

FULL ROLE DESCRIPTION

Bioregional Learning Manager



Employer: Bioregional Learning Centre (BLC)

Programme: Bioregional Learning Alliance & South Devon Bioregional Learning Programme

Location: Based in South Devon, UK, with hybrid working (some travel in the UK and internationally)

Hours: 0.8 FTE (4 days per week)

Contract: 3-year fixed term (with intention to sustain beyond this, subject to funding)

Salary: £32,000 per annum gross, pro rata (0.8 FTE)

Reports to: CEO, Bioregional Learning Centre (Learning Programme Lead)

Start date: By agreement

About Bioregional Learning Centre

Bioregional Learning Centre ([BLC](#)) is a place-based, systems-change organisation rooted in South Devon. We work at the scale of the bioregion – the living landscape of rivers, soils, cultures and communities – to grow the capacities, relationships and infrastructures needed for a regenerative and climate resilient future.

Our work weaves together:

- **Learning and leadership** for systems and regenerative practice
- **Networks and partnerships** across civil society, public bodies, academia and business
- **Bioregional projects** that connect ecology, culture, governance and livelihoods
- **Story, data and sense-making** to help people read and respond to the health of their bioregion.

About Bioregional Learning Alliance

BLC also supports the Bioregional Learning Alliance (BLA), an informal but growing international circle of practitioner-educators and learning centres (from Costa Rica to Catalonia, Ireland to Hawaii) who are pioneering bioregioning in practice. Together we are co-creating a ‘gold standard’ core curriculum in bioregional practice that can be adapted and delivered in different bioregions around the world. The BLA are currently offering a course in association with Gaia Education, which can be found [here](#).

About the role

Over the next three years, we are incubating a **twin-track bioregional learning programme**:

1. **Local:** A South Devon learning pathway – including summer schools, learning journeys and practice-based courses – hosted by BLC.
2. **International:** An online and place-based programme co-designed and delivered with Bioregional Learning Alliance members and partner institutions (e.g. universities, independent colleges, learning centres).

The **Bioregional Learning Manager** will sit at the heart of this work. You will:

- Help design, test and evolve a practice-led curriculum in bioregional leadership and regenerative systems change.
- Hold the **day-to-day management** of our local and international learning offers – online and in-person.
- Act as **secretariat and coordinator** for the Bioregional Learning Alliance: connecting people, supporting governance and tending the learning community.

This is a **new kind of role**. We are not looking for a “finished article” or a conventional academic. We are looking for someone who:

- Is deeply aligned with regenerative, bioregional and more-than-human ways of working
- Loves holding learning spaces and supporting others to grow
- Can move between big-picture systems thinking and hands-on delivery
- Is curious, experimental, organised and up for co-creating something that doesn’t fully exist yet.

NOTE: If you have most of the essential criteria and feel excited (and maybe a bit stretched) by this role, we warmly encourage you to apply.

Key areas of responsibility

1. Programme design & curriculum development

- Co-design a practice-led, modular **core curriculum** in bioregional learning and leadership with BLA partners and advisors.
- Help shape learning pathways from introductory exposure to deeper practice labs, mentored projects and assessed outputs (e.g. micro-credentials / CPD).
- Work with colleagues and partners to embed capacities such as:
 - Systems thinking and pattern literacy
 - Participatory governance and facilitation
 - Regenerative design and livelihoods
 - Bioregional finance, data and mapping
 - Place-sensing, arts-based enquiry and storytelling
 - Monitoring, evaluation and learning (MEL) for adaptive management.
- Adapt the core curriculum for different contexts (South Devon, partner bioregions, universities, independent colleges).

2. Programme management & delivery

- Plan, coordinate and deliver online and place-based learning offers, including:
 - Online foundation series and topic-based deep dives
 - South Devon Summer School and local learning journeys
 - Partner summer schools and residencies in other bioregions.
- Manage logistics, scheduling, budgets, contracts and practical arrangements for courses and events with the support of the BLC team.
- Ensure an excellent learner experience: clear communication, accessibility, care and follow-through.
- Design and implement simple, meaningful evaluation processes to track learning outcomes and improve the programme over time.

3. Alliance coordination, partnerships & governance

- Act as **day-to-day coordinator** for the Bioregional Learning Alliance, including:
 - Scheduling and supporting Alliance meetings and online gatherings
 - Preparing agendas, summaries and minutes
 - Following up on agreed actions and collaborations.
- Support the **Steering Circle** and **Academic/Practitioner Advisory Group** with light-touch governance, documentation and communication.
- Help forge and steward partnerships with universities, colleges and independent learning centres – including co-badged courses, credit pathways and joint delivery models.
- Contribute to emerging **more-than-human governance practices** (e.g. watershed perspectives, ecological indicators, rituals of place-acknowledgement) within the learning programmes.

