Co-Director - UK Strategy and Operations

A unique opportunity to join a groundbreaking organisation fighting electronic waste, helping shape our future direction!

We have updated our strategy (2021-2024) and are looking for someone to join our small but mighty team to drive it forward. Co-Director, UK Strategy and Operations is a new role joint leading The Restart Project on the next phase of our exciting journey.

The Restart Project - who are we?

The Restart Project helps people learn how to repair their broken electronics, and rethink how they consume them in the first place.

Electronic waste is one of the fastest growing waste streams. We are all consuming too fast, and we feel frustrated when products fail. The Restart Project is a registered charity and social enterprise that helps people transform their relationship with electronics by teaching repair at community events, and speaking in public and online. We started as an all-volunteer organisation and volunteers still play a crucial role in supporting our team. We look at the big picture, on how to improve electronics for people and the planet, from design and manufacture all the way to the end of life.

We started in London and are still partly based there with an office in Brixton, but with team members working across the UK and in Belgium.

The Role

We are looking for someone who will help drive The Restart Project forward as an ambitious and dynamic organisation that will continue to be at the forefront of the discussions around the Right to Repair and electronic waste.
The post will be co-leading the organisation, alongside one of the co-founders who will be leading on international projects, campaigns and partnerships. You will be responsible for the strategic and day-to-day management of the UK operations, and will join a team of 7 staff.

Restart has a board of non-executive directors who are the legal charity trustees, and you will be accountable to them for the successful delivery of the strategy and finances, together with the other co-director.

Responsibilities

We are looking for someone who will bring passion and experience to the role. You will lead Restart, building on its role and reputation as a leading organisation in the field of Right to Repair and e-waste, exploring new ways to increase our impact, build our sustainability, identify new opportunities and inspire our team.

Leadership

- Providing strategic and inspirational leadership for the UK-based team members including Communications Lead, Operations Lead and London Network Lead, plus the wider Restart family of volunteers and freelancers
- Develop Restart’s programmes and activities in London
- Ensure the financial stability of the organisation through financial planning, risk and business management and income generation
- Ensure the effective impact of all of Restart's work

Advocacy, Campaigning and Outreach

- Guide and provide strategy for building a UK network in support of Right to Repair, building from the Manchester Declaration and working with an emerging network of community repair organisations
- Coordinate and extend the UK uptake of International Repair Day
- Represent Restart in policy events at UK level where relevant
- Seek speaking and other opportunities to expand public engagement including representing Restart at media appearances
Develop and refine Restart's strategy to engage with UK independent repair businesses
- Explore opportunities to work with relevant private sector actors to amplify influence of our work

Fundraising and impact measurement
- Continue to develop Restart's fundraising strategy
- Identify and develop new institutional fundraising opportunities with Restart's other Co-Director
- Lead on some fundraising application writing, and monitoring and evaluation
- Identify and explore new opportunities for sustainable income generation

Person Specification

Personal Qualities
- Dedicated to finding ways we can all thrive in an age of planetary and community crisis
- Self-starting and entrepreneurial spirit
- Problem solving, project management, and creative resourcefulness
- Good listener
- Innovative and flexible in responding to challenges
- Inspiring leadership with the ability to motivate and engage with other people, including staff and volunteers

Experience
- Managing in a mission-driven organisation: line management experience, working with volunteers and contractors
- Working at a strategic level on issues and the ability to see the bigger picture, and demonstrating impact
- Securing investment, fundraising and other forms of business development
- Collaborating with networks of partners nationally and globally, developing working relationships with other organisations from the grassroots to EU policy makers
Knowledge and skills

- Understanding of UK and London government and policy processes
- An understanding of the pivotal role of communities in social change
- Clear and persuasive communication skills, verbally and in writing, including public speaking and media appearances
- High level of business acumen including successful budget forecasting and management

And, most importantly of all, commitment to The Restart Project's mission.

These describe our perfect candidate, however even if you don't have all these personal qualities, experience and knowledge and skills, we would still be interested in hearing from you if you think you would be a good fit.

What we offer

We provide the chance to make a difference in a fun, eclectic and creative atmosphere, where work can move quickly and not be hampered by bureaucracy. Read more about why it's great to work at Restart.

We are nominally based in London, but have a flexible approach and are open to exceptional candidates who may be located elsewhere but able to work from London frequently. We do expect candidates to have a working understanding of London. We encourage wfh and flexible working hours.

Salary - we operate a very flat organisation structure. Our current guidelines are that the highest paid members of staff should not earn more than 2 times the lowest paid members of staff. These are reviewed by our board on a yearly basis.

Benefits - a generous pension contribution of 8% - annual holiday entitlement of 28 days FTE - additional 3 days at Christmas - generous training budget
How to apply

As this is an unusual opportunity, we are not following a traditional recruitment path. We would love to hear from you with a couple of paragraphs or a short video commenting on our mission and the challenges we face to achieve it, why this role excites you, and some really incisive questions for us, alongside a copy of your CV or LinkedIn profile. We think this should be the start of a dialogue. You can send these through via email at jobs@therestartproject.org, with the subject line “UK Co-Director”.

We are considering applications on a rolling basis therefore we encourage early submissions, and we ask for expressions of interest by 5th September at the latest.