Dear Applicant

Thank you for your interest in joining TinyLife. We’re delighted that you are considering becoming part of our team.

At TinyLife we believe that every premature or sick baby who starts life in a neonatal unit in Northern Ireland has the best start to life and is supported to reach their full potential. Our Family Support Services Team play a crucial role for our families by providing emotional and practical support to parents.

Our work is driven by passion, purpose, and a commitment to excellence — and we're looking for someone who shares that spirit.

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| This candidate pack contains information for the: Family Support Practitioner post (WHSCT area covering Derry / Londonderry, Limavady & surrounding areas):  |
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| This pack contains information about:1. The process and timetable
2. Terms, Conditions and Benefits of working for TinyLife
3. Privacy Notice for Recruitment
4. Role profile and job specification
5. Application form
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Please read these carefully to understand whether the role is suitable and that you meet the role requirements.

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|  **1. The process and timetable** |

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| **Vacancy Close Date and Time:** |  **13th October 2025 at 12pm.****Application forms received after this time and date will not be accepted.** |
| **Interview Dates:** | **It is envisaged the interviews will take place on week commencing 20th October 2025****If candidates are not available for interview on the specified interview date – an alternative may not be arranged.** |

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|  **2. Terms, Conditions and Benefits of working for TinyLife** |
| **Terms and Conditions of Employment:**Any offer of employment will be provisional subject to two satisfactory references, right to work in the UK without restriction and Access NI check when required. |
| **Benefits*** Enhanced Holidays - 25 days annual leave plus 12 statutory days (pro-rata)
* Enhanced Pension – up to and including 6% contribution by TinyLife
* Westfield Health Care Package (after 9 months)
* Consideration will be given to hybrid working in line with business needs
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| **3. Privacy Notice for Recruitment**  |
| For information on the main elements of the data we collect about you as an applicant, why we collect it and what we do with it during and after the recruitment process please see <https://www.tinylife.org.uk/app/uploads/2022/06/TinyLife-Privacy-Notice-Recruitment.pdf>. We want you to feel assured that we manage your data confidentially, safely and securely.  |

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| **4. Role Profile and Job Specification** |

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| Role Profile:  | Family Support Practitioner (WHSCT area covering Derry / Londonderry, Limavady & surrounding areas) |
| **Reporting to:** | **Senior Family Practitioner**  |
| **Hours / Salary:** | 25 hours per week (subject to funding) **NJC Scale 15-20 (£30, 024 – £32,597 pro rata)** |

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| Main Job Purpose: |
| TinyLife is the premature baby charity for Northern Ireland. The Family Support programme helps to alleviate some of the stress of having a sick or premature baby by providing a range of services. We offer a unique service providing emotional and practical support both in hospital, at home and in local communities. The family support work in this area has been well established. TinyLife wish to develop the service to increase the level of support to families and the neonatal units.  |

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| **Key Responsibilities:** |
| 1. **Performance Results**
 | **Families** * To make weekly visits to the local Neonatal Unit and visit Maternity Units as required to meet and provide information and support to parents of premature, and sick babies.
* To agree a programme of support for families referred to TinyLife by carrying out assessment of need, providing practical information and support.
* To conduct regular family reviews and reassess the level of family support provided.
	+ To assist in the implementation of TinyLife’s breast pump loan service in the relevant geographical area.
	+ To plan, prepare for and facilitate the delivery of local support groups, baby sensory sessions, baby massage sessions and information events for parents.
	+ To liaise with healthcare professionals and other statutory and voluntary organisations to ensure coherent and coordinated support of families.
	+ To work with other professionals and other agencies to develop and support new TinyLife services.
	+ To conduct regular reviews of the nature and level of family support provided and obtain parental and children’s feedback on the quality of service received.
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| 1. **Family Support Practitioner**
 | **Volunteers** * Provide assistance to the recruitment and training of volunteers, taking a lead in these tasks as and when required in line with organisational requirements, legislative requirements and best practice.
* Regularly support and supervise volunteers to assist families with premature, ill and vulnerable babies in the relevant geographical area.