4. Communications, community & storytelling

- Work with BLC colleagues to create and manage web pages, course information, joining instructions and learner resources.
- Develop accessible, engaging communications (emails, social media, short articles, visuals) to support outreach, recruitment and community-building.
- Help cultivate a hospitable, diverse and inclusive learning community across South Devon and the wider international network.
- Capture and share stories, reflections and insights from the programmes to feed back into practice, governance and fundraising.

5. Resourcing, learning and sustainability

- Support BLC's Learning Programme Lead (CEO) in developing sustainable business models for the learning programmes, including earned income, institutional co-funding and licensing.

- Contribute to funding applications, proposals and reports, particularly around learning design, impact and evaluation.
- Help manage small stipends and commissions for BLA partners contributing to curriculum co-design and delivery.
- Participate fully in BLC's own learning culture: reflective practice, peer learning, supervision and organisational development.

Person specification

We recognise that excellent candidates come from many backgrounds and that people from under-represented communities often self-select out if they don't meet every criterion. If you're unsure but feel a strong resonance with the role and BLC's work, please do consider applying. Please note that this position is located within the United Kingdom. Applicants must have the legal right to live and work in the UK to be considered for the role.

Required skills, expertise and experience

Values and orientation

- Deep alignment with regenerative, bioregional and more-than-human approaches (e.g. systems thinking, place-based practice, ecological justice, interdependence).
- Experience of learning environments (formal and informal) in a range of different cultures.
- Commitment to equity, diversity and inclusion in learning spaces and organisational culture.
- Curiosity, humility and a reflective approach to your own practice.

Learning design and facilitation

- Experience in designing, coordinating or delivering adult or professional learning – for example informal learning programmes, leadership development, community education, or practice-based training.
- Ability to translate complex ideas into accessible, experiential learning activities.
- Confidence in holding online and/or in-person learning spaces that are participatory, hospitable and trauma-aware.

Programme and project management

- Strong project management skills: planning, scheduling, prioritising and keeping multiple strands of work moving.
- Experience managing events, courses or programmes from concept through to delivery and evaluation.
- Comfortable using simple tools and systems (spreadsheets, project plans, shared drives) to stay organised and transparent.

Relational and communication skills

- Excellent written and verbal communication skills, with the ability to communicate across cultures, disciplines and levels of seniority.
- Experience building and maintaining relationships with diverse stakeholders (e.g. practitioners, community organisations, academics, funders).
- Ability to work well in a small, collaborative, values-driven team – and also independently when needed.

Digital skills

- Confident using online tools for learning and collaboration (e.g. Zoom, Miro, Google Workspace / Office 365, online event platforms).
- Comfortable updating web content via a CMS (e.g. WordPress or similar) and supporting basic online marketing of courses.

Desirable skills, expertise and experience

You do *not* need to have all of these to be considered.

- Practical experience in one or more of: bioregioning, regenerative design, permaculture, Transition movement, community organising, landscape stewardship, or allied fields.

- Experience working with or within universities, colleges, independent learning centres or professional development providers – especially around co-designed or accredited programmes.
- Some experience of working with both the Global North and Global South.
- Experience with monitoring, evaluation and learning (MEL) for programmes or projects, especially where qualitative and participatory methods are used.
- Fundraising or income-generation experience (e.g. writing grants, developing paid offers, social enterprise models).
- Experience with arts-based enquiry, creative practice, or integrating arts into learning and systems-change work.
- Familiarity with South Devon or another bioregion, and an ability to “read” landscapes and communities through a bioregional lens.
- Additional languages and cross-cultural working experience.

What we offer

- The chance to co-create a pioneering bioregional learning programme with an active international community of practitioner-educators.
- A supportive, reflective team culture at BLC, with mentoring from the Learning Programme Lead (CEO).
- Flexible, hybrid working arrangements grounded in trust and accountability.
- Rich opportunities for your own learning and practice development in regenerative, systemic and bioregional work.

How to apply

You can customise this, but for now:

Please send:

- A CV (no more than 3 pages)
- A covering letter (2–3 pages) or short video (max 6 minutes) telling us:
 - Why this role and bioregional learning matter to you
 - How your experience and approach align with the essential criteria
 - An example of a learning space, programme or project you have helped design or steward

to admin@bioregion.org.uk with the subject line: **Bioregional Learning Manager Application – [Your Name].**

We will be reviewing applications in late March and holding interviews shortly thereafter.

EDI statement

Bioregional Learning Centre is committed to building an organisation and bioregion where everyone can belong and contribute. We warmly welcome applications from people of all ages, backgrounds and identities, and particularly from communities and groups who are under-represented in environmental and systems-change work.

We recognise that lived experience, community practice and non-traditional learning pathways can be just as important as formal qualifications. If you don't meet every single requirement but feel you could grow into this role, we encourage you to apply.

We are happy to discuss flexible working arrangements and to make reasonable adjustments throughout the recruitment process and in the role. If there is anything you need to participate fully, please let us know when you apply.