BioVale Chief Executive Officer
Biorenewables Development Centre

Closing date: 30 March 2018
Interview date: To be confirmed
Vacancy reference: 6518
INTRODUCTION

BioVale is a cluster development organisation focused upon the growth of the bioeconomy across the Yorkshire and Humber region. The aim is to build upon the region’s world-class strengths in the bioeconomy and establish it as an internationally recognised cluster for bio-based innovation, focusing on renewable raw materials and agricultural technology. BioVale is a not-for-profit company, supported and steered by regional industry, research organisations, higher education and government. Customers of BioVale include small/medium and multinational businesses, academic groups and public sector organisations.

The University of York requires a new CEO to lead the BioVale executive team. This is a varied and challenging full time leadership role requiring a highly consultative approach. Reporting to the BDC Director/BioVale Ltd Chair, the BioVale CEO will lead the BioVale Innovation Cluster’s executive team in developing and promoting Yorkshire and the Humber as a centre for innovation in the global bioeconomy. Central to this role is development and management of key aspects of a HEFCE Project and a parallel European Regional Development Fund project, both focused on the bioeconomy.
JOB DESCRIPTION

Main purpose of the role

Reporting to the BDC Director/BioVale Ltd Chair; the BioVale CEO will lead the BioVale Innovation Cluster’s executive team in developing and promoting Yorkshire and the Humber as a centre for innovation in the global bioeconomy. Central to this role is development and management of key aspects of the HEFCE and European Regional Development Fund projects. The role also involves participation in a range of other ongoing EU and UK funded collaborative projects and partnerships. The CEO will take the lead in co-ordinating project team resources and tasks to achieve the required deliverables and milestones for all of these projects; engaging with and reporting to the industry led BioVale Steering Group: generating papers for BioVale Ltd meetings; acting as an advisor to senior managers on policy and strategic issues which rely on the successful outcomes of projects. The post holder will engender an ambitious and highly innovative outlook for the BioVale cluster to help establish the cluster region as a world-leader in bioeconomy activities.

Key responsibilities

- Develop academic/industry/public sector networks to deliver innovation and social, environmental and economic impact from academic research
- Collaborate with external stakeholders to raise the reputation of Yorkshire and the Humber as a hub for innovation in the global bioeconomy
- Generate ideas for collaborative innovation projects, build consortia, prepare project briefs/ plans and bid for external funding to support the ideas
- Manage project scoping, planning, initiation, development, review and completion processes, to achieve stated deliverables and milestones
- Be a key enabler of change, by translating plans into action
- Manage BioVale Ltd’s finances and associated issues/ risks
- Build a multidisciplinary BioVale executive team, providing vision and strategic direction
- Provide effective management reporting to the project management board and other project governing bodies
- Act as a representative and ambassador for the project in relationships with key stakeholders, internal departments and external bodies
- Develop and maintain agreed project plans, defining criteria for control and management of the project and assessment of risk
- Maintain professional contacts, interest and knowledge in the development of the bioeconomy

At a glance

Salary: Grade 8 / £49,149—£56,950 a year
Hours of work: Full Time / 37 hours a week
Contract type: Open Contract
Based at: The Biorenewables Development Centre, Dunnington
# PERSON SPECIFICATION

## Qualifications

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<tr>
<th>Essential / Desirable</th>
<th>Qualifications</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Essential</td>
<td>First degree in biological, chemical sciences or other relevant discipline</td>
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<td>Desirable</td>
<td>PhD in subject relevant to the Bioeconomy</td>
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<td>Essential</td>
<td>Well-established national and international reputation in innovation in the bioeconomy</td>
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<td>Essential</td>
<td>Professional qualification in business or management or equivalent knowledge or experience</td>
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## Knowledge

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<tr>
<td>Essential</td>
<td>Expert knowledge in the bioeconomy to underpin development and management of collaborative innovation projects</td>
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<td>Essential</td>
<td>Awareness of the funding streams available and the current agenda around research &amp; innovation funding</td>
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<tr>
<td>Desirable</td>
<td>Expertise in innovation in the bioeconomy that will complement and enhance the department’s research strategy and goals</td>
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## Skills, abilities and competencies