**GENERAL*** + To assist the Senior Family Practitioner and extended team in promoting and presenting TinyLife’s services to parents, healthcare professionals and local communities throughout the relevant geographical area.
* To promote TinyLife’s services to parents and healthcare professionals and to respond to requests and referrals for those services.
	+ To maintain statistical records as directed by the Head of Operations with a view to assessing the impact of TinyLife interventions in the relevant area.
	+ To ensure at all times that TinyLife family support services operate within current legislation.
	+ To ensure that the family support services are delivered in line with TinyLife policies and procedures.
	+ To undertake all relevant administrative tasks on how the family support services are operating in the relevant geographical area.
	+ To collect and refine service delivery data for presentation in monitoring and evaluation reports.
	+ To undertake any other duties appropriate to the post as directed by the Head of Operations & Senior Family Practitioners.
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| 1. **Continuous Improvement**
 | * Seek opportunities to promote continuous improvement in all areas of practice.
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| 1. **Risk, H&S, Safeguarding, Quality and Compliance**
 | * Ensure at all times, that TinyLife’s family support services are delivered in line with TinyLife policies and procedures, operate within current legislation and conform to local statutory authorities’ guidelines.
* Act confidentially and take proactive steps to ensure compliance to GDPR at all times.
* Adhere to Safeguarding, Health and Safety policies, procedures and practices at all times and report any risks immediately to your manager.
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| 1. **Other**
 | * To carry out such other duties as required within competence and reason to meet the demands and responsibilities of the post.
* **This job description may be subject to change in line with the changing needs and demands of the organisation.**
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| **Essential Criteria** |
| **Employment, Qualifications / Education**3 years recent working experience within the field of family support, parenting support or Early Years in a voluntary, community or hospital setting and an A Level education or equivalent. **or**2 years recent working experience within the field of family support, parenting support or Early Years in a voluntary, community or hospital setting and either a health/social care professional AND 3rd Level qualification in a relevant discipline. |
| **Managing Workload*** Proven ability to work to targets.
* Proven ability to manage, plan and prioritise workload.
* Ability to process and collate information, maintain effective records and produce reports using statistical information.
* Proven ability to use Microsoft Outlook, Word and Excel and remote working platforms e.g., Zoom & Teams.

**Supporting Families*** Understanding of the needs of families with premature and vulnerable babies.
* Proven ability to effectively assess need and plan and implement appropriate goals alongside the family.
* Knowledge of current legislation and policies relating to children and families.

**Volunteers*** Understanding the needs of volunteers to provide appropriate training and support when working in the field of family support.

**Working in Partnership and in the Wider Context*** Experience of partnership working to include statutory/voluntary sector

**IT*** Intermediate level computing skills, word-processing - compiling reports, training handouts and letters, presenting and storing data in a database, effective use of e-mail, and ability to search out quality information on the internet. Comfortable working with remote working platforms e.g., Zoom and Teams

**Self-Management / Personal Attributes*** Excellent interpersonal skills
* Excellent written and verbal communication skills including presentational skills
* Proven ability to work reliably on own initiative
* Understanding of the relevant policies and practices in relation to the post including Equal Opportunities and confidentiality.
* Willingness to access and attend training opportunities relevant to the post.

**Special Requirements*** A full, current driving licence and/or access to a form of transport which will enable the post holder to carry out all duties.
* Eligibility to work in the U.K.
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| **Desirable Criteria** |
| * Experience of working with families of premature babies and young children under the age of 5.
* Experience and knowledge of work in the voluntary sector as a volunteer/paid member of staff in the field of family support.
* Completed or currently undertaking the IAMS Course in Baby Massage.
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| **Core Competencies and Behaviours:** *The following competencies will be explored at interview* |
| To fulfil this role, the successful job holder will need to demonstrate the following: * **Focus on Outcomes:** Ability to effectively plan and organise work, anticipate issues and overcome obstacles to ensure results are delivered in line with organisational goals and KPIs.
* **Teamwork and Communication:** The ability to work collaboratively to build and maintain effective relationships (both internally and externally) in line with our ethos and values.
* **Innovation, Change and Resilience:** The ability to use your initiative to think ahead and adapt well to different situations and scenarios to find solutions.
* **Service Excellence:** Strong attention to detail with the ability to ensure high quality standards and customer service excellence are consistently delivered.
* **Technical and Professional Development:** Effective use of IT including Excel and databases.
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**TINYLIFE IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES EMPLOYER**

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| Family Support Practitioner (WHSCT area) |  |

