



Director of Fundraising and Communications

Job Pack – October 2026





We're getting to grips with guts. Will you join us?

Thank you for your interest in joining our team at Guts UK.

Guts UK is committed to a world where **digestive conditions are better understood, better treated, and everyone who lives with one gets the support they need**. Digestive conditions affect millions of people across the UK, yet digestive health remains one of the country's most overlooked and under-recognised health challenges. Digestive symptoms and conditions contribute to one in eight deaths, account for around 10% of GP consultations, one in six hospital admissions, and one in six major surgical procedures.

We are the national charity for the digestive system and we're here to reshape digestive health. We raise vital awareness of digestive conditions and symptoms, fund life-changing research, and provide expert information and support to people when they need it most. We are informed by evidence and expertise, our community, and the patient voice.

In 2027 we move into year three of our strategy. We've made significant progress to date and have big ambitions for the future. To help us achieve these ambitions we are looking for a **Director of Fundraising and Communications** to join our Senior Leadership team. This is an exciting opportunity to lead our Fundraising and Communications teams; driving income generation, deepening relationships, strengthening engagement, and raising awareness.

We are looking for an experienced senior fundraising leader who can support and develop our talented teams, contribute creative and insightful ideas, and join us in delivering our strategic aims. Despite the challenging fundraising environment, I truly believe there are phenomenal opportunities for Guts UK, and we need someone who thrives working with smaller national charities, and has the capability, drive, and passion to turn opportunities into reality.

This is a very exciting time to be joining Guts UK. We look forward to hearing from you.



Suzanne Hudson, Chief Executive

Who is Guts UK Charity?

Guts UK is the national charity for the digestive system. People are suffering. People are dying. All because of a lack of knowledge about our guts. Our digestive systems have been underfunded, undervalued, and misunderstood for decades. Guts UK exists to change that.

Our vision is a world where digestive conditions are better understood, better treated and everyone who lives with one gets the support they need.

Our mission is to improve the lives of the millions of people affected by digestive conditions.

We deliver this through **three objectives**:

Providing expert information: when armed with the right information, patients can take control of their health and make informed decisions. We provide evidence-based information and guidance to patients, carers and health care professionals through digital and printed materials, events and our helpline service.



Raising public awareness: Research shows that 58% of people are embarrassed to talk about their digestive conditions or symptoms. We run wide-reaching and multi-channel campaigns and events to spread awareness and education to empower people to speak up and seek help.

Funding and driving research: We fund awards, grants, prizes and fellowships into the entire digestive system. We involve our patient panel in all our research decisions and in our work on policy, pathways and treatments, and we run Priority Setting Partnerships to ensure research is focused in the areas that will drive the most difference.



Guts UK 2025-2030 strategy

In January 2025, we launched a **new five-year strategy** that outlines our objectives and ambitions for the next five years and will drive significant growth and change across all areas of our work.

Our ambition is to be known as the trusted organisation for digestive conditions, backed by evidence-led information. To deliver this, we need to increase income generation and optimise our capability over the next five years. Read more about the strategy [here](#).

Being part of our team



Pay and progression

- We benchmark our salaries and review annually.
- We are committed to training and development for all team members and budget to support external training and conferences dependent on need.
- We have a performance management process which includes development planning to support our employees.

Location and flexible working

- We have offices in London and Huddersfield which are easily accessible by road or public transport. We support hybrid working but attendance in one of the offices is required a minimum of one day per week. If you are interested in the role and have queries about office-base requirements, please contact us to discuss.
- Hybrid home working is fully supported, and necessary adjustments can be made as needed.
- As a small national charity, it is important for us to get together in person as a team. Travel and overnight stays are required for team and other days, with expenses and travel costs met by the charity.
- As a small team, we share the responsibility of representing Guts UK at public and health care professional events. Again, travel and expenses are met for authorised work activities.

Benefits and wellbeing

- We offer 27 days annual leave each year (calculated pro-rate for part-time employees), with an additional three days off at Christmas and two at Easter.
- Our Employee Assistance Programme provides mental health support, remote GP access, physio and personal training, and legal and financial support, alongside savings, discounts, wellbeing training and courses. These free services are available to you, and subject to eligibility criteria, family members.
- Income protection and a Group Personal Pension plan (5% employer contribution).
- We pride ourselves on the health and wellbeing support for our team, a few of whom live with health conditions and have agreed reasonable adjustments to support them in their roles.

