

## Job description

<b>Position:</b> Policy Lead	<b>Supervisor:</b> Chief Strategy Officer
<b>Location:</b> Hybrid. Office: London, Totnes	<b>Salary:</b> Circa £55k
<b>Contract:</b> Full-time, permanent	<b>Reports:</b> Policy lead, Maldives. This role acts a mentor across the organisation.

### About Common Seas

We are looking for an experienced policy maker, who is intellectually curious and driven to design practical solutions to deliver significant plastic reduction across Small Island Developing States and the other countries in which we operate.

As Common Seas policy lead you will equip governments and stakeholders with the knowledge and expertise to deliver policies that will help them take bold, ambitious steps to end plastic pollution in their countries. Your briefs and coaching will empower our country partners to call for a meaningful and robust United Nations Global Treaty on Plastic Pollution.

Our ambition is to work collaboratively with the Small Island Developing States that most need our help, to publish national roadmaps that set a course to reduce plastic pollution by at least 75% within a decade.

You will thrive off being at the forefront of developing and designing deliverable policy solutions to reduce plastic production and pollution, and sharing your unique knowledge.

### Common Seas acting on plastic

Our world creates 220 million tonnes of plastic waste every year and Ocean plastic pollution is on track to quadruple by 2040. Common Seas research discovered pieces of plastic in almost 80% of the human blood samples tested, which raises serious health concerns.

Current policy commitments will achieve a plastic leakage reduction of just 7% worldwide. And 30% of the most polluting countries lack essential policy targeting plastic pollution. Governments need the evidence, knowledge and solutions to act.

Common Seas helps countries to take bold and evidenced-based steps to rid the world of plastic waste and pollution. Our goal is to empower 10 countries to set baselines and create a roadmap for 75% reduction in ocean plastic pollution within 10 years.

Common Seas works with Governments across Small Island Developing States and others, including Indonesia, Greece and the UK. Our policy recommendations are guided by our Plastic Drawdown policy modelling tool and extensive dialogues with stakeholders across the plastics value chain in the countries we partner with. You can find out more at <https://commonseas.com/news/plastic-drawdown-study-highlights-success-in-maldives-is-your-country-next> .

Common Seas is a not-for-profit enterprise working across government, business and society to drive policy, invest in the circular economy and shift cultural norms – to accelerate the transition to a plastic waste-free society.

### Responsibilities:

- Common Seas go-to specialist concerning policies and the policy making process.
- Co-produce National Policy Roadmaps with our government partners – by using your experience, the analysis from Plastic Drawdown modelling, stakeholder dialogues and facilitating technical workshops.
- Equip and empower policy makers with the knowledge and confidence to design effective policies, with a focus on reducing plastic consumption.
- Build productive and engaged relationships, networks, and consensus amongst those in the public and private sectors required to design effective policy.
- Advise on the resourcing, funding, and practicalities of implementing the national roadmap, from an international perspective.
- Position Common Seas as an authority – representing our policy interests and promoting the Plastic Drawdown tool within key networks and international forums.
- Maintain and develop Common Seas’ library of policy knowledge and support the development of policy learning resources for Governments and country partners.
- Contribute to the continual development of our Plastic Drawdown tool, ensuring alignment with the needs of country users and the UN Global Treaty on Plastic Pollution.
- Provide briefings for stakeholders to deliver a robust UN Global Treaty on Plastic Pollution.

### Person Specification

*E = Essential; D= Desirable*

<b>Education and Training</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Postgraduate qualification in a related field (e.g., ideally circular economy, waste and resource management, engineering, or environmental management).</li> </ul>	E
<b>Experience</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• At least five years professional experience, working with policy makers to design and implement environmental policy.</li> </ul>	E
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Working with a wide range of stakeholders across the policy making process.</li> </ul>	E
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cross-cultural work experience.</li> </ul>	E
<b>Knowledge and skills</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In depth and practical understanding of plastic pollution, waste policy and the circular economy, including e.g., prevention, re-use, EPR and DRS.</li> </ul>	E
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Analytical skills, with the ability to synthesise large amounts of information into concise briefing papers.</li> </ul>	E
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Excellent communicator, both written and oral. Understands how to develop and present a persuasive case-for-support to critical stakeholders (including senior officials and plastic policy leads), backed by technical information.</li> </ul>	E
<b>Values &amp; personal attributes</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Driven to deliver to the highest standards; takes the initiative and works well under pressure.</li> </ul>	E
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Willing to work flexibly to the shifting demands of projects, including undertaking field work as required.</li> </ul>	E
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Committed to Common Seas’ mission (particularly the focus on upstream policies for plastic reduction) and has a desire to work collaboratively.</li> </ul>	E

**Start:**

As soon as possible.

**How to apply:**

If you think this sounds like the role for you, please send a copy of your CV and a one-page cover letter outlining your suitability for the job and possible start date through our headhunting partner Ellwood Atfield via Liam Young at [Liam.y@ellwoodatfield.com](mailto:Liam.y@ellwoodatfield.com).