

Role Profile: UK Influencing Lead

Role updated: 25/02/25

Department	Division	Location	Salary Band
Impact	Policy and Influencing	UK - London	A Low
Reports to	Matrix Manager	No. of direct reports	Value-based behaviour
Head of Policy and Influencing		2	Team / Project Manager

Purpose

The role provides strategic leadership and oversight of all the UK advocacy work and the advocacy unit, aligning with organisational values and goals, to ensure advocacy achieves maximum impact.

The role will represent CA in UK advocacy spaces and UK coalitions and acts as a media spokesperson

The role will lead the development of the UK Influencing Strategy, bringing together our work with the UK Government, Faith Leaders, Private Sector, Campaigns, etc, including through coalition networks.

Collaborate with the Campaigns & Youth Lead, to matrix manage the Campaigns Advisor, to foster a team mindset and ensure coherent and joined up approach to influencing and campaigns and church engagement output.

Main Areas of Responsibility & Accountability

- Leads on and is accountable for Christian Aid's influencing and engagement strategy development, ensuring that it is aligned with our mobilisation and movement building work, that it maximises the involvement of churches, the INGO sector, and is effective at engaging decision to drive meaningful change.
- Leads, internally and externally, in shaping and securing our influence towards the government and decision makers, leads external engagement for impact with senior government ministers, MPs, civil servants, private sector partners, faith leaders, and INGO convened spaces to drive meaningful change.
- Leads on the processes to develop and deliver influencing strategies and activities, fostering a team mindset and a mindset of connection across the organisation to ensure an integrated approach to influencing policy and political change in the UK.
- Leads (jointly with relevant income lead) growth strategy for UK aid (and other UK government related) funding opportunities to maximise income and impact.
- Leads the UK Influencing Team, to deliver influencing projects and policy products to UK decision makers and ensure they meet their outcomes on budget, and staff are guided and coached to enable high-impact initiatives to be achieved that maximise our impact.
- Represents Christian Aid in UK spaces, including as a media spokesperson, ensuring messaging is meaningful, impactful and consistent, aligning to organisational values and goals.
- Oversees UK advocacy budget to support with financial sustainability.
- Deputise for Head of Policy and Influencing, as needed

Key Decisions

- Highly developed ability in developing and delivering overarching influencing and engagement approaches and tactics, including how they complement the sector and church engagement.
- Ability to make decision and signs off influencing strategies to engage with key decision makers, Think Tanks, and Civil Society groups that align with organisational values.
- Detailed understanding of advocacy and policy output to key stakeholders and audiences, including MP briefings, letters with the ability to sign off on behalf of the organisation.
- Ability to make recommendations on coalition sign on to the Head/Director for approval that align with organisational values and goals.
- Contributes to development and implementation of the Policy and Influencing strategy
- Budgetary authority (if applicable): Manages the UK Influencing Unit budgets.

Problem Solving

- Developed ability to determine new and innovative ways to ensure Christian Aid is influencing public policy thinking in the UK and decisions taken by the UK. i.e. determining our engagement with the UK government when we have no funding relationship.
- Developed ability to determine the key UK spaces Christian Aid will prioritise for advocacy, and the key UK moments where Christian Aid will place greatest emphasises to mobilise cross-organisational engagement.
- Developed ability to determine the partnerships that will influence UK advocacy and policy positions
- Ensure coherence and integration of advocacy in campaigns and churches engagement.

Key Interfaces

- **Internal:** Global Influencing Lead, Public Policy Lead, MCC Policy and Advocacy Leads, Global Policy and Advocacy leads, influencing department , Campaign Advisor, church engagement lead, MCC policy and advocacy leads
- **External: Senior government** ministers and officials, Senior civil servants, Senior network and coalition spaces, Senior private sector leaders, Senior church leaders, and speaking events as determined by Senior Management and CEO

Knowledge, Skills and Experience

Essential:

- Degree in Politics/International Relations.
- Extensive experience in in UK advocacy/public affairs.
- Substantial experience and detailed understanding of successful advocacy and influencing strategy development.
- Detailed understanding of UK advocacy context for international and geopolitical issues.
- Detailed understanding of the UK political landscape, the role of Christian Aid's sponsoring churches and Civil Society.
- Substantial experience of strategic planning.
- Substantial budget management.
- Substantial experience in public speaking and communicating to non-specialist audiences.
- Substantial line management experience and ability to provide high quality leadership and support to staff, including remote management.
- Highly developed ability to analyse complex information, present that information, and frame arguments, in a simple way.
- Highly developed negotiating and influencing skills within a large or complex organisation.
- Highly developed ability to work cross-organisationally and build internal stakeholder relationships, delivering outstanding partnership working.
- Highly developed public speaking ability.
- Highly developed ability to deal sensitively and discreetly with people and information.
- Highly developed ability to devise, lead and implement advocacy strategies.
- Highly developed ability to work across cultural contexts with civil society and faith leaders from the global south.
- Highly developed ability to manage complex projects.
- Highly developed influencing and negotiation skills
- Significant experience of representing an organisation at a senior level.

Travel

In Country: Occasional

Global: Occasional