

Vacancy

Evangelical Alliance appointment of

Public policy officer (Northern Ireland)

(Part time 2.5 days/17.5 hours per week)



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Introduction from the CEO

The Evangelical Alliance is the largest and oldest body serving evangelical Christians in the UK. Since 1846, we've been uniting Christians and making their voices heard in the corridors of power. We've also been equipping churches for mission, inspiring them to drive the spiritual, social and physical transformation of their communities.

In John 17 – the final prayer of Jesus – Christ prays: “I in them and you in me – so that they may be brought to complete unity. Then the world will know that you sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me.” We believe that the unity Jesus prayed for is reflected in the church coming together, setting aside denominational differences, and working together for the gospel.

This is an exciting and challenging time to be a part of this organisation that I'm so privileged to lead. Our annual report, included in this document, gives you a flavour of the projects, programmes and campaigns that we've been involved in over the past year and just how we are making a difference. The global pandemic changed everything, but we remain committed to our vision of together making Jesus known.

Thank you for taking the time to consider applying to the Evangelical Alliance. We're praying that God brings the right people to us.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gavin Calver".

Gavin Calver
CEO
Evangelical Alliance

About the Evangelical Alliance

The Evangelical Alliance joins together hundreds of organisations, thousands of churches and tens of thousands of individuals for the sake of the gospel. Working across the UK, with offices in London, Cardiff, Stockport, Glasgow and Belfast, our members come together from across denominations, locations, age groups and ethnicities, all sharing a passion to know Jesus and make Him known. Today our dedication to serving the church, and society at large, is as strong as ever.

Like the evangelicals who have gone before us – those who abolished the slave trade, those who reformed our justice system, those who championed education for all – we are dedicated to blessing those around us as we worship God with all that we have and all that we are.

Today it is evangelicals who are at the heart of debt counselling, street pastors, night shelters and foodbanks. Today it is active evangelical faith that is making a profound difference throughout our communities for the sake of the gospel. We speak up on behalf of those who are maligned and marginalised, affirming freedoms and proclaiming the good news of Jesus in words and in action.

We love Jesus and we want everyone in the UK to be given an opportunity to know Him. We love His church, and we will do all we can to unite evangelicals, building confidence in the gospel and speaking as a trusted voice into society to see it changed for Him.

eauk.org

Who we're looking for

Are you passionate about the church having a voice in public life?

Now more than ever, Christians need to speak into a vast range of issues in government, politics and the media. The Evangelical Alliance is the largest and oldest body representing the UK's two million evangelical Christians. For over 175 years, we have been bringing Christians together and helping them to listen to, and be heard by, the government, media and society.

We are seeking a public policy officer to implement our UK advocacy strategy in Northern Ireland by monitoring the activities of the Northern Ireland Assembly and related political structures. The post holder will represent the voice of evangelicals to elected representatives, policymakers and the media. You will engage with individual, church and organisational members of the Evangelical Alliance in order to analyse and inform public policy consultations at the Assembly and wider discussion in public life.

The successful candidate will have:

- experience of lobbying or working with political decision-makers
- a good knowledge of political processes and major issues of public debate
- good analytical and briefing skills
- excellent communication, organisational and relational skills
- the ability and motivation to address political issues from an evangelical Christian perspective.

About the role

Job title:	Public policy officer (Northern Ireland)
Responsible to:	Operationally responsible to the head of the Evangelical Alliance in Northern Ireland (day-to-day line management) Functionally responsible to the Evangelical Alliance director of advocacy (leads in goal and objective setting)

Overall purpose of the role:

- To implement the UK advocacy strategy in Northern Ireland by monitoring the activities of the Northern Ireland Assembly and related political structures.
- To represent the voice of evangelicals in the Northern Ireland Assembly to elected representatives, policy makers and the media.
- To analyse and report upon public policy and legislation in Northern Ireland from an evangelical Christian perspective.
- To liaise with church and voluntary bodies with similar concerns, so that wherever possible action will be complementary to work done by other evangelical organisations.

