken communication, including addressing small and large groups with clarity. Ability to grasp complex issues and to retain objectivity in dealing with them.
12. Competence in the use of a computer, e-mail, and Microsoft Office or equivalent
13. Own a car and hold a (preferably clean) driving licence to allow visits to all parts of the county to be made as cost-efficiently as possible within the agreed budget. (The Officer will normally live or be willing to live within reach of all parts of the county. Relocation expenses will not be paid.)
14. The right to work in the UK. Those called for interview will be required to bring documentation to demonstrate that right.

Desirable requirements

1. Familiarity with and experience of church and ecumenical structures at local and national level.
2. Familiarity with and experience of current practice in mission with regard to the delivery of social justice and responsibility as an act of loving service in furtherance of the Kingdom of God
3. Familiarity with and experience of statutory authorities' structures and ways of working and ability to relate to secular leaders.

CONDITIONS OF SERVICE

1. part-time 20 hours a week.

2. Salary: £26,000 Full Time Equivalent, pro-rata. 3-year appointment subject to satisfactory probation
3. Leave allowance- 6 weeks per annum pro rata to Full time equivalent namely 18 days.
4. The work will involve travelling in the county and beyond at times. With the development of home working the ESRO will be expected to work substantially by contemporary methods saving extensive travel time and expenses where possible.
5. The work involves flexible hours, which may vary from week to week, including some evenings and weekends.

If you would like to know more about this post, please contact the President of CTiC ;

Rev Andrew Dodd Chapel Cottage Hawkshead Hill Ambleside Cumbria LA22 0PW telephone 01539436451 – e-mail – andrew.dodd1@btinternet.com

Applications are invited to be submitted by e mail or post to the President, details as above, by 31st March 2021 .It is hoped to hold interviews on a date between 06.04.21. and 12.04.21 with a start date on 01.06.21.

An application form is available on the CTiC web site to which please add a CV and a statement of suitability (1 or 2 pages of A4),