**INSTRUCTIONS - PLEASE READ THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION CAREFULLY**

1. Please ensure you read the candidate pack which includes details of the role and criteria to be met.
2. You must complete the Application form fully and accurately. If there is insufficient space for your answer, you may continue on a separate sheet. CV’s will not be considered, either in lieu of the application form or in conjunction with it.
3. **It is your responsibility to ensure that sufficient information is given on the application form to demonstrate how and to what extent you meet the *both the essential and any desirable criteria.***
4. Please write clearly (type or block capitals) or type your responses.
5. All information will be treated in confidence and will be used by TinyLife to assess your suitability for the job.
6. Candidates will be shortlisted only on the basis of information contained in this Application.
7. You must ensure you complete and return the Application form and Equal Opportunities Monitoring Questionnaire by no later than the close date and time specified in the candidate pack. **Application forms received after this time and date will not be accepted.**
8. **Application Form should in the first instance be emailed to** ciara@tinylife.org.uk

**Or, alternatively, posted to TinyLife, Unit A5 Sydenham Business Park, 17 Heron Road, Belfast BT3 9LE**

1. TinyLife have a policy on the 'Recruitment of ex-offenders' policy, and this is available upon request.
2. TinyLife have a GDPR policy on 'Handling, storage, and disposal of Disclosure information and this can be available upon request. Please also refer to our Privacy Statement for recruitment in the candidate pack.

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| **Job Ref:**  | FSP/Sept25 |
| **Application No:**  | FSP/Sept25/ |

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| **The Vacancy / Job Applied For:** | Family Support Practitioner (WHSCT Area)  |

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| **APPLICANT DETAILS** |
| **Surname:**  |  | **Forename(s):** |  |
| **Home Address:** |  |
| **Postcode:** |  | **Email:** |  |
| **Home Number:** |  | **Mobile Number:** |  |
| **National Insurance Number:** |

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| **Reasonable Adjustments**Please provide details of any special arrangements/ adjustments in relation to either communications or access requirements if invited to interview |  |

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| ELIGIBILITY TO WORK IN THE UK |
| Do you have the right to work in the UK? YES ☐ NO ☐As required under legislation, we will require you to present documentary evidence to confirm your right to work in the UK. *E.g. Your Passport or other Official Documentation confirming your National Insurance Number and your Full Birth Certificate or any other eligible documentation* |

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| **Where did you see advert?** |  |

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| **In the event you are unsuccessful in your application for this role, are you interested in being kept informed regarding other roles with TinyLife?** | YES ☐ / NO ☐ |

 **2. EMPLOYMENT HISTORY**

*Please use the space below to list all present and past employment, in chronological order, i.e.; starting with your most recent employer first.* All previous employment must be accounted for in your application.

*You may use a separate continuation sheet if necessary.*

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| **Are you currently employed?**  |  |

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| **Name of Current Employer:** |  |
| **Employment Date:**  | **From** |   | **To** |  |
| **Address of Current Employer**  |  |  **Postcode** |  |
| **Current Position / Job Title:** |  |
| **Notice Period:** |  |
| **Salary and Benefits:** |  |
| **Key Duties and Responsibilities:** Please use this to also note any additional Information (any other relevant information you feel may be relevant): |
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| --- | --- |
| **Name of Current Employer:** |  |
| **Employment Date:**  | **From** |  | **To** |  |
| **Address of Current Employer**  |  |  **Postcode** |  |
| **Current Position / Job Title:** |  |
| **Notice Period:** |  |
| **Salary and Benefits:** |  |
| **Key Duties and Responsibilities:** Please use this to also note any additional Information (any other relevant information you feel may be relevant): |
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| **NAME & ADDRESS****OF EMPLOYER** | **Date From and To:** | **Type of Job** **(Give brief description of duties)** | **SALARY**  | **REASON FOR LEAVING** |
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| OTHER EMPLOYMENT – Please declare any other employment you currently undertake that would continue with if you were to be successful in obtaining this position. |
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| **3. ESSENTIAL CRITERIA** |
| **Pl Please identify your relevant experience by ticking the appropriate box and then demonstrating to w that extent how you meet it in the text box for each criterion.** |

