

Candidate Information Booklet

Belfast Works: Quality Assurance Manager

(Ref: QAM/10/2020)

Closing date for applications:

12 noon on Friday 6th November 2020

*Interviews are scheduled for 16th November 2020.*

**Please note due to COVID 19 our offices are restricted, therefore completed applications should be emailed to** **hr@ashtoncentre.com** **to be considered. Where a signature is required, this must be done electonically**

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**Job Title: Belfast Works Project – Quality Assurance Manager**

**Responsible to: Head of Employment & Training services and Operations Manager**

**Hours: 37.5 per week**

**Salary: £32,878**

**Pension: 7% employer contribution with 1% minimum employee**

**contribution**

**Contract Term: End March 2022 (Subject to Funding)**

***JOB BACKGROUND:***

This post is part of the Belfast Works Project, a Belfast wide employment project implemented by a consortium of organisation led by Ashton. The Belfast Works Partnership organisations are

* GEMS NI
* Upper Springfield Development Trust
* Impact Training
* East Belfast Mission

As the manager of the Belfast Works project Quality Assurance team, you will be responsible for the efficient and effective delivery of the project Quality Assurance team and outcomes. You will directly manage one or more project co-ordinators and officers who will deliver the functions of the project. You will be responsible for developing and implementing project plans and ensuring that results are monitored on an ongoing basis. You will work closely with the project steering committee, the consortium partners and Ashton as lead partner of the project including other project managers to ensure that the project is being effective and performing on target. You will develop and maintain a network of project stakeholders and represent the project externally on a number of fora.

***KEY TASKS & RESPONSIBILITIES:***

1. Line manage the Belfast Works Quality Assurance team including co-ordinator/s and any other project staff were requested and ensure all roles are implemented in full to ensure the effective delivery of the project including carrying out supervisions and appraisals, performance measurement, monitoring leave and sickness.
2. To manage the Quality Assurance team as set out in the ESF application, Letter of Offer and ACT operational plan. This includes the delivery of all targets and objectives and monitor performance on an ongoing basis.
3. To manage the provision of the Quality Assurance services in the Ashton Centre’s network of outreach centres thus ensuring the widest possible coverage of North Belfast and Newtownabbey.
4. To oversee Belfast Works Total Quality Management Model (TQM), engaging with all stakeholders to ensure the effective delivery of Quality Services.
5. To ensure all guidelines and processes set out by ESF and the Belfast Works project are being enforced and adhered to including all procurement processes. Act as point of contact for the ESF managing authority and any other match funders, and sign off all reports and monitoring requests to the funders.
6. To work in conjunction with the Quality Assurance team in maintaining quality systems and standards into all programmes to include: ETI, JET, Matrix, ISO and EFQM in order to ensure the full delivery of quality programmes to all user groups and to ensure that all standards and processes are being met for funders.
7. Produce project analysis, data and reports at a strategic level for use by Ashton Management as well as service plans for team delivery.
8. Take responsibility for the overarching management of the Quality Assurance service delivery of the project, ensuring consistency and high standards across the delivery area and ensure the mentor and health delivery team operates within its budget and that any variances are reported.
9. Organise if requested project staff recruitment, panels and appointments.
10. Represent the project on a number of relevant forums and in the media.
11. This list is not exhaustive and you will be requested to perform such other relevant tasks deemed necessary by Management of the Ashton Training & Employment Services to ensure the effective and efficient implementation of the project and the organisation’s action plan and that are commensurate with the grade of the post.

***OTHER RESPONSIBILITIES***

* Undertake any other related responsibilities commensurate with the evolving objectives of the post and the evolution of the Ashton Community Trust, as may reasonably be requested by the Director.
* Work flexibly on evenings, weekends and during school holidays to ensure full delivery of the programme.
* Undertake training in order to develop work related skills and knowledge.
* Work with due regard for Ashton Community Trust’s core values and objectives
* Ensure the effective implementation of and adherence to, the Trust’s policies and procedures
* Participate in Ashton Community Trust’s Performance Management and Appraisal process, and agree short, medium and long term goals with line manager, and direct line staff.
* Identify learning and development needs with your line manager and evaluate T&D to demonstrate needs have been met.
* Share best practice and achievements, and contribute to opportunities to present outcomes and case studies.

**Status of the Job Description**

This job description is not incorporated into the employee’s employment contract. It is intended as a guide and should not be viewed as an inflexible specification and it may be varied from time to time in the light of strategic developments following discussion with the post holder. The post holder will be expected to work to objectives agreed with the line manager.