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<tr>
<th>Essential / Desirable</th>
<th>Skills, abilities and competencies</th>
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<tr>
<td>Essential</td>
<td>Ability to communicate new and complex information effectively, both verbally and in writing, engaging the interest and enthusiasm of the target audience</td>
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<td>Desirable</td>
<td>Ability to build consortia for R&amp;D projects which may be drawn from several disciplines and located in several geographic regions or countries</td>
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<td>Desirable</td>
<td>Ability to develop proposals for collaborative innovation projects which will make a significant economic, environmental or societal impact through discovery or development of new bio-based products or processes</td>
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<td>Essential</td>
<td>Ability to undertake management and administrative tasks associated with specified project funding, including leading and developing staff within their projects; risk assessment of project activities; organisation of project meetings and documentation; preparation of annual reports</td>
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<td>Essential</td>
<td>Ability to undertake the overall management of an executive team and projects it undertakes, including budget management and business planning, and contribute to University strategic planning as appropriate</td>
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# PERSON SPECIFICATION

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<th>Experience</th>
<th>Essential / Desirable</th>
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<tr>
<td>Experience in engagement with a broad range of academic, industry and government stakeholders to deliver innovation from research</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<tr>
<td>Experience of delivering sustained and consistent, publically-verifiable impact from academic research</td>
<td>Desirable</td>
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<td>Evidence of influencing policy and/or contribution to national or international bodies</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<td>Evidence of active participation in the planning and advancement of innovation projects</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<td>Proven experience of attracting and obtaining significant external innovation funding</td>
<td>Desirable</td>
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<td>Experience of building and leading successful project teams</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<td>Successful management of R&amp;D projects including managing the work of a project team and providing it with expert advice and guidance</td>
<td>Desirable</td>
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### Personal attributes

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<tr>
<td>Leadership qualities</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<tr>
<td>Attention to detail and commitment to high quality</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<td>Collaborative ethos</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<td>Commitment to promoting the public understanding of research and scholarship</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<td>Positive attitude to colleagues and students and their professional development</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<td>Willingness to work proactively with colleagues in other work areas/institutions</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<td>Ability to plan and prioritise own work in order to meet deadlines</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<td>Commitment to personal development and updating of knowledge and skills and that of the team where appropriate</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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BioVale is a cluster development organisation focused upon the growth of the bioeconomy across the Yorkshire and Humber region. The aim is to build upon the region’s world-class strengths in the bioeconomy and establish it as an internationally recognised centre for bio-based innovation, focusing on renewable raw materials and agricultural technology. In this way, the cluster aims to stimulate sustainable economic growth and encourage inward investment. BioVale is a not-for-profit company, supported and steered by regional industry, research organisations, higher education and government. The cluster prioritises those areas of regional strength with the greatest opportunity for economic and environmental benefits primarily:

- value from biowastes and by-products of agri-food supply chains,
- high-value chemicals and advanced fuels from plants and microbes,
- smart collaboration between agri-tech and industrial biotech.

The BioVale cluster provides the support needed to build the region’s capability and reputation as an innovation cluster for the bioeconomy and ensure that it fully exploits new business opportunities in this sector. The interventions needed have been identified through extensive consultation with the region’s bioeconomy stakeholders.

- We give regional businesses access to the latest bioeconomy research and expertise and help to provide them with specialised training, facilities, funding and other support.
- We facilitate networking, dialogue and partnerships amongst the region’s bio-based innovators and their supply chains.
- We promote the region’s bioeconomy assets to export markets, investors, policy makers, and funders.
- We support the developing agri-tech innovation cluster at the National Agri-food Innovation Campus.
THE UNIVERSITY

Founded on principles of excellence, equality and opportunity for all, the University of York opened in 1963 with just 230 students. In 2018 it is the home of more than 17,000 students across more than 30 academic departments and research centres. Since opening over fifty years ago, we have become one of the world’s leading universities and a member of the prestigious Russell Group.

We are consistently recognised as one of the leading Higher Education Institutes and are ranked 16th in the Times & Sunday Times league table (2017). The University of York has won six Times Higher Education (THE) Awards and five Queen’s Anniversary Prizes.