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| **Criterion 1 –** **Employment, Qualifications / Education**3 years recent working experience within the field of family support, parenting support or Early Years in a voluntary, community or hospital setting and an A Level education or equivalent. **or**2 years recent working experience within the field of family support, parenting support or Early Years in a voluntary, community or hospital setting and either a health/social care professional AND 3rd Level qualification in a relevant discipline. | YES ☐ NO ☐YES ☐ NO ☐ |
| **Criterion 2 –** Managing Workload | YES ☐ NO ☐ |
| **Criterion 3 –** Supporting families | YES ☐ NO ☐ |
| **Criterion 4 -** Managing Volunteers | YES ☐ NO ☐ |
| **Criterion 5 –** Working in Partnership & Wider Context | YES ☐ NO ☐ |
| **Please use the space below to demonstrate, with supporting evidence, the level and extent of your experience in relation to the essential criteria 1 to 5 above (no more than 650 words)**  |  |
| **Criterion 1** |
| **Criterion 2** |
| **Criterion 3** |
| **Criterion 4** |
| **Criterion 5** |
| **Criterion 6 -** Effective use of IT including Microsoft Outlook, Word and Excel and remote working platforms e.g., Zoom & Teams | YES ☐ NO ☐ |

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| Please enter an x in the boxes below as to which applies as appropriate |
|  | Beginner | Intermediate | Excel at |
| **Excel** |  |  |  |
| **Microsoft Word**  |  |  |  |
| **PowerPoint** |  |  |  |
| **Email** |  |  |  |
| **Any additional relevant IT related skills or qualification as related to the post** |
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| **Criterion 7 –** Excellent interpersonal and communication skills – both written and verbal (*evidence will be taken from the application form and during interview*) | YES ☐ NO ☐ |
| **Criterion 8 -**Willingness to undergo an Access NI check | YES ☐ NO ☐ |

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| **Driving License and Access to a Car (if applicable)** |
| **Do you hold a valid driving license?**  | YES ☐ NO ☐ |
| **Do you have access to a car or other form of transport to enable you to carry out the duties associated with the post?**  | YES ☐ NO ☐ |

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| **4. DESIRABLE CRITERIA** |
| Pl Please use this section to clearly demonstrate how you meet the desirable criteria for this post as  d identified in the job advertisement and personnel specification.D During the shortlisting phase of the recruitment process, In the event that we receive high levels of a applicants meeting the essential criteria, we reserve the right to revert to the desirable criteria. |

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| * Experience of working with families of premature babies and young children under the age of 5.
 | YES ☐ NO ☐ |
| * Experience and knowledge of work in the voluntary sector as a volunteer/paid member of staff in the field of family support.
 | YES ☐ NO ☐ |
| * Completed or currently undertaking the IAMS Course in Baby Massage.
 | YES ☐ NO ☐ |
| **Please demonstrate (where relevant), with a short explanation, your experience / understanding / knowledge in the above three areas (no more than 150 words).** |  |
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| **5. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION** / **SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS** |
|  Please use this space should you wish to provide any additional information that you feel may p support your application / to clearly demonstrate how you meet the special requirements for this p post as identified in the job advertisement and personnel specification.  |
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| 1. **6. References**
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| All offers of employment are conditional and subject to receipt of satisfactory written references. Please p provide the names, telephone numbers, addresses and email addresses of two referees, one of whom s would be your present or most recent employer/line manager, and one who knows/has known you in a work capacity and can comment on your suitability for this post. |

**Please note we will not contact your referees prior to interview and only upon a conditional offer having been made.**

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| **First Referee** | **Second Referee** |
| Name:  | Name:  |
| Address: | Address: |
| Tel:  | Tel:  |
| Email:  | Email:  |
| Occupation:  | Occupation:  |
| Relationship to you:  | Relationship to you:  |

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| 1. **Declaration**
 |
| I certify that to the best of my knowledge all information provided in this Application is truthful and accurate including that contained within sections 8 and 9 below. I confirm I have not omitted any facts that could affect my employment. I understand that any false or misleading statements or if I have suppressed any material facts could place any subsequent employment in jeopardy / result in a job offer being withdrawn and / or if appointed, dismissal.I understand that any employment to be taken up is subject to me providing documentary evidence of my right to work in the UK, as well as evidence of any qualifications as relevant to the post and satisfactory references or other checks as may be reasonably required. I consent to personal data contained within this form being processed and retained for the purposes of assessing suitability for the post and may form the basis of any subsequent personnel file in line with GDPR. Please refer to our Recruitment Privacy Notice.**Signature: Date:** If your application is submitted by email, you are advised that an electronic signature will be accepted. |

