

JOB PURPOSE

Join us to strengthen PLSA's position as the voice of workplace pensions, helping everyone achieve a better income in retirement.

PLSA enters 2025 with a very significant policy and research agenda, reflective of the current profile of pensions in the national policy agenda and the need to maximise PLSA's impact in that context, as well as building out new capability around thought leadership. This makes it a particularly exciting time to join the team.

At PLSA we are committed to doing everything we can to improve the retirement incomes of savers in the UK. That means making sure they save adequately through their working lives, investing their money responsibly, ensuring the schemes they belong to can meet the highest standards, improving regulation so it works in the interests of our members and their members, and helping people to understand their options when they come to retire. We do this for, with and through our members.

This is a newly created role leading PLSA's active external affairs agenda, with a focus on political advocacy. PLSA's media function also sits within external affairs and the remit of the post but for this recruitment round we will be prioritising finding someone with a strong advocacy background.

Media experience would be a bonus. The postholder will provide leadership to a strong team, seeking to further amplify PLSA's external voice and reach. The postholder will also play a key role in the overall leadership of the Policy and Advocacy team, which is the largest team within the PLSA comprising 22 staff.

This post will report to the Director of Policy and Advocacy, with line management responsibility for the Head of PR and the Head of Parliamentary and Stakeholder affairs, and responsibility for a team of four overall.

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES AND EXPERIENCE

You will design and lead a strategic work programme to cover all external affairs activity, showing a clear link to PLSA's mission, that seeks to deliver measurable progress against our strategic objectives. You will actively engage with Government Ministers, officials, advisers, MPs, think tanks and other trade bodies as well as with the media at national, trade and local level. And you will co-ordinate 'set piece' policy-focussed events, including round tables and report publications (with assistance from the events team).

You will take responsibility for widening and securing PLSA's stakeholder network across Government and media to ensure we are always connected to those with the greatest influence over the delivery of our mission.

And you will help to lead the wider organisation, getting involved in senior governance groups and inspiring your direct reports and the wider team.

You will bring experience of having delivered effective, impactful advocacy campaigns and of dealing effectively with senior politicians and policy thinkers. You will have proven experience of operating at a senior level in an organisation of similar size and complexity, and be able to demonstrate strong leadership and management skills. An exceptional communicator, you will demonstrate persuasiveness and creative flair.

Ideally you will bring a strong relevant network with you into the role, and have a background in or strong understanding of financial services and pensions policy – although this is not essential.

Finally, you will be able to fit in well with the existing team, which is highly capable, committed and inclusive.

OTHER INFORMATION

We are based at offices in London. Our current discretionary arrangements are hybrid working with an expectation that staff attend the office at least 20% of the time, and attend other essential meetings and functions as required by their roles. As an example, the current Director spends around 40% to 60% of time in central London either at the PLSA's office or at those of key stakeholders such as Government departments, Parliament and the pensions industry.

The remuneration package is as follows:

- ▶ Salary up to £110,000 per annum, depending on experience
- ▶ Discretionary bonus of up to 10% based on performance
- ▶ Life assurance
- ▶ Pension of 20% (15% employer/5% employee) or 10% (10% employer/0% employee)
- ▶ Health cash plan

If you think you could be a good fit, we would love to hear from you.

Closing date for applications: 7th April 2025 at noon.