

Vacancy

Evangelical Alliance appointment of

Senior policy advisor



Contents

- 3** **Introduction**
from the CEO
- 4** **About**
the Evangelical Alliance
- 5** **Who**
we're looking for
- 10** **Annual report**
2023–2024
- 14** **Terms & conditions**
and how to apply



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 has 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.

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

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, government, media and society.

We aim to serve, strengthen and unite the evangelical church and in so doing develop networks of evangelical Christians to encourage and promote unity for the purpose of effective local mission.

The advocacy team works to engage and represent evangelicals in public life, giving voice to their priorities and concerns and speaking into corridors of power.

We are looking for an exceptional candidate to join the team to provide expert input into our policy work. You will work on key issues relating to religious freedom, rights and responsibilities in society, and equalities legislation as well as other issues we are involved in. You will be confident drafting policy submissions for consultations and calls for evidence, producing briefings for parliamentarians, and advising the team on how the Evangelical Alliance should engage in a range of policy areas.

You will have a strong understanding of how the UK parliament and legislative process works, and thrive on using your skills to ensure the voices of evangelicals are heard in the corridors of power. You will have an eye for detail and an intuitive grasp of the impact of specific policies, as at its core this role is about understanding, analysing and influencing policy and legislation on behalf of the UK's evangelical Christians.

This exciting role is full of opportunities for growth and development, and will require energy and creativity in working with the team to implement plans for this next season.

About the role

Job title: Senior policy advisor

Responsible to: Head of public policy

Overall role objectives:

1. To research and develop policy positions and briefings in line with the Evangelical Alliance's strategic plan.
2. To increase the profile of the Evangelical Alliance's public policy work across Whitehall departments, including responding to consultations, producing briefings, attending select committees and other meetings and events.
3. To engage across the breadth of the Evangelical Alliance to ensure all areas of our work are integrated with our advocacy and policy activity.

Main responsibilities:

Policy development

- Collaborate with the head of public policy in developing policy positions and briefings in priority areas, and producing policy reports.
- Provide expert advice, guidance and thought leadership on various policy areas for internal and external stakeholders. While advising generally, this role will take the lead on policy relating to religious freedom, rights and equalities.
- Prepare and present briefings on political issues for a variety of audiences: politicians, advocacy forums and Evangelical Alliance members.
- Provide expertise in the development, implementation and review of policy activity related to Both Lives UK campaign.
- Provide advocacy team input into cross-organisational projects with support from the head of public policy.
- Work with the director of advocacy to conduct research into specific areas of policy.

Stakeholder engagement

- Provide expertise to the heads of Scotland, Northern Ireland and Wales and relevant staff in policy development across the UK.
- Anticipate where the Evangelical Alliance will need to focus attention through monitoring the activities of UK government ministers, including government departments, political parties and pressure groups.
- Initiate participation in relevant bodies connected with Evangelical Alliance policy work.
- Initiate and develop contacts with ministers and special advisers, civil servants and others concerned with Westminster politics, both at Westminster and in the Evangelical Alliance office, and network effectively with parliamentary officers from various organisations.

- Develop a significant network of relevant relationships through engagement in forums, meetings and conferences to ensure the Evangelical Alliance's policy work is well informed and collaborative.

Policy coordination and communication

- Maintain an organised project management system, including updating public policy work on Microsoft Dynamics.
- Enhance the voice of evangelicals by bringing expertise to the civic and political engagement work of the Evangelical Alliance.
- Regularly write for the Evangelical Alliance website and other communication channels on policy issues and wider advocacy concerns so that our members are informed and equipped around major political developments, to facilitate prayer and appropriate responses.
- Provide expert comment on policy issues for broadcast, print and new media.

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/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 take part in other Evangelical Alliance activities arranged centrally or by other teams where appropriate.
- To maintain and develop the ethos of the Evangelical Alliance (ref – [Ethos Statement and Code of Conduct](#)).

The above list of job duties is not exclusive or exhaustive and the post holder 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 under Part 1 of Schedule 9 to the Equality Act 2010.

