



Treasurer Role

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

About SCMA

The Scottish Childminding Association (SCMA) is the only national organisation in Scotland dedicated to supporting all aspects of childminding. SCMA is a Registered Charity and national Third Sector organisation which works nationally to influence the development and implementation of policy and practice as they impact on childminding; we are a professional membership organisation (approx. 2500 members / 82% of the childminding workforce), provide a range of membership services, represent our members' concerns and provide a professional voice for the wider childminding workforce; we have a number of local contracts to deliver services for local authorities to support childminders and vulnerable children and families; and are also a national delivery partner. Our Head Office is in Stirling and we currently have a dedicated Team of 45 staff working around Scotland.

About Childminding

Childminding is a unique, high-quality form of registered childcare and family support delivered in a home setting for children from 0-12 years or 16 years in the case of children with additional support needs (ASNs). As such, it spans and provides both pre-school and school-age childcare, enables children of different ages to learn and play together which can benefit different aspects of development, and also enables siblings of different ages to be cared for together. Childminding is a very high-quality form of childcare with childminders consistently scoring higher ratings across all quality criteria, through independent inspection by the Care Inspectorate, than 'Daycare of Children Services' (local authority and private nurseries combined); 92% of childminders were rated 'Good' or higher in the last reported year. Childminding is also delivered in small groups with a higher element of one-to-one support.

SCMA Strategy

The childminding workforce had been declining acutely in Scotland, resulting in a reduction in the availability of childminders and childminding places to support children, families and communities around Scotland. In May 2021, mid-pandemic and when few were looking forward, SCMA launched its strategy 'Changing the Narrative: Strengthening Childminding, Supporting Families & Increasing Choice', to promote recovery and as the first stage in a longer ten-year journey to address this decline and wider inter-connected issues. This provided a catalyst for change during which SCMA has taken a lead nationally on developing a sustainable childminding workforce; increased the relevance of childminding to different policy agendas (employment, community and economic development, remote and rural, child poverty etc); elevated childminding to become a national policy priority; significantly increased the profile of and value attached to childminding; become a leader and innovator within our sector; and secured significant funding to support the implementation of our strategy. Read our Impact Report to learn more. In May 2024 we launched our current three-year strategy, 'Changing the Narrative Stage 2: Childminding – Providing Solutions for Scotland', as the second stage on our journey which will see us moving into more of a delivery phase. A short, accessible animation has also been produced to provide an overview of our work to date and where we are going.

Financial profile

SCMA is experiencing growth. Our annual turnover increased from £1.7m to £3.2m between 2018/19 and 2021/22 (2022/23 accounts currently being audited). During this time, the size and value of our local authority service contracts have increased in size and value, SCMA has established partnerships to pilot a new model of childminder recruitment and become a national delivery pattern - delivering a number of national projects including the Programme for Scotland's Childminding Future (PSCF), a three-year national programme on childminder retention and recruitment launched in June 2024, predominantly funded by the Scottish Government (£1m in 2024/25) and delivered by SCMA. This programme will see SCMA partnering with 23 local authorities during this year. SCMA has an in-house Finance Team of 6 staff (mixture of full time and part time staff)

Role profile

The role of Treasurer could appeal to a finance professional (accountant or auditor) who is mid-career and wishing to undertake some personal and professional development or to a later career stage professional who is perhaps adjusting their work/life balance or is recently retired, and wishing to use their experience, make a difference and give something back to the community.

Application process

If you believe you have the skills and experience and could make a difference in this role, we would love to hear from you.

All applicants must complete an application form including providing a competency-based statement demonstrating their possession of the experience, skills and knowledge required to fulfil this role.

If you have any questions or wish to discuss the role in more detail, please contact Louise Buchanan, Director of Corporate Services in the first instance. Email louise.buchanan@childminding.org

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