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**Person Specification**

**Essential Criteria**

1. Recognised professional qualification at Level 5 or above in relevant field for the post. And a proven track record of 3 years or more experience within the last 5 years of working within a quality assurance field as a project manager or coordinator. (Number of years’ experience may be increased should there be a need to facilitate manageable shortlists)

***Or*** A recognised professional qualification Level 3 or above in a relevant field for the post and a proven track record of 5 years or more experience of working within an Quality Assurance field as a project manager or coordinator. (Application)

1. Experience of managing a team of staff at a senior level. (Application)
2. Experience of managing a team in a target driven environment. (Interview)
3. An ability to work closely with funders to ensure project compliance with procedures. (Application)
4. Experience of building and maintaining positive, open relationships with partner organisations and provide them with a broad range of support.(Interview)
5. Experience of planning, scheduling and budgeting for education and training programmes yearly in advance and at short notice. (Application)
6. Experience of analysing data, produce reports and identify key recommendations at a strategic level. (Interview)
7. Experience of working within a complex operating environment with a range of stakeholders and partners. (Application)
8. Experience and good knowledge of I.T and database systems including; ability to use MS office (Word, Excel) Internet and Email; (Application)
9. Experience of using own initiative, including effective prioritisation of tasks and working to agreed aims and objectives. (Application)

**Desirable Criteria**

**(Desirable criteria may used to shortlist applicants, should there be a need to facilitate manageable shortlists)**

1. Management Qualification
2. Knowledge and experience of working with the unemployed and the barriers they face
3. Experience and good knowledge of working with databases
4. Experience of working the submission of funding applications and the tendering of new contracts
5. Experience of ESF funded programmes guidelines and procurement processes

**Guidance for Making your Application**

The application form is designed to ensure that applicants provide the necessary information to determine how they meet the competition requirements and the essential/desirable criteria.

* The space available on the application form is the same for all applicants and must not be altered.
* Ashton Community Trust will not accept CV’s, letters, or any other supplementary material in place of or in addition to, completed application forms.
* Applicants must complete the application form in black ink or typescript.
* Applicants must not reformat their application form.
* Information in support of your application will not be accepted after the closing date for receipt of applications.
* Relevant or equivalent qualifications – if you believe your qualification is equivalent to the one required, the onus is on you to provide the panel with details of modules studied, etc. so the panel can make a well-informed decision.
* It is essential that all applicants demonstrate on their application form how and to what extent their experience and skills are relevant to this post and the extent to which they satisfy each of the essential and desirable criterion specified. If you do not provide sufficient detail, including the appropriate dates needed to meet the criteria, the selection panel will reject your application.
* The examples you provide should be concise and relevant to the criteria. This is very important as these may be discussed at interview and you may need to be prepared to talk about them in more detail. It is your unique role that the panel are interested in, not that of your team or division.

Ashton Community Trust will not make assumptions from the title of the applicants post or the nature of the organisation, as to the skills and experience gained.

**Application Form Submission**

* Completed applications can be submitted by:
	+ Email to HR@ashtoncentre.com.
* We will not accept incomplete application forms; application forms received after the closing deadline or reformatted application forms.
* Please only return the application form and monitoring form.
* Should you have any queries please contact email at HR@ashtoncentre.com.

**Interview Guidance for Applicants**

At interview, the selection panel will assess candidates against the competencies, qualifications and experience for the post.

If this is your first experience of a competence-based interview, bear in mind that it does not require you to:

* Talk through previous jobs from start to finish
* Provide generalised information as to your background and experience.
* Provide information that is not specifically relevant to the competence the question is designed to test.

A competence based interview does however require you to:

* Focus exclusively, in your responses, on your ability to fulfil the competences required for the effective performance in the role.
* Provide specific examples of your experience in relation to the required competence areas.

**Disability Requirements**

Ashton Community Trust will ask on the application form if you require any reasonable adjustments, due to disability, to enable you to attend any part of the assessment process. Details of any disability are only used for this purpose and do not form part of the selection process. If you are successful in the selection process and are being considered for appointment, you may be required to outline any adjustments you consider necessary in order for you to take up appointment. If you wish to discuss your disability requirements further, please contact HR on 02890 322289.

**Feedback**

Ashton Community Trust is committed to providing feedback in respect to decisions taken in determining eligibility/shortlisting as well as at interview. Feedback will be communicated on receipt of a written request.

**Equal Opportunities Monitoring Form**

**Please note this form is regarded as part of your application and failure to complete and return it will result in disqualification.**

The information is used for monitoring purposes only. All applications for employment are considered strictly on the basis of merit.

Ashton Community Trust complies with relevant Equal Opportunities legislation and policies.

