User researcher – *to lead on the development of a data standard for plastic packaging*

Open Data Manchester CIC is a not-for-profit organisation formed in 2010 that is working to create a fairer world built on responsible and intelligent data use – and helps people, organisations and communities make that happen. We promote good data practice through expert advice, strong advocacy, participatory events, state-of-the-art research, technical support and interactive training.

We are developing an open-data standard and prototype portal that will span the complete plastic-packaging lifecycle, from design to recycling or reuse. The aim of this project is to:

- make it easier for people to make informed choices about how they recycle plastic packaging
- provide high-quality data about plastic recycling to product designers and manufacturers
- reduce dumping of plastic packaging, both in the UK and overseas
- support development of policy and regulation of plastic use in the future

The role

To help us achieve this, we are recruiting two people to help with developing a new data standard that will be key the project's success. There are **two roles:**

- first, a business analyst with a **user-research specialism**
- second, a business analyst with a **data architecture specialism**.

The **two successful candidates will work together**, with Open Data Manchester and the wider project team, to **research user needs and other requirements for the development of such a data standard**, and then to **develop and implement** it.

Both roles will be employed, with pro-rata holidays and pension contributions. Due to the nature of the work there may be a need to occasionally pool working days. Most of the work will take place remotely, with occasional team meetings and workshops. Applicants will need to prove that they have the right to work in the UK.

Applicants should **review the person specification below** and apply with **a covering letter**, highlighting which role(s) they are applying for, and what skills and experience they will bring, along with a **CV detailing previous relevant experience** to admin@opendatamanchester.org.uk with the subject line: **Business analyst (user researcher) .**

Application deadline: 23.59 Sunday 11th 2021

Interviews will take place online: from Monday 19th July 2021

Work commences: 1st August 2021 (negotiable)

Person specification – user researcher

Full-time (3 months) from August 2021 to October 2021 (negotiable)
Part-time (0.3 FTE of 12 months) from November 2021 to November 2022
£27,000 p.a.

In this role, to support the development of the data standard, you will:

- plan and design user-research testing sessions
- recruit users for testing sessions and carry out the research
- gain an understanding of users' needs, motivations and any problems with existing processes or the proposed data standard
- carry out desktop research into the data standard and its place in the packaging ecosystem
- use research results to contribute to the design and implementation of the data standard
- work as part of wider project team
- help the wider project team understand relevant user behaviour
- present user insights to project stakeholders at all levels
- work in the open
- document the steps and processes undertaken in developing the standard
- communicate the outputs of the project in blog posts, presentations, etc

The successful candidate will be:

- Great at working as part of a team
- Able to effectively communicate complex ideas to a wide range of people
- Organised, self-motivated and able to prioritise their own work
- Comfortable working in the open – sharing progress, thoughts and outcomes publicly
- Confident using a range of software applications to support the delivery of the project, such as Trello, Github, Slack
- Able to devise innovative solutions to problems
- Able to confidently engage with users to gather their requirements
- Able to use a range of techniques to model situations that best elicit such requirements