Site Reliability Engineer - Digital Publishing

You'll be part of our platform team in the Digital Publishing division at the Office for National Statistics. As a Site Reliability Engineer, you'll spend half of your time working on our platform and tooling, and the other half working with our product teams to improve the reliability of their services.

You'll thrive using agile methods and enjoy working openly, collaboratively and as part of a multidisciplinary team of front-end engineers, back-end engineers, site reliability engineers, interaction designers, user researchers, service manager, product owner and performance analyst.

As a member of the Digital Publishing team, you'll share responsibility for:

- The ONS website – https://www.ons.gov.uk
- Our API - https://api.ons.gov.uk
- Our developer site – https://developer.ons.gov.uk
- Our performance dashboard – https://performance.ons.gov.uk
- Florence (our CMS) – https://github.com/ONSdigital/florence

We've just launched a new container platform built with AWS, Docker and the Hashicorp stack (including Consul, Nomad and Vault). We also work with tools including Elasticsearch, Kibana and Prometheus. You'll also contribute to development work with Go, Java, Python, Kafka, MongoDB, PostgreSQL and Neo4j.

Main responsibilities

- build secure, resilient and scalable infrastructure to support the needs of the ONS digital publishing platform
- contribute to the design, development, deployment and support of the ONS digital publishing platform, taking responsibility for the quality of code you produce
- provide support, documentation and tooling to enable the product team to share responsibility for ops work

- work with our product teams, helping them improve the reliability of their products and services
- build automated tests to support our continuous integration environment
- support the day to day operation of our live services, through investigating and fixing live service incidents, performance improvements and ongoing maintenance
- share knowledge of tools and techniques with your team (both developers and non-developers) and with the wider ops community

Things you might be working on in a typical day

- iterate on the design and implementation of our container hosting platform and continuous integration and deployment pipelines
- improve the resilience, performance and observability of the platform and services which form the ONS website
- work with other engineers to help improve the stability, performance and reliability of their services on our container platform
- participate in technical planning, design and code reviews

What we'll do for you

- provide you with training, mentoring and support from an experienced multidisciplinary team
- give you the freedom to work with modern and relevant technologies including Amazon Web Services with a MacBook Pro development environment

Skills and experience

These are the skills and experiences that might be suitable for this role. An interest in solving the problems we face is much more important than having experience in everything listed.

- experience in infrastructure and operations with detailed knowledge of AWS, Terraform and Ansible, and an understanding of web security, and microservice and platform observability and alerting
- understanding of software design principles, including event driven architecture, microservices and 12-factor apps
- experience of back-end development tools and technologies including Go and Java

- experience of data technologies including PostgreSQL, MongoDB, Redis and Kafka
- experience of build and deployment tools including Concourse CI using continuous integration and deployment techniques
- experience of mentoring and supporting junior engineers
- ability to quickly research and learn new programming tools and techniques
- a systematic approach to solving problems, and using testing to validate solutions
- understanding of agile environments and version control
- an understanding of data and web security including encryption, standards compliance, OWASP and common attack vectors
- an awareness of technologies used for web applications, e.g. HTTPS, JSON and CDNs, and use of Unix-like operating systems, e.g. Linux and/or Mac OS