

Software Developer		THE
		NATIONAL
Job Description		ARCHIVES

Department Digital Archiving (TDR & TRE)
Reports to Lead Developer
Line manages None
Band Band E
Location Kew

Job Purpose

The National Archives is building a suite of innovative digital products and services to ease the flow of digital records into the archive, preserve them for generations to come and open up access to this nationally important resource for audiences including students, government, researchers and the public.

In this varied and challenging role, you will create, develop and enhance these high-profile services, ensuring that they are capable of handling the latest digital records as diverse new record formats are transferred to the archives for preservation and access. You will have the opportunity to work on new initiatives, as well as working on new features for our live services. We are a recognized research organisation, and you may also have the opportunity to contribute to our programme of technical research in digital archiving, and to talk about your work at conferences and meetings.

You should be passionate about technology, building high quality, user focused services, and your own skills development. Your creativity and experience will be essential to the organisation to inform and shape the design and development of new processes and services. You will be motivated to find solutions to complex problems and will frequently look for opportunities to do things better.

Our new services will connect to our award-winning Digital Records Infrastructure (DRI) which securely stores our rapidly increasing digital collection, operating at petabyte-scale to ensure the long-term preservation of vital public records. Government websites, the records of significant public inquiries, the decisions of senior officials, ministers and prime ministers and the nation's digitised history from the 11th to the early 21st century will all be preserved in the system. We currently operate a series of batch-processing workflows constructed predominantly in Scala, Java, XSLT and XML Schema running in a Linux environment.

You will influence the future design of the system and will be responsible for helping to contribute to the direction, mentoring junior staff, undertaking code review as well as writing high quality, robust code yourself.

You must be proficient in at least one modern programming language: familiarity with cloud computing would also be an advantage. You will have a passion for learning and developing your skills and will thrive in an environment which values and supports continuous learning.

Role and Responsibilities

In this role you will:

- Undertake design, development and maintenance of our digital products and services, working with external suppliers where necessary.

- Work closely with your team members, ensuring that the needs of the business are met effectively and developing a range of services in line with The National Archives' digital strategy
- Apply relevant software development standards to ensure product quality, undertake code review and agree goals for continuous improvement
- Undertake production system support, taking ownership of issues through to successful resolution so that the operation / availability of this key system is maintained effectively
- Be an active part of the wider external development community, identifying good practices we can adopt and sharing our experiences
- Evaluate and recommend relevant software technologies and products to ensure that The National Archives gains optimum benefit from technological advances
- Develop and maintain a knowledge of digital preservation technologies and the latest world-wide developments in the field

Working Conditions

- Normal office environment / Hybrid Working Pattern
- Display Screen Equipment user

Person Specification

Essential:

- Good professional development experience using programming languages such as Java with the desire and ability to develop your skills in others
- Highly motivated and able to work independently or as part of a multi-disciplinary team, maintaining strong working relationships both within an organisation and externally
- Excellent ability to analyse and problem solve, and good organisational skills coupled with the ability to work to a high degree of accuracy
- Experienced in development best practices and project methodologies

Desirable:

- Experience, or the desire to learn Scala
- Experience of Terraform or other infrastructure as code tools and languages
- Experience of Python or a desire to learn Python
- Experience of cloud computing and/or service-oriented software systems
- Good understanding of source control tools, such as Git
- Experience of development in a Linux environment

Other Requirements

- The successful candidate will be required to obtain SC level clearance. Subject to candidate's circumstances, this may require current UK residency of up to 3 years.

Nationality Requirements

[Further information on nationality requirements](#)

We are committed to continually improving the diversity of our workforce and therefore encourage applications from people of colour, the LGBTQI+ community, those who are neuro diverse, and those with a disability.