



Churches
in Ireland
Connecting
in Christ

The Irish Council of Churches (ICC)

Candidate Pack

Good Relations Officer

May 2026

Introduction from the General Secretary

Thank you for your interest in the role of Good Relations Officer with Churches in Ireland – Connecting in Christ. The Irish Council of Churches (ICC), together with the Irish Inter-Church Meeting (IICM), represents a longstanding and deeply committed ecumenical partnership dedicated to fostering unity, witness, and collaboration among Christian churches across the island of Ireland.

For many decades, the ICC has provided a respected and trusted platform for its fourteen member churches to engage collectively in addressing the pressing issues of our time. Working alongside the Irish Episcopal Conference through the IICM, we strive to offer a shared Christian voice in society and to strengthen relationships across denominational, cultural, and geographic boundaries.

This is an important and timely appointment. While significant progress has been made in peacebuilding on this island, we remain acutely aware that reconciliation is an ongoing journey. The strategy document *The Unfinished Work of Peace* reflects our shared commitment to deepening understanding, addressing division, and nurturing relationships that can sustain a just and lasting peace.

The Good Relations Officer will play a central leadership role in taking forward this work. The postholder will help shape and deliver our peacebuilding and reconciliation efforts, develop meaningful connections with churches and communities—including those beyond our existing membership—and strengthen the vital links between local initiatives and national collaboration. We are seeking an individual who brings not only professional expertise and organisational skill, but also a genuine passion for reconciliation, an ability to build trust across difference, and a commitment to the shared Christian calling of unity in Christ. This role offers a unique opportunity to contribute to transformative work at a critical time, supporting churches to respond together with courage, creativity, and hope.

We look forward to hearing from you if you can contribute to this important mission.

Rev Dr Karen Campbell
General Secretary

Churches in Ireland – Connecting in Christ

Job Description - Good Relations Officer

Job Title	Good Relations Officer, Irish Council of Churches
Location	Inter Church Centre, suite 1 Talbot street, St Anne's Cathedral
Salary	Scale £31,811 p.a. for 37.5 hrs per week, Fixed Term 2-year post
Line Manager	General Secretary, Irish Council of Churches
Pension	10% employer 7% employee
Leave	25 days Annual leave plus 12 days statutory leave

Background

The Irish Council of Churches and the Irish Inter-Church Meeting work together under the title: Churches in Ireland - Connecting in Christ. They seek to develop opportunities for the churches in Ireland to work together, to provide a Christian voice in society, and so witness to their common belief in Jesus Christ.

The Irish Council of Churches (ICC) currently has fourteen member churches. It is one of the longest serving established national ecumenical bodies in the world and has a strong track record of addressing issues of justice, peace and integration as well as facilitating collaboration on key contemporary priorities.

The Irish Inter-Church Meeting (IICM) is the way in which the ICC churches and the Irish Episcopal Conference (Roman Catholic Church) collaborate (see www.irishchurches.org/about for more details on these structures). Its work is carried forward by the Irish Inter Church Committee (IICC)

Job Purpose

The Good Relations Officer will have lead responsibility for implementation of the strategy document "The Unfinished Work of Peace", for leading ICC/IICM work on peacebuilding and reconciliation, and for developing ICC/IICM connections with local inter-church initiatives across Ireland.

Job Description - Good Relations Officer

Key Responsibilities

The main duties will include, but may not be confined to:

- Unfinished Work of Peace
 - Leading inter-church engagement on the identified areas of focus in the Unfinished Work of Peace Strategy Document, with a particular attention paid to boarder counties
 - Developing an institutional understanding of reconciliation, holistically conceived to incorporate the various dimensions of societal life in Ireland facing fractures and conflict
 - Convening working groups as required and documenting these meetings as appropriate.
- Building relationships
 - Developing connections with new/migrant-led/other churches outside of the membership of ICC across the island
 - Building on relationships and key links in member churches and Republic of Ireland local ecumenical bodies
 - Connecting local and national inter-church engagement
 - Supporting new and emerging local/regional reconciliation initiatives between churches
 - Documenting and sharing examples of new/or successful models of inter church engagement
- Support and Financial
 - Developing a work plan and providing quarterly progress reports on targets.
 - Ensuring the programme remains within the allocated budget.
 - Keeping appropriate records and developing a database of contacts.
 - Preparing and submitting funding applications to funding bodies as appropriate.
 - Contributing to the communications of the ICC/IICM.
 - Contributing to the planning and organisation of ICC/IICM events.
 - Deputising for the General Secretary as required.

General Responsibilities

- Act at all times in accordance with Irish Council of Churches policies and procedures, including health & safety, equality, diversity and inclusion, data protection, and complaints.
- Adhere to lone working policies and procedures, personal safety protocols during outreach and visits.
- Flexible working to include evenings and occasional weekends.
- Travel independently across the region as required.
- Attend and prepare for supervision, team meetings, training, and other forums as required.
- To attend training and continue their professional development. Keeping up to date with any new policy or legislative changes through research and training.

The key responsibilities above give a broad outline of the functions of the post.

However, these duties must be approached in a flexible manner. The post holder will be expected to adapt to changing circumstances and undertake other duties appropriate to the grade of the post as allocated by your line manager. The outline of responsibilities may change from time to time.



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Good Relation Officer Person Specification

Person Specification - Good Relations Officer

Essential Criteria	Desirable Criteria
1.0 Qualifications and Knowledge	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A third level qualification or 3 years' appropriate relevant experience • Good knowledge of how churches relate in a national setting • An understanding of contemporary theological issues 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social and political awareness. • A theological qualification
2.0 Experience	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Experience of strategic planning • Experience of facilitating meetings and working groups. • Experience of networking with a wide range of people of different traditions and backgrounds • Experience of successful completion of funding applications and management of project funds. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Experience in financial planning and management
3.0 Special Aptitudes	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strong commitment to develop inter-church relations and ecumenism in Ireland • Good interpersonal skills • Self-motivation, with excellent organisational skills • Good communications skills – both written and oral • Proven commitment to inter-church engagement on issues of peace, reconciliation or community relations 	
4.0 Special Requirements	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evidence of personal Christian faith in practice and expression, normally demonstrated by active membership of a Christian congregation (The essential nature of this post requires that the successful candidate be a Christian as provided for under excepted occupations in the Fair Employment Treatment (NI) Order 1998) • A strong commitment to peace building and community development • A willingness to work with, and seek to build and maintain, the confidence of different Christian traditions • To have a full driving licence and access to a car for work purposes • To be prepared to be flexible with regard to working arrangements • To be prepared to travel and work irregular hours as necessitated by the job 	

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