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Dairy Network Manager

Agricultural Research

14th January 2026

Dear Applicant,

Ref: Dairy Network Manager – Information and Application Pack

Thank you for your interest in the position of Dairy Network Manager at AgriSearch. The information pack includes the following documents which you should refer to when completing your application:

- Job description
- Person specification
- Application form (Hyperlink)

Completed forms should be submitted by 12 noon on Monday 9th February.

Interviews will be held on week beginning Monday 16th February in the Greater Belfast area.

May I take this opportunity to thank you for your interest in AgriSearch. We look forward to receiving your application.

Yours faithfully,

Sean Kane
Operations Manager

Dairy Network Manager – Job Description

The Company

The Northern Ireland Agricultural Research and Development Council (T/A AgriSearch), is a charitable organisation whose mission is to drive innovation and sustainability in ruminant livestock farming, as a trusted, valued conduit of knowledge and innovation based on sound science and widely applied research.

Purpose of the Role

This is a contract funded by the UK Dairy Carbon Network (UK-DCN) project. The UK-DCN Project is funded by Defra and led by AFBI. The post holder will take responsibility for the development and delivery of the Northern Ireland farmer network in the UK-DCN project, ensuring effective linkages with other members of the consortium, supply chain as well as internal teams to ensure successful delivery of the project and value for levy payers.

Key Responsibilities

- Lead the Northern Ireland programme of activities within UK-DCN, ensuring activity meets the defined project aims, objectives and timeline
- Deliver UK-DCN activity within budget and provide accurate and appropriate reporting information to the senior management team, project lead partner and funders
- Budgetary responsibility in line with the project milestones, with responsibility to manage project expenditure
- Line management for two Farm Liaison Officers who are dedicated to the UK-DCN Project
- Be a point of contact for the sector and the project with external stakeholders / professionals for matters relating to the UK-DCN
- Develop and maintain relationships with a wide range of external technical / research and associated stakeholders and professional
- Develop and maintain a strong profile and connection with consortium members, providing industry representation where required e.g. project steering groups, industry groups
- Support the development of the AgriSearch UK-DCN team to develop a comprehensive engagement plan to project participants
- Collaborate with the Communications Officer to ensure key themes and outcomes of the project are communicated
- Ensure effective engagement with levy payers and stakeholders
- Responsible for stakeholder / supply chain engagement on technical issues relevant to the project

Personal Specification

- Education: degree in Agriculture, Animal Science, Agronomy or a related field.
- Experience: Minimum of 3 years of experience in an agriculture or Project Management role
- Technical Knowledge: In-depth knowledge of Northern Ireland's dairy sector
- Skills: Excellent project management, communication, and leadership skills. Proficiency in data analysis and interpretation.
- Attributes: Strong problem-solving abilities, attention to detail, and a proactive approach. Passionate about agriculture and committed to sustainability.

Desirable

- Have a track record of working with farmers and stakeholders within in the agri-food sector
- Experience of planning, coordinating and deliver projects to large groups of farmers

Hours of work: 37.5 hours per week

Based at: Hillsborough

Salary: £38,000 to £42,000

Benefits: Hybrid Working, Healthcare Insurance

Contact Term: Two-year Fixed Term (Immediate start available)