

# RESEARCH COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER



**DIABETES UK**  
KNOW DIABETES. FIGHT DIABETES.

WELLNESS WALK  
DIABETES UK

DIABETES UK

# WHO WE ARE

**For nearly 5 million people with diabetes in the UK, there's no day off. At Diabetes UK, we fight day in, day out for better care, treatment and support. We won't stop until diabetes can do no harm. With more people than ever living with diabetes and millions more at risk of developing type 2, our work has never been more needed.**

We can't do any of this without you. Our staff are passionate and determined about helping everyone affected by diabetes. For over 85 years, they've been behind vital policy changes, as well as new treatments and technologies to make living with diabetes easier every day. But there's more to do. And you can be part of it.

We're a really diverse bunch and we recognise and respect your value as an individual.

As well as helping people with diabetes, you'll be part of one of the top 30 Best

UK Charities to Work For, and one of the top 75 Best Large Companies in London.

Tackling inequality is part of our mission, and we're committed to being a diverse and inclusive organisation, for all of our people and volunteers. We have a friendly and inclusive culture, with a range of staff networks and ways to get involved. You can find out more about our approach to equity, diversity and inclusion in our strategy here [EDI Strategy Branded version 22 March 2023.pdf](#).

**Our vision is a world where diabetes can do no harm. Join us today, and together, we can make that a reality.**



# JOB DESCRIPTION

Role title: Research Communications Officer

Contract type: Permanent

Hours: Full time (35 hours)

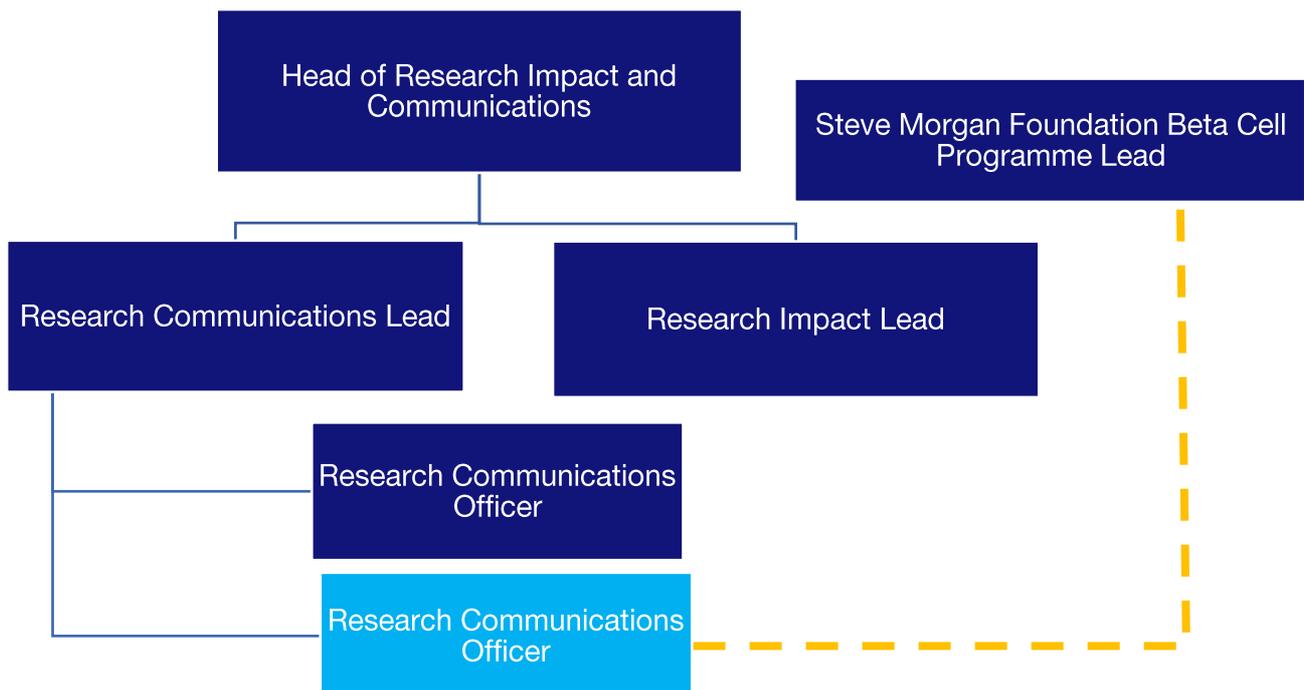
Band: 6

**Key relationships: (Internal)** Research Impact and Communications Team, Research Funding Team, Media, Marketing and Brand and Creative Teams. **(External)** People living with diabetes, Diabetes UK-funded researchers, wider research community, Breakthrough T1D UK.