Please complete the monitoring form and return with the application form . This will be removed by the Monitoring Officer on receipt.

Prior to appointment with Ashton Community Trust the following will be required:

* Proof of qualifications
* Proof of eligibility to work in the UK
* Personal ID
* ACCESS NI check depending on role.

Ashton Community Trust complies with Access NI Code of Practice, which can be downloaded from <https://www.nidirect.gov.uk/sites/default/files/publications/accessni-code-of-practice.pdf>

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**Confidential**

Ashton Community Trust

McSweeney Centre, 23 Henry Place, Belfast BT15 2AY

**Employment Application Form Application Number: QAM/102020**

Please complete this application form in **typescript** **only** and return it on or before the closing date stated. Late applications will not be accepted. Only information provided on this application form will be considered by the panel. CV’s will not be accepted.

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| **Post applied for:** | **Quality Assurance Manager** |  |  |
| **Hours:** | **37.5 hours per week** |
| **Closing Date and Time:** | **Friday 6th November 2020 at 12 noon** |

**Personal Details:**

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| --- | --- |
| **Surname:** | **Telephone Number (Home):** |
|  |  |
| **Forename(s):** | **Telephone Number (Mobile):** |
|  |  |
| **Title:** | **Email Address:** |
|  |  |
| **Address:** | **Postcode:** |
| **NI Number:** |  |
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**Relevant Qualifications and/or Professional Membership**

Original proof of qualifications will be requested if recommended for appointment

 (Please continue on a separate sheet of necessary)

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| **Examination level** **(for example, GCSE/’A’ Level/Degree/NVQ** | **Subject(s)** | **Grade** | **Date Gained** |
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| **Professional Qualifications** | **Registration Body/Number** |  | **Date Gained** |
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**Employment History**

Please give details of jobs that you have held, starting with your present or most recent employer and work backwards, in chronological order. Include in this section any breaks in employment history for example, caring responsibilities, travelling or returning to study, registered unemployment and temporary/voluntary employment. (Please continue on a separate sheet if required)

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Name and Address of Employer and Nature of Business** | **From**  | **To** | **Job Title:** | **Final Salary and Reason for Leaving** |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| **Notice required if offered the position for which you have applied?** |

**Training**

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| **Details of relevant training courses attended and awards achieved, including dates if appropriate** |
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**Suitability for this position**

Please detail your suitability for this position under the relevant headings below, describing how your experience and knowledge relates to the job description and person specification.You must ensure that you provide sufficient information on the application form to enable the selection panel to assess your eligibility at shortlisting.

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| **Essential Criteria** |
| **Please demonstrate to the panel you have a recognised professional qualification at Level 5 or above in relevant field for the post. And a proven track record of 3 years or more experience within the last 5 years of working within a quality assurance field as a project manager or coordinator. (Number of years’ experience may be increased should there be a need to facilitate manageable shortlists)*****Or*** **A recognised professional qualification Level 3 or above in a relevant field for the post. And a proven track record of 5 years or more experience of working within an Quality Assurance field as a project manager or coordinator** |
| **Please detail your experience of managing a time of staff at senior level** |
| **Please demonstrate your ability to work closely with funders to ensure project compliance with procedures** |

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| **Please demonstrate your experience of planning, scheduling and budgeting for education and training programmes yearly in advance and at short notice** |
| **Please demonstrate your experience of working within a complex operating environment with a range of stakeholders and partners** |
| **Please demonstrate your experience and knowledge of IT and database systems including office (Word, Excel), Internet and Email** |
| **Please demonstrate how you use your own initiative, including effective prioritisation of tasks and working to agreed aims and objectives** |
| I confirm that the information I have given is accurate and complete, as misleading or false statements will result in the withdrawal of the offer of employment, or if employed dismissal.**Signed…………………….........................................……………………………Date………………………………….** |
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| **Data Protection Act:** |
| Under the General Data Protection Regulations, Ashton Community Trust is required to notify applicants and prospective employees on how their personal data will be processed and used. This application form, excluding the equal opportunities monitoring form, will be retained by Ashton Community trust for a maximum period of 12 months, unless you are the successful applicant for the post, in which case the application form will become part of your employee record, your information (excluding the equal opportunities monitoring form) may be required to be viewed by funders for audit purposes. Some of the data you provide is considered to be Sensitive Personal Data under the Data Protection Act 1998; this information will be used to assist us with recruitment monitoring. It will be held separately from application forms and will be retained for a three-year period under obligations arising from the NI Equality Legislation, it will also be held electronically.By signing this form you are giving consent to Ashton Community Trust to use this data in the way described above.**Signed: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** |
| **Personal Statement:** |
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| Ashton Community Trust is an Equal Opportunities Employer. The Trust encourages applications from people with disabilities and will not preclude full consideration of your application as a result of your disability. In accordance with the Disability Discrimination Act a person is disabled if they have, or have had, “a physical or mental impairment which has, or has had, a substantial and long-term adverse effect on their ability to carry out normal day-to-day activities”. Do you consider yourself to have, or, have had a disability that is relevant to your job application? **Yes/No** If you have answered yes, is there anything we should know about your disability or requirements in order to: * Process your application fairly,
* Make any specific arrangements for your interview, and
* Make any necessary reasonable adjustments or adaptations, or provide any aids to assist you in completing the duties of the post.