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

About you

Your experience, skills and abilities

The role of senior policy advisor 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, ideally in a relevant discipline such as law, politics or theology – E (A)

Your experience:

- At least five years' experience in a role engaged in UK policy. This could be within parliament, government departments, public sector, commercial or charitable organisations – E (AI)
- Proven track record of influencing, lobbying and working with political and other decision makers – E (AI)
- Significant experience of developing policy positions, producing briefings, submissions and policy reports, and engaging with parliament and government – E (AI)
- Knowledge and experience of public campaigning – D (AI)
- Knowledge and experience of the breadth of the evangelical church in the UK – D (AI)

Your skills/abilities:

- Strong organisational skills with an ability to work on different priorities within a deadline – E (AIR)
- A good knowledge of the UK parliamentary process and policy influencing – E (AI)
- Understanding of the major issues of public debate in the UK today and of biblical teaching on at least some of these issues – E (AI)
- Capacity for analysing political arguments and communicating in all forms of media from a biblical perspective – E (AI)
- Ability to communicate evangelical values and principles – E (AI)
- Ability to work unsupervised and take initiative and responsibility for tasks without direct supervision – E (AIR)
- Strong written and verbal presentation skills – E (AI)
- Confident in using digital technology and online platforms; ability to manage communication coordination across multiple platforms – E (AI)

- Willingness to be flexible in approach to travel and working hours when needed E (AI)
- An understanding of the UK evangelical and church streams – D (I)

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 – **E** (AI)
- Regular commitment and participation in the life of the local church – **E** (AR)
- Excellent relational skills – E (IR)

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,

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

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+

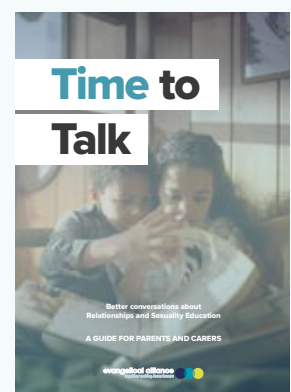
TV, radio and podcast appearances carrying the voice of the UK church

“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



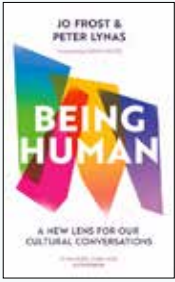


We're here for our members: more than **1,000** speaking engagements, talks, teaching sessions and meetings with church and organisational leaders

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.



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.



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.



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.”

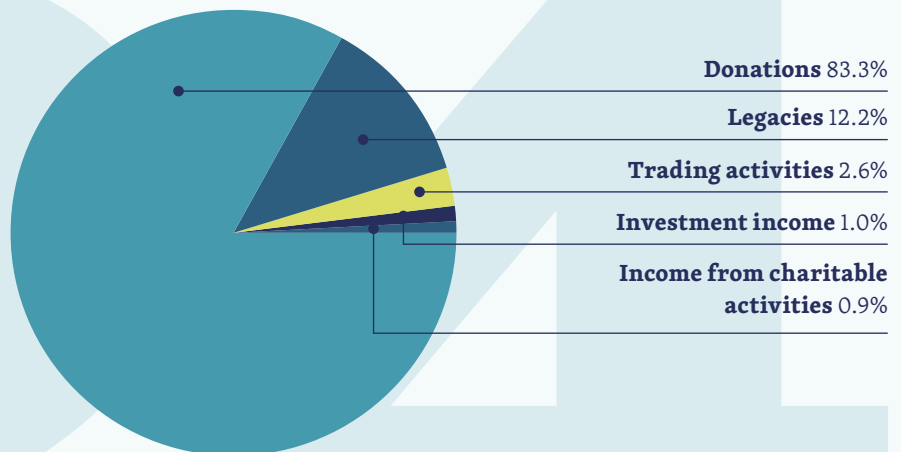
1 Thessalonians 5:16–18

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

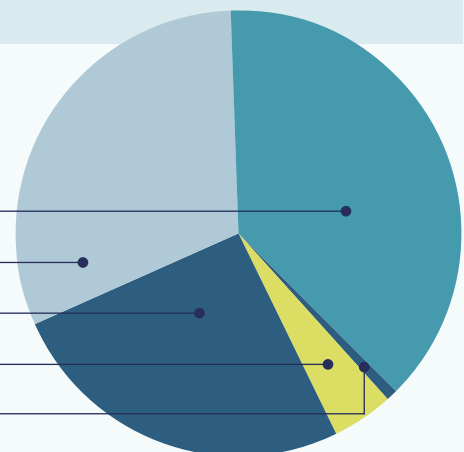
Unity and mission initiatives 38.0%

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:	King's Cross, London (with the benefit of hybrid working)
Salary range:	£40,000–42,500pa depending on experience
Hours:	35 hours per week
Contract type:	Permanent
Closing date:	Monday, 17 February 2025 at 9am
Interviews:	First round interviews, likely to be online: Friday, 21 February Second round interviews, in person: Monday, 3 March

We would like to hear from you if you are interested in what we have shared so far. For an informal conversation, please email hr@eauk.org and we will arrange for someone to speak to you.

Apply by [downloading the application form](#) and emailing us at hr@eauk.org with your completed application **and a covering letter** or [complete our online form](#).

All applicants must be committed to the [Basis of Faith, vision and ethos statement](#) of the Evangelical Alliance.

Please read our [privacy notice](#) for details of our use of your information.

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