**VOLUNTEER ROLE DESCRIPTION**

**POST TITLE** Campaigns Champion – MP’s

**FUNCTION** To attend MP surgeries and promote Wildlife Trust campaigns

**MAIN CONTACT** Campaigns Officer

**COMMITMENT**  2 – 8 hours a week for 8-12 months

**LOCATION**  Need to be able to travel to the local MP’s office (home based while surgeries are online). Occasional travel to a Cheshire Wildlife Trust office (CH2 4GB or SY14 8EF) might be needed.

**Our aims**

Nature is facing a threefold crisis with the combined threats of the loss of biodiversity, the climate crisis and people’s disconnect from nature. As part of our new strategy for the next decade, we need to inspire widespread action on every front if we are to help nature recover. To make this happen, 1 in 4 people need to be inspired to do something for the environment – that’s around 600,000 people across our region.

**Our campaigns**

Cheshire Wildlife Trust runs a mix of national and local campaigns designed to secure the changes we need in our society to promote nature’s recovery.

This year alone, we’ve run big campaigns to influence major national issues including HS2, planning reforms and the Environment Bill. For these campaigns to be effective, we need to be able to rapidly mobilise supporters to respond to consultations, contact MPs and spread the word far and wide.

While we arrange regular meeting with MPs, the fact that we have 24 within our area means we can’t meet with them as often as we would like. We therefore need enthusiastic people to regularly attend MP surgeries and present our issues to our political leaders in person.

Our overall aim is to establish an effective local campaigns network able to reach out to all our MPs at important campaigning moments and ensure that they are briefed on key issues.

**This role involves:**

* Attending Cheshire Wildlife Trust monthly online campaigns briefings
* Attending MP surgeries in person and online (whichever is being offered by your MP)
* Researching your MP
* Writing to your MPs about our most important campaigns
* Identifying any local issues that might interest your MP
* Providing updates on communication with your MP (including their office staff) to the Campaigns Officer
* Maintaining a positive relationship between your MP (including their office staff) and Cheshire Wildlife Trust.

**This role suits someone who:**

* likes interacting with community leaders (e.g. councillors, MPs or parish councillors)

• has good networking, verbal and written communication skills

• is diplomatic and understanding in their approach to persuading people

• is interested in local issues

• is reliable, proactive, passionate and able to use initiative

• has good research skills

**This voluntary role offers:**

This is a fantastic volunteering opportunity to offer your skills to help connect our political leaders to wildlife in Cheshire. The role offers the flexibility of doing things independently in your own time whilst offering some interaction with a close knit team.

You can build your communications experience and become a part of a growing community of activists who want to make a difference in our local area. On top of that, you’ll be supporting a well-established regional charity, helping make a difference to local wildlife while enhancing your own CV.

**Support and Training:**

We will support this role through campaigns training sessions as well through guidance from the Campaigns Officer. Volunteers will also have access to our campaign webinars, monthly briefings and the opportunity to network with Trust staff and volunteers!

**I’m interested – what should I do?**

To apply please **send us your CV and no more than 200 words** explaining why you want to volunteer for this role and what makes you a good fit for it. Send expressions of interest and CVs to: volunteering@cheshirewt.org.uk.

**Other things to know:**

If you’re interested and have the skills required, we’ll invite you to a Zoom chat.

Cheshire Wildlife Trust is a charity so we can’t pay all expenses for volunteers. In special circumstances or, if asked to travel to a certain location, some travel expenses can be paid. These cases can be discussed with the Campaigns Officer in advance.

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