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| 1. **DECLARATION OF CRIMINAL CONVICTIONS**
 |
| PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING: **You have been asked to complete this section of the form as the role you have applied for is considered to be covered by the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974. The information disclosed on this form will not be kept with your application form during the application process.**Applicants are, therefore advised that they are not entitled to withhold information about convictions that are for other purposes “spent” under the provisions of the Order. Any information given will be treated in the strictest confidence and applicants are advised that a criminal record will not, in itself, debar their application from consideration or from being appointed. All cases will be examined on an individual basis and due consideration given in relation to the specific post being applied for. Suitable applicants will not be refused a post due to an offence/s which is not considered relevant to the role for which they are applying.It is important that applicants understand that deliberate attempts to conceal the information requested in this form could result in the application being considered NULL and VOID, or an offer being withdrawn and / or disciplinary proceedings or dismissal.If circumstances whereby a candidate or employee’s circumstances have changed since their original disclosure, they are required to notify the organisation immediately of any additional or potentially pending convictions not originally disclosed. Again, failure to do so could result in in an offer being withdrawn and / or disciplinary proceedings or dismissal. |
| ACCESS NI: I understand that this post is (or may be) exempt from the provisions of the Rehabilitation of Offenders (NI) Order 1978. | Yes [ ]   No [ ]  |
| In the event of my application being successful, I consent to undergoing an Access NI check. | Yes [ ]  No [ ]  |

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| Do you have any unspent convictions or conditional cautions? Have you ever been excluded / barred from working with children and/or young people? | Yes [ ]  No [ ] Yes [ ]  No [ ]  |
| **If yes, you have two options for disclosing your criminal record.** Option 1: You can disclose your criminal record on a separate sheet provided that you mark a cross on the line below and attach the details in an envelope stapled to this form. The envelope should be marked CONFIDENTIAL and state your name and details of the post.I have attached details of my conviction separately\_\_\_\_\_ (please mark with an X if appropriate.)Option 2: Please provide details in the space below. |
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| **Section 9: MONITORING FORM**  |
| Job File Ref No: **FSP/Sept 25** Applicant No:  |

This monitoring form **should be returned in a separate envelope** to: **Monitoring Officer, TinyLife Unit A5 Sydenham Business Park, 17 Heron Road, Belfast BT3 9LE**.

TinyLife is committed to promoting equality, diversity and an inclusive and supportive environment for staff, volunteers and families. In particular TinyLife will seek to ensure that we provide equality of opportunity, and that no employee or job applicant receives less favourable treatment on the grounds of perceived religious belief, political opinion, gender, marital or family status, disability, age, race, nationality or sexual orientation.

As legally required, we monitor the community background and sex of our job applicants and employees in order to demonstrate our commitment to promoting equality of opportunity in employment and to comply with our duties under the Fair Employment & Treatment (NI) Order 1998.

All applicants should complete this section. However, you are not obliged to answer the questions on this form and you will not suffer any penalty if you choose not to do so. Nevertheless, we encourage you to answer these questions. If you do not complete this section, we are encouraged to use the “residuary” method, which means that we can make a determination on the information requested on the basis of personal information supplied by you.

**Please Note: If you answer this questionnaire, you are obliged to do so truthfully, as it is a criminal offence under the Fair Employment (Monitoring) Regulations (NI) 1999 to knowingly give false answers to these questions.**

Your answers will be used by us to prepare and submit a monitoring return to the Equality Commission, but your identity will be kept anonymous. In all other regards your answers will be treated with the strictest confidence and this sheet will be detached from your application prior to interview. We assure you that your answers will not be used by us to make any decisions affecting you, whether in a recruitment exercise or during the course of any employment with us. All data will be retained and processed in line with GDPR requirements.

Regardless of whether we practice religion, most of us in Northern Ireland are perceived to be members of either the Roman Catholic or Protestant communities. **Therefore, we ask you to indicate your community background by ticking the appropriate box below:**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| I am a member of the Protestant Community  |   |  |
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| I am a member of the Roman Catholic Community |   |  |
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| I am a member of neither the Protestant nor the Roman Catholic Community |   |  |
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| **Please indicate your gender by ticking the appropriate box below:** |  |  |
| Male  |   |  |
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| Female |   |  |

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| **Do you consider yourself to have a disability under the terms of the Disability Discrimination Act 1995, defined as a physical or mental impairment, which has a substantial and long term adverse effect on a person’s ability to carry out normal day to day activities?** |   |  |
| Yes |   |  |
|  |  |  |
| No |   |  |
| If ‘yes’, please state the nature of your disability: |  |  |