Provide details: |

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**Private and Confidential**

The following pages will not be used as part of the selection process as they contain information that is strictly private and confidential.

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| **Referees** |
| Please give full details of two people (not relatives) that we can approach for references, one of which must be your current or most recent employer, if you have never been employed before please list details of someone who would know you in a voluntary or academic capacity. Please ensure that your referees are aware of this application, and, also, if you are providing us with their email address, that you obtain your referee’s permission to do so. References must be satisfactory to Ashton Community Trust |

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| **Reference** |
| **Name:** |  |
| **Occupation:** |  |
| **Full Address:** |  |
| **Telephone Number:** |  |
| **Email:** |  |

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| --- |
| **Reference** |
| **Name:** |  |
| **Occupation** |  |
| **Full Address:** |  |
| **Telephone Number:** |  |
| **Email:** |  |

I give Ashton Community Trust the right to investigate all references and to secure additional information about me, if job related. I hereby release from liability the employer and its representatives for seeking such information and all other persons, corporations or organizations for furnishing such information. I have read and understood the requirements and particulars for the job, which have been supplied to me. I further understand that the job offer may be subject to the satisfactory outcome of references and/or a satisfactory Access NI Disclosure.

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| I confirm that the information I have given is accurate and complete, as misleading or false statements will result in the withdrawal of the offer of employment, or if employed dismissal.**Signed…………………..............................………………………………Date…………………………………..** |

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**MONITORING FORM JOB REFERENCE NO: QAM/10/2020**

**MONITORING QUESTIONNAIRE UNDER THE ASHTON COMMUNITY TRUST’S EQUAL OPPORTUNITY POLICY**

**IN CONFIDENCE, USED FOR STATISTICAL PURPOSES ONLY**

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Nationality: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**1 COMMUNITY BACKGROUND**

I am a member of the Protestant community

I am a member of the Roman Catholic community

I am not a member of either the Protestant or the Roman Catholic

community

**2**  **ETHNIC ORIGIN**

WhiteBlack Other

Irish TravellerChinese

Pakistani Indian

Black CaribbeanMixed Group

Black AfricanOther

**3** **GENDER**

Female Male

**4** **MARITAL STATUS**

Married Single Widowed Separated Cohabiting Civil

 Partnership

**5** **DISABILITY**

Under the *Disability Discrimination Act 1995* you are deemed to be a disabled person if you have cancer, multiple sclerosis or HIV infection.

Also, you are deemed to be a disabled person if you have a physical or mental impairment which has a substantial and long-term adverse effect on your ability to carry out normal day-to-day activities.

**Do you consider that you are a disabled person?**

Yes:  No: 

**If you answered “yes”, please indicate the nature of your impairment by ticking the appropriate box or boxes below:**

**Physical impairment**, such as difficulty using

your arms, or mobility issues requiring you to use

a wheelchair or crutches:

**Sensory impairment**, such as being blind or

having a serious visual impairment, or being deaf

or having a serious hearing impairment:

**Mental health condition**, such as depression

or schizophrenia:

**Learning disability or difficulty**, such as

Down’s Syndrome or dyslexia, or **Cognitive impairment**,

such as autistic spectrum disorder:

**Long-standing or progressive illness or health condition**,

such as cancer, HIV infection, diabetes, epilepsy or

chronic heart disease:

**Other** (please specify):

…………

**This questionnaire is not available to the panel and will be removed by the Monitoring Officer.**

*Access to this information will be strictly controlled and will not be seen by the shortlisting panel. Monitoring will involve the use of statistical summaries of information in which identities of the individuals will not appear. The information will not be available for any other purposes other than equal opportunities monitoring. The information will subsequently be transferred to the monitoring system operated by the Monitoring Officer. There it will be strictly controlled in accordance with the Data Protection Code of Practice. Please note that it is an offence for any person to give false information to another who is seeking that information in order to make a monitoring return.*





