

Are you an experienced professional who enjoys setting and articulating strategy?

Would you like to share your skills with some of the UKs most exciting small charity leaders and social entrepreneurs?

Join us to help identify and shape the future of dynamic small charities and social enterprises in the UK.

The Fore is a pioneering funder with a mission to find, empower and accelerate innovative young charities and social enterprises with exceptional leadership that have the potential to transform society. With a ground-breaking ethos of treating charities as investees rather than beneficiaries, The Fore is challenging the traditional, negative power dynamic between funder and grantee.

The Fore invites expressions of interest for the role of Strategic Applicant Consultant. This is an exciting opportunity to join our pool of exceptional consultants and play a crucial role in The Fore's mission to open up access to funding and skills for innovative, grassroots organisations solving the UKs most pressing issues. Consultants identify and advise the best candidates for funding and strategic support, and present them to our funding panels, playing a pivotal role in unlocking The Fore's support for talented social entrepreneurs.

"Assessing for The Fore gave me unrivalled breadth of exposure to a wide range of models for social impact." - Ian Gethin, Consultant

Location: Home based; with some in-person training sessions. Consultants should be based in the UK.

Length of engagement: A minimum of three funding rounds, which are likely to be spread over multiple years.

Estimated time commitment: Consultants are allocated between 50 and 100 applications to assess per funding round depending upon their availability and The Fore's needs. The timetable for assessment is flexible within the deadlines of each funding round. Depending how many applications a consultant opts to take on, the work takes eight to ten days to complete over a 12-week period, including attendance at trainings and morning or afternoon panel meetings. Subsequent funding rounds will likely take less time, as the consultant is familiar with the process.

Start: There are three funding rounds per year, with start dates in January, May and September. Consultants who are accepted into the 'pool' are invited to express interest in working on a round two to three months in advance of the round start date and there is no obligation to express interest if the timing does not work for you.

Remuneration: Work is done on a 'low bono' basis and consultants are paid a stipend of £20 per application assessed.

Role description: The Fore's mission is to ensure that anyone who has the talent and drive to create social change can access the financial and skills support they need to succeed. The Fore's venture capital-style approach demonstrates a more equitable form of support but also one that works. Our impact evaluation shows that, four years after the grant, the growth rate of our grantees more than doubles.

Our Strategic Applicant Consultants play a crucial role. Many social leaders, particularly those working deep in their communities, have little experience of fundraising or lack confidence to ask for what they really need. Our consultants level the playing field by working with talented applicants to help clarify strategic objectives, and articulate their funding requirements.

Consultants are at the front line of The Fore's assessment process during each funding round. You will help us identify and present the best candidates for vital funding, playing a pivotal role in helping applicants unlock The Fore's support. Consultants review multiple short applications from the charities and social enterprises. With oversight and support from The Fore team, they shortlist applicants and conduct Stage 2 interviews with the most promising organisations, turning the best of these applications into reports for funding consideration at investment-style funding panels that include local community representatives and charity and private sector leaders.

The process of research and engagement with the applicants is a deeply enriching one for the charities and consultants alike. Helping organisations analyse their needs and focus on their strengths and opportunities gives consultants an unparalleled insight into the issues the UK is facing today and a chance to share your skills with inspiring leaders who are fighting for change.

PROFILE

Strategic Applicant Consultants are experienced professionals in a range of fields, who bring their particular expertise and perspective to the work of The Fore. No previous first-hand experience of the charity sector, fundraising or grant assessing is required, and we actively encourage applications from senior professionals with wide ranging experience who would like to give something back and have transferable skills to share. We particularly welcome applications from those with no prior experience of grant assessment for other funding bodies. We do things differently, and we want to hear from people who are excited by stepping outside the box of the traditional ways in which grant-making is done.

Typically, Strategic Applicant Consultants match the following profile:

- Substantial experience (10 years +) in business, public or non-profit sector senior leadership positions.
- Strong business acumen and strategic thinking skills.

- Exceptional ability to present and communicate key arguments, in both written and verbal form.
- Excellent listening and coaching skills, and the ability to work sensitively with others and give constructive and supportive feedback to help them shape their ideas.
- Timely, organised and decisive. Able to meet deadlines, work independently, and deliver well under pressure.
- Strong interest in social change and in developing strategic thinking in the charity sector.

HOW TO APPLY

Please see our [vacancies page](#) on The Fore's website for how to apply.