The University is proud of its association with Athena SWAN, holding 12 awards in support of gender equality, representation and success for all, with gold awards for Chemistry and Biology and a University-wide bronze award.

Of 154 universities that took part in the Research Excellence Framework (REF) in 2014, The University of York ranked 14th overall and 10th for the impact of our research. The University is consistently in the top ten UK research universities and attracts over £60m a year of funding from research alone.

Our vision is to make the University of York a world leader in the creation of knowledge through fundamental and applied research, the sharing of knowledge by teaching students from varied backgrounds and the application of knowledge for the health, prosperity and well-being of people and society.
THE UNIVERSITY

Attractive workplace

Centred around the picturesque village of Heslington on the edge of the city of York, our colleges are set in an attractive landscaped campus. York enjoys a safe, friendly atmosphere with facilities including bars, shops, theatres and concert halls all within easy walking distance.

The University has undergone an unprecedented period of expansion and renewal since 2000. We have invested in twenty new buildings on the original campus and have completed the first and second phases of a £750m campus expansion. Our investment in new colleges, teaching and learning spaces, laboratories, research facilities and a new sports village mean there has never been a better time to join us.

During this period of change we’ve worked hard to retain our friendly, informal and collegiate atmosphere, which is important to our core values of inclusivity and interdisciplinarity.

We have a thriving international community and are committed to providing staff moving to York with as much support as possible through our Relocation Package and Welcome Officers.

The University is committed to promoting a diverse and inclusive community - a place where we can all be ourselves and succeed on merit. We offer a range of family friendly, inclusive employment policies, flexible working arrangements, staff engagement forums, campus facilities and services to support staff from different backgrounds.

For further information please visit our employee benefit pages.
THE CITY AND THE REGION

The City of York

Internationally acclaimed for its rich heritage and historic architecture, York's bustling streets are filled with visitors from all over the world. Within its medieval walls you will find the iconic gothic Minster, Clifford's Tower and the Shambles - just a few of the many attractions.

But York isn't just a great place to visit - it's also a great place to live and work. While nourishing a vibrant cosmopolitan atmosphere, York still maintains the friendly sense of community unique to a small city.

Visit www.visityork.org for more information on the city of York

Shopping, culture and entertainment

York boasts specialist and unique boutiques but also all the high street stores on its busy shopping streets. Alongside them you will find cinemas, theatres, an opera house, art galleries, a vast range of restaurants, live music venues and clubs. York is particularly renowned for its multitude of pubs and bars, from the modern to the medieval.

Housing and schools

Whether you choose to live close to the city, in one of the surrounding villages or further afield, you will find a wide range of housing within comfortable distance of York and the University. For families, the area has a range of excellent schools both in the state and independent sector.

Great location

York is one of Britain's best-connected cities. Halfway between London and Edinburgh on the East Coast mainline, on intercity trains you can reach London King's Cross in less than two hours and Edinburgh in two and a half hours. York is also well served by road links, and it is easily accessible from the A1, M1 and the M62.

For those travelling from overseas, Manchester Airport is two hours away and Heathrow Airport just three and a half. Flights from nearby Leeds Bradford Airport provide easy access to mainland Europe. By Eurostar from London St Pancras, Paris is just over six hours away.

Yorkshire

The Lonely Planet guide recently declared Yorkshire the third best region in the world to visit. There is something to cater to every taste, whether it be the rugged landscapes of the Moors or the Dales, the picturesque seaside towns of Scarborough and Robin Hoods Bay, the gothic architecture of Whitby or the vibrancy of cosmopolitan Leeds.
Apply online

- Go to https://jobs.york.ac.uk
- Find this job using reference 6518
- Complete the online application form

You will need to submit your completed application by midnight (local UK time) on 30 March 2018

What will I need?

We will ask you for details of:

- your employment history
- relevant qualifications
- two referees

You need to be ready to show us how you meet the requirements of the job, either in a written statement and/or by answering questions.

Help and assistance

Direct any informal queries to info@biovale.org

If you have any questions about your application, contact the HR Services team:

recruitment@york.ac.uk
+44 (0)1904 324835