



Public Appointment

NORTHERN IRELAND ADVISER ON EMPLOYMENT AND SKILLS

The Department for Employment and Learning wishes to appoint a Northern Ireland Adviser on Employment and Skills, who will also act as Northern Ireland Commissioner on the UK Commission for Employment and Skills and would like to hear from individuals who have the relevant experience for this role. The person who best satisfies the criteria below will be appointed.

This is a new, part-time appointment and as Adviser, the successful candidate will be required to provide sound advice on skills and employment issues to the Minister for Employment and Learning, as well as other key partners and to act as a public champion of these issues within industry, business and government. As Commissioner, the appointee will represent Northern Ireland's interests on the UK Commission, which will meet 6-8 times a year.

Through this recruitment exercise, the Department intends to appoint the Adviser for a period of 3 years.

The appointment will take effect from 1 October 2008. Remuneration is £25,000 per annum and the appointee will be expected to work a minimum of 5 days per month, covering both roles.

Essential Criteria:

Candidates will be required to demonstrate, in their application form and at interview, that they meet the following criteria:

- strategic thinking, with a track record of personal achievement in the private, public or voluntary sectors;
- a strong knowledge of the Northern Ireland economy, particularly the difficulties that small and medium sized enterprises experience in improving the skills of the workforce ;
- understanding of employment policy as it operates in the Northern Ireland context, including the implications of national Welfare to Work policy;
- experience in working with multiple stakeholders and interest groups, to balance the demands of competing sectors;
- excellent communication and networking skills, to serve as an ambassador and advocate for change, at the highest levels of Government and business;
- a track record in raising performance in learning, skills and qualifications.

Desirable Criterion

- Two years board level experience or the clear ability to work effectively at board level.

Full details of the role are available in the information pack. If short-listing is required, the selection panel will use the desirable criterion.

Expressions of Interest

Those who feel they have the relevant skills and experience and could make a positive contribution to this work should request an application form and information pack. Application forms and information packs are available in Braille, large print and audio formats upon request. These can be obtained as follows:

By writing to: Ms Gail Carson
 Sectoral Development Branch
 Department for Employment and Learning
 Lesley Buildings
 61 Fountain Street
 BELFAST BT1 5EX

Or by e-mailing: gail.carson@delni.gov.uk

Or by telephoning: 028 9044 1806

Application forms should be completed and returned to the above address by 5pm, 22nd August 2008.

EQUALITY OF OPPORTUNITY

The Department for Employment and Learning is committed to the principles of public appointments based on merit with independent assessment, openness and transparency of process. The Department is committed to providing equality of opportunity for all individuals. Applications are welcome regardless of gender, age, marital status, disability, religion, ethnic origin, political opinion, sexual orientation or whether or not you have dependants.

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