**Key focus of the role:** Showcase the impact of, and help to increase support for, Diabetes UK-funded research by delivering engaging, accessible and scientifically accurate research content for staff, supporters and the public.

## Directorate and team

This role sits in the [Research Impact and Communications Team](#) in the [Research and Clinical Directorate](#).



## Person specification

All jobs at Diabetes UK are based on

- The key activities you'll undertake and
- The skills, knowledge, experience and behaviours you need to be successful in this role

You will be able to:

- Turn complex scientific information into engaging content for Diabetes UK's website, social media, publications, mailings, fundraising activities, internal channels, and Type 1 Diabetes Grand Challenge platforms.
- Build and manage relationships with external stakeholders to plan and deliver a communications strategy to engage the research and type 1 diabetes communities with the Type 1 Diabetes Grand Challenge.
- Collaborate with colleagues across media, marketing, content, brand and creative teams to produce high-quality, public-facing content and amplify research initiatives.
- Use your scientific literacy to ensure all research communications are accurate and evidence based.
- Assist in organising and promote research events, such as webinars, conferences and workshops.
- Support internal communications to raise the profile of diabetes research across the charity and ensure colleagues are supported to speak confidently about research.
- Provide communications support to the Type 1 Diabetes Grand Challenge team as needed.
- Represent Diabetes UK externally as a diabetes research expert, including delivering presentations to external audiences.
- Support the Research Communications Lead, the SMF Beta Cell Lead, and the Head of Research Impact and Communications in executing the research communications strategy and delivery of other work as necessary.

You will have experience in:

- Communicating complex scientific messages in accessible and creative ways.
- Developing impactful research content in multiple formats, tailored to meet non-specialist and specialist audience needs.
- Building excellent working relationships and collaborating effectively within multidisciplinary teams and across organisations.
- Tracking the effectiveness of communication efforts.

- Working independently with agreed objectives and plans, maintaining high attention to detail.
- Experience with content management systems, social media platforms and multimedia production.

**You will have skills in:**

- Highly organised, with the ability to manage multiple projects and adapt to changing priorities.
- Strong interpersonal skills to inspire, influence and build relationships.
- Excellent copywriting and editorial skills, with a talent for creating compelling written content.
- Excellent verbal communication skills, capable of communicating confidently to internal and external stakeholders.

**You will have knowledge:**

- Strong understanding of research methods, with an ability to interpret and critique scientific information and papers.
- Knowledge of effective science communication, with knowledge of or an interest in health research.

**The best person for this job will be (behaviours):**

**I make change happen**

- Comfortable working in a fast-paced, reactive communications environment.

**I put people first**

- A team player, willing to pull together with colleagues at busy times.
- Committed to improving the lives of people with diabetes.

**I keep things simple**

- Passionate about making science accessible.

**I am driven to know more**

- Proactive in identifying new opportunities to communicate about the value of research.
- Willing to build and maintain a strong understanding of diabetes research.

**Qualifications/professional membership (if applicable):**

A first- or second-class degree in a relevant scientific discipline is essential.

A post graduate qualification in a relevant scientific discipline or science communication is desirable.

# BENEFITS

We know you do more than just work. And that means you might be a parent, carer, friend, volunteer or partner.

We want to make sure that we can help you create a good balance between work and the other parts of your life.

And one way we do that is with benefits we offer you.



## Annual leave

We want you to make sure you get time off to rest and relax. So, all full-time permanent employees get 25 days off a year, with bank holidays on top of this.



## Connected working

We have adopted a 'connected working' way of working. This means that, for most roles, you are not required to work in an office location every day.



## Pension

We enrol everyone into our pension and all new colleagues joining us will get information on the pension scheme. We make an employer contribution of at least 5%.



## Healthcare

Our cash healthcare plan that allows you to claim back the cost of regular health appointments and treatment, like the dentist and optician.



## Learning and development

We help you to continually develop and achieve your career goals, including offering a wide range of training which happens throughout the year.



## Gym membership

We have a gym membership discount scheme through our cash healthcare plan provider. You can use this at a wide variety of gyms around the UK.



### Our Networks

A range of active and supportive colleague networks such as the Pride network, Global Majority network and Women's network.



### Early finish Friday

Early finish Friday and flexible working as part of our approach to activity-based working (not applicable to roles with fixed shift patterns).



### Employee assistance programme

Employee assistance programme to give you support on any issues that come up in life.



### Annual season ticket loan

Annual season ticket loan\* (on completion of your probation period and if contract is permanent or longer than 12 months).



### Cycle to work scheme

Cycle to work scheme.

## Get in touch

Email [recruitment@diabetes.org.uk](mailto:recruitment@diabetes.org.uk)

Call **0345 123 2399**

Visit [diabetes.org.uk](https://diabetes.org.uk)

Search **Diabetes UK** on Facebook, Twitter, YouTube and Instagram

