

## Candidate Information

<b>Position:</b>	Smart Nano NI Programme Manager
<b>School/Department:</b>	Mathematics and Physics
<b>Reference:</b>	22/109677
<b>Closing Date:</b>	Monday 28 March 2022
<b>Salary:</b>	£42,149 - £51,799 per annum
<b>Anticipated Interview Date:</b>	Tuesday 12 or Wednesday 13 April 2022
<b>Duration:</b>	Fixed-term - in line with project duration

### JOB PURPOSE:

The role holder will be responsible for providing comprehensive planning, coordination, leadership and delivery of day-to-day project management and administrative support to the Smart Nano NI Strength in Places Fund project.

The Programme Manager will be responsible for all aspects of the day-to-day management and administration of the SIPF award, providing dedicated professional services support to ensure the programme successfully delivers its aims reporting to the Programme Executive Board.

The ideal candidate for this position will have knowledge and experience of management and leadership of multi-partner, industry-focussed programmes, excellent project management and financial reporting experience, and demonstrate strong negotiation and interpersonal communication skills.

### MAJOR DUTIES:

1. Develop Smart Nano NI into a fully functioning, industry focussed R&D Programme to deliver against all objectives and deliver the ambition and targets so enabling collaboration with engineering and manufacturing infrastructures and businesses across the UK.
2. In consultation with the Smart Nano NI Supervisory Board and Programme Director develop and implement the Smart Nano NI programme plan (with clear milestones and deliverables) and regularly report on progress against budget and project objectives.
3. Contribute to shaping the strategic direction of Smart Nano NI, in the overall context and framework provided by the Board, planning and organising activities of others considering the implications now and in the longer term, to support the Smart Nano NI objectives.
4. Manage and develop a range of links (e.g. Belfast Regional City Deal and its Advanced Manufacturing Innovation Centre (AMIC) and the Derry & Strabane City Deal's Centre for Industrial Digitalisation, Robotics and Automation (CIDRA)) to support projects, such as automation, robotics, AI and design for manufacture.
5. Develop and grow the Smart Nano NI membership, business interactions and engagements to deliver training, access to equipment, networking opportunities and technical support in support of the NI/UK manufacturing industry.
6. To provide leadership and management to the core Smart Nano NI project team, ensuring skill development and effective team working.
7. Championing and promoting the Smart Nano NI nationally and internationally provide specialist guidance and advice to enhance and develop the Smart Nano NI reputation, working in partnerships to ensure research innovations mature into job-creating commercial products and services.
8. Representing the Smart Nano NI, actively negotiate, influence (at senior levels) within specific stakeholder forums including with Government Agencies, Academic Partners and Industry.
9. Where appropriate work with partners to generate a range of proposals for funding innovation and collaborative R&D projects (INI, KTPs, Innovate UK, ATI, UKRI).
10. Undertake any other duties that may reasonably be requested by the Board.

### ESSENTIAL CRITERIA:

1. Honours Degree, or equivalent, in related physical science / engineering discipline OR minimum HND in related engineering discipline with at least five years' relevant experience developing innovative solutions within the Engineering, Advanced Manufacturing sector.
2. Extensive breadth of vision gained from wide-ranging experience in R&D/ Manufacturing / Engineering.
3. Proven ability in developing strategic plans, challenging minds-sets and successfully implementing and rolling out operational plans.
4. Demonstrable experience of managing and developing high performance teams, either with a significant size of team or multidiscipline in profile teams.
5. Extensive project management and procurement experience leading large scale complex activities.
6. Proven experience influencing strategic direction across an organisation with significant impact upon organisational resources.
7. Demonstrable highly developed stakeholder management skills with experience in developing effective working relationships and negotiating with and influencing senior management.
8. Demonstrate a comprehensive knowledge of principles, theory and practices associated with electrical/optical engineering coupled with an awareness of broader manufacturing / engineering developments.

**DESIRABLE CRITERIA:**

1. Hold or be about to achieve a relevant higher degree or Ph.D.
2. Postgraduate / Professional Qualification/ NVQ 5, plus programme and/or Project Management qualifications (e.g. PRINCE2).
3. Experience of managing significant size research and innovation projects or leading an activity of strategic importance in a large organisation.
4. Experience of collaborative research and effective working in a team.
5. Experience of working with international OEMs and SMEs specialising in photonics.
6. Proven ability to influence and shape policy, and contribute to the delivery of successful funding bids, particularly in relation to economic development activities.

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:**

We are recruiting an enthusiastic, highly-motivated individual with proven managerial and technical knowledge to lead the coordination and management of the UKRI Strength in Places Fund (SIPF) 'Smart Nano NI' programme.

The successful applicant will have a key role in supporting the SIPF consortium and a Northern Ireland photonics and advanced manufacturing cluster in its next stages of evolution and growth, driving collaborations with industry, HE and FE partners and government bodies.

This £63 million, five-year programme aims to strengthen the position of the photonics and advanced manufacturing in Northern Ireland to compete in rapidly evolving global markets. It is part-funded by UK Research and Innovation's Strength in Places Fund (£42 million) with the balance of investments provided by consortium partners led by Seagate Technology and including Queen's University Belfast, Ulster University, the Digital Catapult Northern Ireland, North West Regional College and four industry partners.

The Smart Nano NI project consists of a core of four collaborative R&D work-packages focussed on taking new photonic designs through advanced prototyping and on to large scale smart Nano manufacturing and augmented by an Accelerator to bring in new partners. Within the fifth work-package we will work closely with members of the Productivity Institute to develop suitable innovation and economic indicators and evaluation. Further we aim to strengthen development of the cluster through coordinated promotion, branding, business development and international activities and support skills initiatives with a focus on strengthening cooperation around the workforces needed by the cluster in future.

The SIPF will mesh into the Belfast Regional City Deal and its Advanced Manufacturing Innovation Centre (AMIC) and the Derry & Strabane City Deal's Centre for Industrial Digitalisation, Robotics and Automation (CIDRA) project to play its part in enhancing the manufacturing productivity within the region.