Key responsibilities:

- Implement the Evangelical Alliance's UK advocacy strategy in Northern Ireland under the day-to-day operational direction of the head of the Evangelical Alliance in Northern Ireland, and in liaison with the director of advocacy, assisting the director of advocacy to review the effectiveness of the advocacy strategy and to revise it as necessary.
- Liaise with the head of public policy in monitoring the activities of the Northern Ireland Assembly, government departments, political parties and other relevant groups, producing monthly and annual reports for the head of public policy.
- Monitor Northern Ireland media as it reports and offer comment on matters of concern to evangelicals in accordance with the advocacy strategy.
- Liaise with the head of public policy to analyse and comment upon current and potential public policy and Northern Ireland Assembly legislation from a Christian perspective in liaison with the head of public policy.
- Proactively build strategic relationships with members of the Northern Ireland Assembly, their advisers, civil servants, media and others concerned with government, public affairs and public services in Northern Ireland in order to offer support and represent evangelical perspectives to those groups.
- Maintain a visible presence in the Northern Ireland Assembly, leveraging strategic relationships with elected representatives and Assembly procedure to represent the concerns of the evangelical constituency and further the goals of the advocacy strategy.

- Inform Evangelical Alliance Northern Ireland members and others of major political and socially important developments relevant to the advocacy strategy in order to encourage prayer and other appropriate responses.
- Assist churches in Northern Ireland as they seek to engage in the public square at both a national (NI) and a local level within the framework of the advocacy strategy and, where necessary, providing advice and practical assistance where possible.
- Develop and grow networks for young adults for public leadership both locally and nationally.
- Form coalitions with other groups working in areas of interest within the framework of the advocacy strategy, ensuring the Evangelical Alliance plays a key role in these coalitions as authorised by the head of the Evangelical Alliance in Northern Ireland in liaison with the director of advocacy.
- Speak at churches and other events, promoting the advocacy and general work of the Evangelical Alliance in Northern Ireland.
- Participate in the team activities and strategic projects of the Evangelical Alliance UK advocacy team, producing outputs which contribute to the wider UK team goals in ways commensurate with individual expertise and the wider needs of the Evangelical Alliance as directed by the director of advocacy.

The post holder will be required to work on their own initiative, and to plan and prioritise their work to deliver quality outputs to tight deadlines.

There are some activities which apply to all members of staff, and these are listed below:

- To further the aims and objectives of the Evangelical Alliance
- To undertake training and personal development through participation in the Evangelical Alliance's performance review programme
- To manage one's own learning and contribute to the learning of others
- To maintain and develop the ethos of the Evangelical Alliance ([Ethos Statement and Code of Conduct](#)).
- To regularly pray for the work of the Evangelical Alliance.

The above list of job duties is not exclusive or exhaustive, and the postholder will be required to undertake such tasks as may reasonably be expected within the scope and level of the post.

This post is subject to an Occupational Requirement that the postholder is a committed evangelical Christian.

This job description will be reviewed annually as part of the annual appraisal process.

April 2025

About you

Your experience, skills and abilities

The role of public policy officer (Northern Ireland) requires a committed evangelical Christian who can demonstrate the following, which will be tested at application (A), interview (I) and reference (R).

E = Essential / **D** = Desirable

Your education/training:

- Educated to degree level or equivalent, ideally in a relevant discipline such as law, politics or theology – **E** (AI)

Your experience:

- At least two years' research experience including dealing with complex and analytical written materials – **E** (AI)
- Direct experience of influencing, lobbying and working with political and other decision makers in Northern Ireland – **D** (AI)

Your skills/abilities:

- Able to demonstrate a good knowledge of the political structures and processes in Northern Ireland and how they interact with those in Great Britain, Republic of Ireland and EU – **E** (AI)
- Able to demonstrate a basic grasp of the major issues of public debate in Northern Ireland today and understanding of biblical teaching on at least some of the issues – **E** (AI)
- Able to demonstrate a capacity for analysing political arguments and interpreting them from a biblical perspective – **E** (AI)
- Able to demonstrate a good grasp of the church scene in Northern Ireland – **E** (AI)
- Good understanding of the work of the Evangelical Alliance in Northern Ireland and the rest of the UK – **D** (AI)
- Ability to work as part of a close-knit team – **E** (AI)
- Strong organisational skills with the ability to prioritise your own work, meet deadlines and work unsupervised – **E** (AI)
- Excellent communication and presentation skills, both verbal and written – **E** (AI)
- Ability to network and build relationships – **E** (AI)
- Confident in using digital technology and online platforms; able to manage communication co-ordination across multiple platforms – **E** (AI)
- Willingness to work outside of normal working hours on occasion – **E** (AI)

