



# EDINBURGH SOUL FOOD CONSULTANT

**Role title:** Edinburgh Soul Food Meal's Consultant (freelance)

**Day rate:** £120

**Hours:** 20 hours per week (Monday and Thursday's, plus half a day at another point in the week)

**Location:** Edinburgh

**Job description:** We are looking for an experienced charity consultant to provide oversight, support and leadership to our Soul Food meals in the city of Edinburgh.

## Role summary

### Key responsibilities:

- To join our Monday and Thursday Soul Food teams, providing oversight and leadership, ensuring that they run in accordance with Soul Food Edinburgh's values.
- Provide support for the leaders/churches of other Soul Food meals around the city.
- Assist in recruiting, training and supporting volunteers.
- Be available to participate in trustee meetings as we develop a continued vision for Soul Food Edinburgh.
- Help to develop a support base of prayer and financial support for the work of Soul Food Edinburgh.

### Key relationships:


- Soul Food Edinburgh Lead
- Soul Food Trustees
- Volunteers

## Person specification

### Essential experience:

- Confident and proficient in cooking for large numbers of people (can be up to 120 +). We are looking for someone who can produce tasty, comforting and healthy meals as you may – at times - be required to cook.
- Experience of working with people experiencing homelessness, addiction and poverty.
- Experience of volunteer recruitment and management.
- Good communication skills, both written and verbal.
- Up to date knowledge of health and kitchen hygiene laws and good practice.
- Ability to work to a budget.
- Experience of fundraising and recruiting ongoing financial support.
- Experience of networking and developing relationships with businesses and organisations.
- Self-motivated with the ability to motivate and inspire others.
- Current driving licence.
- Soul Food Edinburgh is a Christian faith-based organisation. There is a genuine occupational requirement for the freelancer to be a Christian.

### Desirable experience:

- Experience of running a community meal.
  - A good knowledge of Edinburgh.
  - Links into relevant networks.
  - Undertaken theological research into justice issues.
  - An understanding of the workings of the Scottish benefits and housing system.
  - Knowledge of the situation surrounding homelessness in Edinburgh and Scotland.
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### How to apply

Have a read through the information provided and check out our website:  
[www.soulfoodedinburgh.org](http://www.soulfoodedinburgh.org).

If you would like an informal chat about the role or have any questions, please don't hesitate to get in touch Jenny Cornfield at: [jenny@soulfoodedinburgh.org](mailto:jenny@soulfoodedinburgh.org).

**To apply, please send your CV and a cover letter by Thursday 28th August 2025 to:**  
[jenny@soulfoodedinburgh.org](mailto:jenny@soulfoodedinburgh.org).

Applications will be assessed based on the person specification & the experience of the freelancer – please use concrete examples of your experience and how you meet these criteria to give us the best possible understanding of how you would suit this role. Please also provide the names of two people who can provide a reference to support your application.

### **Recruitment timeline:**

**Applications open:** Thursday 24th July 2025

**Applications close:** Thursday 28th August 2025

**Shortlisting date:** Tuesday 2nd September 2025

**Interview date:** Friday 12th September 2025



## Background

### The Story of Soul Food:

**WHO WE ARE:** As a charity, Soul Food Edinburgh helps to provide delicious, home cooked, free meals whilst also offering some respite and support to anyone dealing with the challenges of homelessness, poverty, isolation, and loneliness.

The meals that we host with partners are called Soul Food. We currently have 6 meals hosted in partnership with churches and a school, and two further meals that we run – as Soul Food Edinburgh – in entirety. Seven of the meals take place in Edinburgh and one is in Livingston.

Our vision is centred around the power of the table. By setting a table and sharing a meal, we hope to provide a context that offers a place of safety and security where people feel accepted, respected, valued, loved and heard. We hope that the ordinary setting of a dinner place becomes a space of life-changing relationship and community.

We are inspired by the word '**hospitality**', which literally means 'for the love of a guest'. Every Soul Food meal offers the warmest of welcomes to all people, whatever their situation. No referrals are needed to access a meal, they are open to anyone in need of a free meal and a safe space to be. Recognising that a meal meets the immediate need of hunger but does not address the long-term challenges that guests could be experiencing, we talk of being 'more than a meal'. Through the offer of friendship and community, with the help of other agencies and churches, we offer specific support to individuals – anything from: helping to open bank accounts, fill in forms, signposting to benefit and housing advice, decorating flats and tech support. We are just beginning to dip our toes into campaigning and advocacy and would like to develop this further.

We are a Christian faith-based organisation. Due to this, it is important that whoever is appointed to lead our meals based in Scotland is a Christian.



## Our values

We are values driven and ask all who partner with us by hosting a meal, volunteering etc, to sign up to five important values which are the heartbeat of our communities:

Soul Food is a **GENEROUS** meal. Always two courses, and always healthy, high-quality food.

Soul Food is a **SAFE SPACE**. No drugs or alcohol and no rude or threatening behaviour.

Soul Food ensures that everyone, volunteer or guest, is **TREATED AS AN EQUAL**, with kindness, dignity and respect.

Soul Food is **COLLABORATIVE** with other agencies and organisations engaging in poverty and homelessness.

Soul Food offers a **COMMITMENT to WALK ALONGSIDE** anyone in need of support.

