The Alan Turing Institute

SENIOR EXTERNAL COMMUNICATIONS MANAGER

THE ALAN TURING INSTITUTE

The Alan Turing Institute is the UK's national institute for AI and data science. We are named in honour of Alan Turing, whose pioneering work in mathematics, engineering and computing helped shape the development of modern AI and remains an enduring example of how technical innovation can serve the national interest.

Our mission is to secure the UK's resilience for the age of AI. We do this by bringing together expertise from across the country to protect critical systems against disruption, counter AI-enabled threats and shape UK strategic AI capability.

This is an exciting time to join us as we enter a new phase, with new leadership and a strategy focused on strengthening the nation's resilience and shaping a better future.

BACKGROUND

This is an exciting time to work in AI communications, as advances in technology, growing public interest and important questions about AI's opportunities and risks create new opportunities to inform debate and shape understanding.

The Senior External Communications Manager is a key figure within our Communications and Engagement Directorate, bringing creativity, sound judgement and a flair for turning complex information into accessible and engaging stories.

ROLE PURPOSE

With a passion for effective communication and a natural eye for great storytelling, the Senior External Communications Manager will play a key role in strengthening the Institute's reputation and communicating the value and impact of our science and innovation.

You'll lead our proactive and reactive media relations activity, building strong relationships with journalists and commentators and identifying opportunities to raise the profile of our work.

Alongside this, you'll help shape and deliver strategic external communications across the Institute's priorities, leading communications projects, announcements and campaigns, developing compelling content and providing expert advice to senior leaders and researchers.

The role also includes leading and developing a small external communications team, working closely with colleagues across the wider directorate.

HOW YOU WILL MAKE AN IMPACT

- Shape and lead strategic external communications across key Institute priorities.
- Find and tell powerful stories about our research, people and impact, identifying opportunities for media coverage and creative storytelling.
- Build strong relationships with journalists, commentators, senior stakeholders, researchers and external partners.
- Advise senior leaders and researchers on messaging, media opportunities and reputation.
- Develop and deliver strategic communications campaigns and thought leadership opportunities, writing and editing compelling, high-profile content across a range of channels and audiences.
- Help shape the Institute's response to emerging and sensitive issues.
- Lead and develop a small external communications team.
- Work collaboratively across communications, policy and research communities.

Please note that job descriptions cannot be exhaustive, and the postholder may be required to undertake other duties, which are broadly in line with the above key responsibilities. This job description is written at a specific time and is subject to changes as the demands of the Institute and the role develop.

The Alan Turing Institute

PERSON SPECIFICATION		
Skills and Requirements Post holders will be expected to demonstrate the following:	**Essential (E)** **Desirable (D)**	**Tested at application (A)** **Tested at interview (I)**
Significant experience in external communications media relations or public relations, with a strong track record of shaping and delivering strategic, high-quality proactive and reactive communications.	E	A/I
Experience of developing, implementing and evaluating communications projects campaigns and announcements, with a clear understanding of what makes communications effective.	E	A/I
Excellent written and verbal communication skills with the ability to translate complex information into clear, accurate and engaging content across a range of channels and for different audiences.	E	A/I
Experience of delivering proactive and reactive media relations, including handling sensitive and complex issues or crisis communications	E	A/I
Strong influencing and interpersonal skills with the confidence and credibility to advise and build effective relationships with senior leaders, scientific colleagues and other key stakeholders.	E	A/I
Experience of leading, managing and developing a team creating clarity, and accountability	E	A/I
Experience of science communications or working in a research-focused organisation.	D	A/I
Commitment to EDI principles and to the Organisation values	E	I

The Alan Turing Institute

APPLICATION PROCEDURE

If you are interested in this opportunity, please click the apply button below. You will need to register on the applicant portal and complete the application form including your CV and covering letter. If you have questions about the role or would like to apply using a different format, please contact us at recruitment@turing.ac.uk.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

This is a full-time post is offered on a permanent basis. The annual salary is £62,000 - £67,000 excellent benefits, including flexible working and family friendly policies, Benefits at the Turing | The Alan Turing Institute.

The Alan Turing Institute is based at the British Library, in the heart of London's Knowledge Quarter. We offer a flexible, hybrid approach to working, recognising the benefits of both remote working and in-person collaboration. Office attendance expectations may vary depending on the role, team and organisational needs, and may evolve over time. The hiring team will be happy to discuss the current arrangements during the interview process.

EQUALITY, DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION

We value diversity of background, experience, and perspective, and are proud to be an inclusive employer. We warmly encourage applications from all backgrounds, particularly from groups currently under-represented in our sector. If you feel passionate about this role but don't meet every single requirement, please apply – we recognise that great candidates may bring strengths beyond the criteria listed.

We are committed to making sure our recruitment process is accessible and inclusive. This includes making reasonable adjustments for candidates who have a disability or long-term condition. Please contact us at recruitment@turing.ac.uk to advise us how we can assist you.

Please note all offers of employment are subject to obtaining and retaining the right to work in the UK and satisfactory pre-employment security screening which includes a DBS Check.

Full details on the pre-employment screening process can be requested from HR@turing.ac.uk

The Alan Turing Institute

OUR VALUES

The Alan Turing Institute is committed to equality diversity and inclusion and to eliminating discrimination. All employees are expected to embrace, follow and promote our EDI Principles and Our values.