Director of Fundraising and Communications

Hours:	Full-time (37.5 hours per week) Open to part-time applications (4 days minimum) for the right candidate
Salary:	Full time £65–£68k (plus £2k London weighting if applicable)
Reports to:	Chief Executive
Location:	London (NW1) or Huddersfield (HD1) Hybrid with a minimum of one day a week office/in person based

About the role

This is a rare opportunity to lead Guts UK's fundraising and communications functions, driving income growth and diversification while strengthening our profile, campaigns, and engagement with our community and key stakeholders. Reporting to the Chief Executive and a member of the senior leadership team, you will provide strategic and operational leadership.

We are looking for an experienced senior fundraising leader to join our growing, and ambitious charity. You will be a strategic, people focused, and operational leader who thrives in a smaller national charity environment. This is a hands-on role that balances senior leadership responsibilities with on the ground delivery. You will drive our fundraising approach, develop and support our fundraising and communications teams, and personally contribute to securing new income and building high value partnerships.

This new senior leadership role reflects our commitment to continuing our strategic development and growth plans. If you are an experienced fundraising leader, with excellent relationship-building skills, and the ability to translate strategy into action, please read on.

Key Responsibilities

Fundraising

- Lead the delivery of our fundraising strategy.
- Diversify and develop income across corporate partnerships, major donors, trusts and foundations, events, community, legacies, individual giving, and philanthropy.
- Develop compelling propositions that inspire investment in our mission.
- Build strategic relationships with senior business leaders, philanthropists, partners, and stakeholders.
- Identify and develop new income opportunities.
- Embed excellent stewardship and supporter journeys and ensure data, insight, and systems fully support fundraising.
- Lead and inspire our growing fundraising team.

Communications

- Provide strategic leadership for delivery of our communications strategy.

- Work with the communications team to strengthen and grow public education and awareness campaigns, build on our reputation, and increase the visibility and profile of the charity.
- Support the communications team in developing key new activities including a new Digital Strategy, website development, and a new ambassador and patrons programme.
- Strategically lead and inspire our communications team and support effective working with fundraising, services, and research teams.

Wider senior manager responsibilities

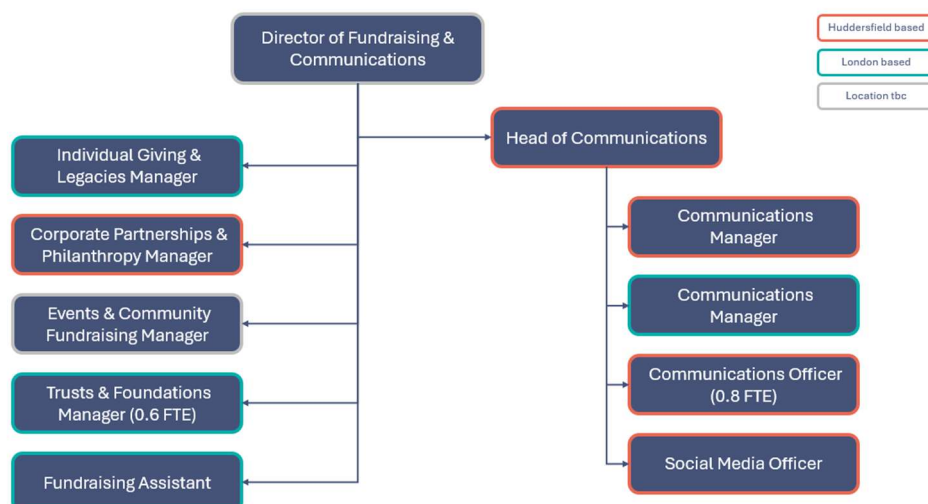
- As a member of the charity's senior leadership team, contribute to the leadership, planning, and delivery of strategic and operational initiatives and the wider development of the charity.
- Attend and present in Board and delegated committee meetings.
- Work collaboratively across the charity to maximise our impact for the benefit of our community, service users, and supporters.
- Ensure compliance with regulatory and charity policies/procedures.
- Demonstrate behaviours in line with the charity values and maintain the reputation and standing of the charity.
- Represent Guts UK with key external audiences and act as a senior ambassador/spokesperson.
- Other duties as requested by the Chief Executive.