Your personal qualities:

- A clear commitment to the Christian faith and agreement with the Evangelical Alliance's Basis of Faith and Ethos Statement – **E** (AI)
- Able to identify and be committed to the vision and mission of the Evangelical Alliance and to reflect our values – **E** (AI)
- Evidence of regular commitment and participation in the life of the local church life and an ongoing commitment to personal Christian discipleship – **E** (AIR)

April 2025

ANNUAL REPORT SNAPSHOT 2023–24

**Just as a body,
though one, has
many parts, but
all its many parts
form one body, so
it is with Christ.**

1 Corinthians 12:12



What an incredible year it has been! First,

I want to say thank you – we are so grateful to the more than 5,000 new personal members who joined the Evangelical Alliance this year. We remain so thankful to the many who have been with us for longer too and we look forward to journeying together as we continue to serve our membership wholeheartedly.

There have been countless highlights – we have been so encouraged as we have equipped many churches, organisations and individuals to make Jesus known this year, and our range of innovative mission and discipleship resources continue to be well received. The many opportunities we have had to engage with policymakers continue to be a great blessing, and we have spoken up wherever possible on behalf of evangelicals. It has also been wonderful to celebrate the 10-year anniversary of our One People Commission; this vital work continues

to seek to bring unity across all ethnicities.

Across the four nations of the UK, we have cheered on local church leaders, supporting and helping our members on the ground wherever God has positioned you.

It's been a great personal joy for me to minister and visit many member ministries; the breadth of churches we serve is a delight and I have also loved seeing many people give their lives to Jesus.

I am so grateful to the amazing staff team and board that I serve with. However, the Evangelical Alliance is not a staff team; it is a membership organisation, and I am profoundly thankful to every church, organisation and personal member who stands with us. Let's continue to make Jesus known together throughout the United Kingdom.

Every blessing,

Gavin Calver
CEO



Celebrating a year of highlights...

Record
growth:
5,000+
new personal
members!

April

We forged new relationships with government ministers after we welcomed the *Bloom Report*, calling on the government to deepen its engagement with faith groups.



June

We represented our members at the National Parliamentary Prayer Breakfast in Westminster Hall.

August

Evangelical parents and carers responded in great numbers to our survey on relationships, sex and health education, and we highlighted your concerns to government and parliamentarians.

May

We brought together representatives from 50 organisations and member churches in Scotland for an amazing day of prayer for the nation.

July

As part of a six-way mission partnership, we launched the refreshed Talking Jesus website and new resources to help churches grow in confident evangelism.

September

We equipped Christian parents, carers and leaders to navigate conversations about relationships and sex education with *Time to Talk*.

Sharing hope
to the nation:

150+

TV, radio and podcast
appearances carrying
the voice of the UK
church

“A game-changer”,
“vital”, “hugely
encouraging”, and “a
ray of hope” – church
leaders’ responses
to the *Talking Jesus*
research

Helping you find
what you need:

700,000+

visits to our website,
providing evangelicals with
quality resources for mission,
unity and advocacy





We're here for our members: more than

1,000

speaking engagements, talks, teaching sessions and meetings with church and organisational leaders

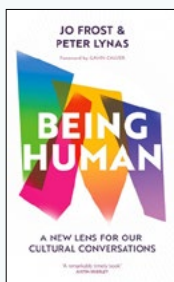
We're speaking up:

100+

appearances before government, parliamentary engagements or meetings with civil servants, politicians, MPs, MLAs, MSPs, MSs and other policymakers

October

We released *Being Human: A new lens for our cultural conversations* – a guide for everyone who wants to live out and share the good, true and beautiful biblical vision of what it is to be human.



December

We celebrated 10 years of the One People Commission as we work to build unity across all ethnicities in the evangelical church.

February

We helped government and media to better understand evangelicals in Northern Ireland by publishing the *Good news people* report, with positive results, to inform future engagement.



