


# Strategic Partnerships Manager (Science)

Recruitment pack

Closing date for applications: 1 November 2026

# Welcome to The Humane Research Trust!

Thank you for your interest in the role of Strategic Partnerships Manager (Science) at The Humane Research Trust.

The Humane Research Trust (THRT) is funded by donations and legacies from members of the public wanting to promote human health without cruelty to animals. Since 1961, THRT has invested over £12m in human-relevant approaches that replace the use of animals and animal-derived products in medical research. Our funding has led to advances in the diagnosis and treatment of many human diseases including cancer, Alzheimer's, diabetes and eye diseases.

Over the past three years our flagship grants programme has gone from strength to strength, inspiring more scientists to adopt animal-free medical research methods. THRT's refreshed strategy aims not only to continue to fund excellent science but to also advance the reproducibility, validation, standardisation and adoption of innovative animal-free research methods.

We are looking for an outstanding strategic partnerships manager to shape these ambitions and create the partnerships to fund them.

If this appeals to you, we'd love to receive your application.

Kind regards



Dr Alison Giles
Chief executive

# 1. The role

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| **Title:** | Strategic Partnerships Manager (Science) |
| **Salary:** | £50,000 |
| **Hours:** | 32.5 hours per week |
| **Location:** | Remote, hybrid or office based. The postholder is required to attend meetings and events across the UK and overseas |
| **Term:** | 18 months in the first instance, with extension subject to performance (see Section 5) |
| **Probation:** | 3 months |
| **Responsible for:** | N/A |
| **Accountable to:** | CEO |
| **Key relationships:** | Staff, trustees, academics, funders, trusts & foundations, regulators, industry |

# 2. Role purpose

This is a new strategic role designed to shape and deliver THRT's science strategy and build the partnerships, networks and funding required to maximise the impact of animal-free medical research.

The Strategic Partnerships Manager (Science) will identify, develop and manage relationships with scientific leaders, universities, funders, philanthropic organisations, industry partners, regulators and other stakeholders. The role will help secure significant new income for THRT while also convening key partners to advance reproducibility, validation, standardisation and adoption across the animal-free research field.

# 3. Key responsibilities (role profile)

## Science strategy development

- Lead the development of THRT's science strategy, particularly around field advancement, reproducibility and standardisation.
- Monitor developments in animal-free science and identify opportunities that align with THRT's mission.
- Facilitate collaboration between researchers, funders and other stakeholders.
- Organise meetings, workshops and collaborative initiatives designed to advance the field.

### Strategic partnerships

- Develop and implement a strategic partnerships plan to support delivery of THRT's science strategy.
- Build and maintain relationships with leading researchers, research institutions, charities, foundations, industry partners and policy stakeholders.
- Identify opportunities for collaborative initiatives, co-funding arrangements and strategic alliances.
- Represent THRT at conferences, meetings, workshops and networking events.

### Fundraising and income generation

- Develop and manage a pipeline of prospects.
- Prepare compelling cases for support, partnership proposals and funding applications to fund our science priorities.
- Lead the relationship management with trusts, foundations, corporate partners and major donors.
- Work with the Chief Executive and trustees to secure significant new funding opportunities aligned to our science strategy.
- Monitor and report on fundraising performance, pipeline progress and return on investment.

### Project management

- Lead partnership projects from conception through to delivery.
- Ensure partnership commitments, milestones and reporting requirements are met.
- Manage budgets associated with partnership activity where required.
- Produce reports, papers and presentations for trustees and senior stakeholders.

### External relations and advocacy

- Act as an ambassador for THRT and its mission.
- Promote the benefits and potential of animal-free medical research.
- Lead or contribute to public-facing and stakeholder communications as required.
- Identify opportunities to increase THRT's visibility, influence and reputation within the scientific community.

## 4. Person specification

### Essential knowledge and experience

*Science and technical understanding*

- Degree in a life science, biomedical science or related discipline, or equivalent experience.
- Strong understanding of animal-free research methods and the wider biomedical research landscape.

*Partnership development and management*

- Existing network within the animal-free research sector – academics, regulators, industry.
- Proven track record of building and managing strategic partnerships.
- Demonstrable success in developing collaborative projects or programmes involving multiple stakeholders.
- Experience organising scientific workshops, events or collaborative programmes.

*Fundraising and business development*

- Knowledge and experience of trusts, foundations, statutory and grant fundraising
- Strong track record in bid-writing, negotiating and securing significant, high-value and/or multi-year funding from trusts, foundations, research funders, philanthropic organisations and corporate partners.
- Experience managing high-value funding opportunities and prospect pipelines.

### Desirable experience

- Postgraduate qualification (Masters or PhD) in a relevant scientific discipline.
- Experience working within the charity sector.
- Knowledge of research validation, reproducibility or standards development initiatives.

### Essential skills

- Written and verbal communications - ability to develop persuasive funding proposals and partnership propositions.
- Finance and analysis - budgeting, forecasting, pipeline management, performance measurement and return on investment
- Project management of complex initiatives.
- Reporting - clear and timely reports on income performance, pipeline, forecasts, opportunities and risks
- Able to influence and convene diverse stakeholders around shared goals.
- Able to manage competing priorities and work with a high degree of autonomy.
- Strong networking and relationship-building abilities.
- Strategic thinker with the ability to identify emerging opportunities.
- Confident presenter and facilitator.

## 5. Indicative success measures (first 18 months)

- A high-quality pipeline of strategic scientific and funding partnerships established.
- Significant new institutional and partnership income secured.
- New initiatives launched to advance validation, reproducibility and field adoption.
- Increased visibility and influence of THRT within the animal-free research sector.
- Clear evidence that partnerships are contributing to delivery of THRT's science strategy.

# 6. What we offer

- Flexible working (on successful completion of 3-month probation period)
- Training and development
- 7.5% employer pension contribution
- 25 days annual leave (plus bank holidays)

# 7. How to apply

Candidates should submit a **covering letter** (no more than 4 pages of A4, font size 12) and a **CV**

Candidates should structure their covering letter and CV to clearly demonstrate their suitability for the role. We will be looking for clear examples of how their experience, skills, and knowledge meet our needs and for evidence of success in similar roles in the past. Experience can be paid or voluntary.

# 8. Closing date for applications

The closing date for applications is Sunday 1 November 2026, although we may close applications earlier than this date, so we encourage early applications.

Shortlisted candidates will be invited for interview at The Trust's offices.

Interviews will be held on Tuesday 10 November 2026.