

# Background Information

## General Manager



**Mires Beck Nursery** was founded in the early 1980s as a private business. It became a Registered Charity and Company limited by guarantee in 1994. It exists to provide day care and training in horticulture for service users with a range of special needs, the prime one of which is learning difficulties. In its early days it had just four service users, but that number has grown to about ninety, attending on average for two days per week.

It operates from a fourteen acre freehold site at the southern edge of North Cave village in a rural setting. This includes the glasshouses and offices needed for the effective running of the business. It also includes areas developed to preserve habitat. Originally it was staffed by a part time member of staff and a few dedicated volunteers. It now has about forty full or part time staff (FTE20). The Charity is overseen by a group of six Trustee/Directors with differing areas of expertise. On site we have managers responsible for the “people” and “plant” aspects of the business.

The nursery produces a wide range of herbaceous perennial plants. It has a unique collection of about one hundred and fifty different native wildflowers, all of Yorkshire provenance. Separate groups operate on site, with a range of roles, including plant production and looking after our infrastructure. Finally we have an “Anniversary Garden” looking after service users with more complex needs.

The nursery now has a turnover of about £600,000 per annum. The majority of this comes from fees for providing Day Care, but income from the sale of plants is a key component in the arithmetic. Grants are sought to fund capital projects.

In appointing a new General Manager, we are looking for someone who can effectively manage the finances and balance the need to run a viable business with the compassion to care for our service users. We need someone with the inter-personal skills to lead our hardworking team of differing personalities and skills. But most of all, we need someone who can grasp the vision to unlock the untapped potential which the nursery has.

The annual leave entitlement for this post is 33 days per annum, including bank holidays.

To apply for this post, please send a CV with a hand written covering letter explaining why you are the right person for this role and an indication of your salary expectation to: Chris Nelson, Trustee, Mires Beck Nursery, Low Mill Lane, North Cave, Brough, HU15 2NR or email to [lorraine@miresbeck.co.uk](mailto:lorraine@miresbeck.co.uk) Please also complete the Automatic Disqualification Declaration and return it with your CV and covering letter.

Closing date: 15 July 2018