

Dear potential candidate,

Thank you for your interest in this role at SOMA UK.

This is a chance to join a very small team at a charity that regularly punches above it's weight in influence and in impact. We have an exciting vision and a delivery strategy to make it happen which we are in the early stages of developing. Your input could be crucial to making this a success.

Much of the role will involve working remotely and on your own, although our preference would be for hybrid working with at least one day a week contact time with the National Director. We have office facilities in Chiswick, London at the Mission Hall, Chiswick which is part of Christ Church W4.

Although SOMA UK will celebrate its 50th anniversary in 2028, it has the feel of a start-up as it grows and develops into a 21st Century mission agency. We are operating in an era where the church in the UK is increasingly aware of its past and present failings and lacks confidence in sharing ministry at home or abroad. SOMA bridges the gap between the Global South, where many churches are reaping a great harvest for God and the Western World, where many churches are in desperate need of the hope that seeing and joining that harvest could bring. That's why our strategy is to raise up 'learning cohorts' of leaders who grow and go together on a mission and bring back 'olive branches of hope to the UK.'

Nowhere is this better exemplified in the life of SOMA than in our new META Youth project which has been the inspiration for our wider strategy. On META young people are given a chance to 'go beyond' through our 10 month programme of video input, weekly online leadership intensives, in-person training days and helping to deliver a youth conference and mission in an overseas context.

And what is good for our 16-19s we believe will also be very good indeed for leaders starting out in Christian service, navigating midlife pitfalls or aiming to end their ministry well. The adventure of setting out on a SOMA mission as part of a learning cohort who have taken time to grow together will be utterly transformative for many.

In 2025 we want to pilot our first four learning cohorts, and then quickly multiply the cohorts over the coming years. We are handpicking leaders with genuine experience of seeing God move in miraculous ways to take teams through our core training on moving in the power of the Spirit in healing and deliverance ministry. Teams then have the chance to go and be part of facilitating that training as well as other bespoke and context specific biblical and leadership training in the many dioceses all over the world where Bishops are crying out to us to send teams.

Since the 2022 Lambeth Conference, the 2023 Global Anglican Futures Conference and the 2023/2024 Global South Fellowship of Anglicans gatherings, we have had a backlog of dioceses in the Global South requesting our SOMA teams to go. They find that even though the Western church may seem like it is flagging, there are still great benefits to them, as well as to us, of Sharing of Ministry Abroad. Most of our teams include people from neighbouring countries to the ones we are serving in which adds flavour and authenticity to the teaching and is transformative for the team as well. Many Bishops we meet report that their own lives were transformed when a SOMA team visited and some even received their call to ministry and episcopacy there.

So, in the coming years it is our hope that we will see a multiplication of both the META Youth project and these Learning Cohorts, all of which will feed into an expanding SOMA UK Community of Prayer. Prayer is at the heart of what we do, and we need to both pray and organise well to keep the place of prayer as high as it should be.

It seems that the way our founders set up SOMA meant it was birthed in prayer - half of all the planning meetings for the pre-Lambeth 1978 conference were given to prayer time. And it seems that God has taken this as the standard for SOMA. It stands or falls on its prayer life. For this reason the Operations Officer will need to see themselves as an adMinister of the charity, knowing when to pause and pray and capable of exercising spiritual discernment and great faith. The challenges ahead of us are abundant. The supplies of heaven even more.

If you are up for this vision and this great challenge we would love to hear from you. Please check out our identity, purpose, mission and values statements in the 2023 document signed by our Chair of Trustees Ven Kevin Roberts and check if you feel you can wholeheartedly stand by them. Then pray. If God is calling you to this role he will make it clear, and we will be delighted to receive your application.

Simply send me a covering letter with an up to date CV via email to richard.moy@somauk.org. The CV should include two referees, one of whom should be able to comment on your working practice and the other on your suitability to work in a Christian mission agency.

The covering letter should include details on what has attracted you to the job and how you hope you might develop in the role, as well as briefly outlining the ways you think that you are able to meet the requirements of the Job Description.

I very much look forward to hearing from you.



Richard Moy
National Director