November

We gathered online for the International Day of Prayer for the persecuted church with three of our member organisations – almost 2,000 people signed up to the event.

Coming alongside the next generation: we empowered

24

young leaders to be culture-shapers on our Public Leader programme



January

In our work to envision a society in which both women and the unborn are championed and supported, we expanded our Both Lives initiative from Northern Ireland into a UK-wide initiative.

March

Our Wales team led prayers for the nation at the Welsh Parliamentary Prayer Breakfast – a powerful time of worship and celebration of Wales' spiritual heritage.



We're reaching new audiences:

30,000+

listens and downloads of our podcasts

Financial review

“Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus.”

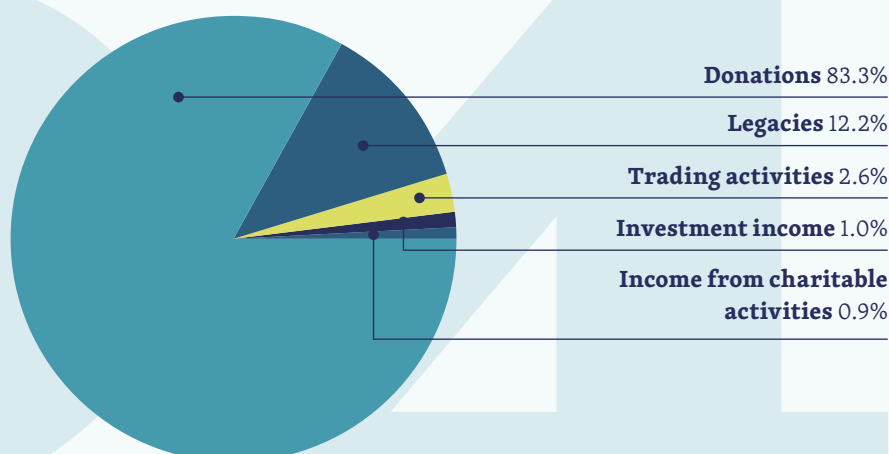
1 Thessalonians 5:16–18

INCOME

£2,899,594

up from £2,590,073 last year

We are so thankful to God for a good year in terms of overall income growth, with exceptional legacy income and growing memberships, both of which have offset a reduction in income from charitable trusts.



EXPENDITURE

£2,931,152

up from £2,761,442 last year

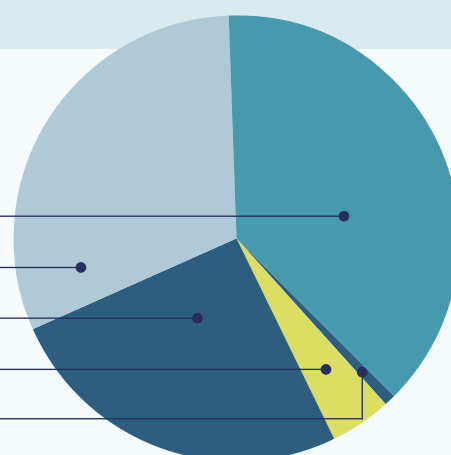
Unity and mission initiatives 38.0%

Communications and membership 31.3%

Advocacy initiatives 25.5%

Fundraising and publicity 4.3%

Income generation 0.9%



Expenditure during the year was increased across our charitable activities and in line with our strategic objectives. A significant increase in membership numbers has inevitably generated increased costs to support that membership.

Terms & conditions and how to apply



Location:	Belfast, Northern Ireland
Salary range:	£14,000–£15,500 pa (actual salary) depending on experience
Hours:	17.5 hours per week (2.5 days)
Contract type:	Permanent
Closing date:	9am Monday, 12 May 2025
Interviews:	First round online on Friday, 16 May 2025; second round in person in Belfast on Wednesday, 28 May 2025.

To apply, download the application form and email us at hr@eauk.org with your completed application.

For an informal conversation about this role, please email hr@eauk.org and we will arrange for someone to speak to you.

All applicants must be committed to the Basis of Faith, Vision & Values and Ethos statement & code of conduct of the Evangelical Alliance.

Please read our privacy policy for details of our use of your information.

This post is subject to an Occupational Requirement that the post holder is a committed evangelical Christian.