Success Measures – In your first 12 months you will have:

- Delivered agreed income targets across the fundraising portfolio.
- Increased the number and value of active fundraisers.
- Developed new fundraising partnerships and built a pipeline of opportunities to support longer-term income growth.
- Support the Head of Communications and communications team in successfully delivering year 2 of our communications strategy.
- With SLT, support the communications team to develop a new patron and ambassadors programme.
- With SLT, support new planned activities including website development.

Team structure

There are currently 10 roles (9.4 FTE) across the two teams with 6 direct reports to this role.



Person Specification

Experience

- Significant **senior fundraising leadership** experience in the charity sector.
- Proven track record delivering fundraising strategies and measurable income and engagement outcomes.
- Demonstrable success across high value giving.
- Experience of developing compelling propositions and building relationships with senior external stakeholders.
- Strong strategic communications and brand leadership expertise.
- Experience of leading, developing, and motivating high-performing multidisciplinary teams.

Knowledge & Understanding

- Strong understanding of income diversification, supporter engagement, and multi-channel fundraising.
- Strong understanding of strategic communications, and the role of communications in building profile, reputation, engagement, and income.
- Good understanding of charity governance, strategy, and income models.

Skills & Capabilities

- Excellent relationship building, influencing, and communications skills, with credibility at a senior level
- Commercially aware and entrepreneurial, with the ability to identify and develop new opportunities.
- Strong planning, financial management, forecasting, and analytical capability
- Strategic and operational thinker able to translate long-term ambition into practical delivery.
- Strong leadership and team development capability.

Personal Attributes

- Calm, supportive, and confident leadership style.
- High emotional intelligence and strong interpersonal skills.
- Resilient, adaptable, and delivery focused.
- Comfortable working in a hands-on, collaborative environment
- Purpose-driven with a genuine commitment to improving the lives of people affected by digestive conditions.

Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion

- Equity, diversity, and inclusion (EDI) is integral to all we do, not only for all in our Guts community, but also for our staff and volunteers. The team at Guts UK reflects and understands the experience of and the communities we serve.
- Guts UK is an equal opportunity employer. We welcome applications from people with disabilities and from minority groups.
- If you have a disability which means you are unable to meet some of the job requirements, specifically, because of your disability, please address this in your application. If you meet all the other criteria, you will be shortlisted, and we will explore jointly with you if there are ways in which the job can be changed to enable you to meet the requirements.

How to apply

Hopefully you are inspired to apply for this role and will join us in helping the UK to get to grips with guts. If there is anything else you want to know about the role or our charity that hasn't been covered, or you would like to have a confidential discussion in advance of applying, please email Suzanne Hudson, our Chief Executive at shudson@gutscharity.org.uk.

- **The closing date for applications is Wednesday 21st October at 5pm.**
- All applications should be submitted online through **CharityJob**. We request a CV and a cover letter explaining your skills, experiences and what you will bring to the role. Please include the office base you would like to work from. Applications will not be accepted without a cover letter.
- If you anticipate having problems using CharityJob, please contact us at info@gutscharity.org.uk or on 0207 486 0341. Please be aware that applications will not be accepted through alternative means without prior discussion.

First round interviews will be scheduled for Tuesday 27th October 2026 and will take place **in-person in our London office**¹. If successful, second round interviews will take place virtually on Tuesday 3rd November.

If you have a disability or health condition and wish to request reasonable adjustments at any stage of the recruitment process, please contact info@gutscharity.org.uk.

Notes

- The purpose of this job description is to focus attention on the most important aspects of the jobholder's role. It is not intended to be a complete list of the duties; therefore, it is to be expected that the day-to-day performance of the job will include tasks not listed above. The list of duties for which the jobholder is responsible may reasonably be varied or added to at the discretion of the charity.
- You must be eligible to work in the UK at the time of application. If you are invited to interview, you will be asked to bring the original documentation that proves your right to work in the UK.

¹ If exceptional circumstances mean you are unable to attend in-person on Tuesday 27th October we will consider holding the first interview remotely but the second interview would need to be in-person.