

**Job Title:** Senior Research Associate

**Grade:** 8

**Salary:** £50,253 to £56,535 per annum, pro-rata if part-time

**Department:** School of Medical Sciences, Public Health and Epidemiology

**Hours/Contract:** Full-time, part-time (minimum 0.8FTE, 30 hours per week), or job share considered, fixed term contract from 01 March 2026 for 33 months

**Job Family:** Teaching and Research

**Reference:** 12152

## Role Purpose

To be accountable for the design, delivery and quality of a NIHR-MRC Better Methods Better Research funded project, with measurable outcomes. A significant degree of autonomy is required and there is an expectation to work independently on own tasks and goals. The postholder will be experienced in research, which is reflected by a growing reputation in their field of research.

The purpose of this role is to carry out collaborative methodology research, supported by a team of methodologists within the NIHR-MRC funded project on 'Novel Approaches for Evaluation of Surrogate Endpoints and Their Use in Health Technology Assessment', at the University of Leicester.

The post holder will undertake research on the development and application of advanced evidence synthesis methods for evaluation of surrogate endpoints in several clinical case studies and in the context of Health Technology Assessment (HTA). The post holder will investigate the impact of evidence synthesis models developed in this project on HTA policy decisions, which will involve health economic modelling and other statistical analyses to support this.

The work will be carried out within the Biostatistics Research Group, School of Medical Sciences at the University of Leicester, under guidance of Prof Sylwia Bujkiewicz and the grant co-investigators across the University of Leicester, the University of Sheffield and the University of Birmingham.

Hybrid working is acceptable – if shortlisted, please discuss with employing manager prior to the interview.

## Main Duties and Responsibilities

### Research:

- To design, deliver the research programme to meet key milestones.
- To contribute to research proposals and to continue or expand the research programme to secure and explore potential funding streams.
- To oversee data governance, quality and analytical outputs from the research programme as appropriate.
- To disseminate research/results and/or promotion of research group/expertise at national and international conferences.
- To manage and deliver collaborative research projects
- To apply advanced research skills and carry out development of new research methods (models, techniques, approaches, software) and their critiques (including simulations).





- To publish research outputs which is assessed as internationally and world leading research as per the University Output Review Policy.
- To identify opportunities to apply for fellowships and/or project grants.
- To coach and mentor others in area of professional expertise.
- To carry out multi-disciplinary research across stakeholders internal and external to the University.
- To provide support to PhD students.

## Professional Development:

- To engage in work and opportunities that support your own professional development.

## Impact and Knowledge Exchange:

- To disseminate and share expertise through communication and public engagement activities.
- To represent the work of the University in the specific field locally and nationally in appropriate networks and/or in public activities.
- To contribute to research impact

## Leadership and Citizenship:

- To ensure the overall success of the research programme.
- To innovate in an area of engagement activity e.g public and patient involvement and engagement (PPIE), outreach, widening participation, public debate and awareness at national and/or international level

## Internal and External Relationships

- Communicate and liaise with the project investigators within the research programme on a regular basis to review and plan research activities.
- Establish/maintain collaborations with other researchers at the University of Leicester, nationally and internationally.
- Participate in School/departmental and university-wide seminar and public engagement activities to stimulate dissemination of information and collaboration.
- Disseminate results at national and international conferences.

## Planning and Organising

- Plan and organise own research programme in designated area.
- Plan and co-ordinate research with collaborators.





- Plan and organise dissemination of information to both highly specialised academics and the lay public.
- Plan, organise and submit grant applications for further and supplementary funding.

## Qualifications, Knowledge and Experience

### Essential

- PhD or significant equivalent/demonstrable experience in an appropriate discipline (Medical Statistics/Statistics/Biostatistics/Health Economics or a closely related area) \*
- Track record of international research profile for a relevant area of expertise, including high quality journal publications \*
- Evidence of successful collaboration and liaison with external partners where appropriate \*
- Extensive experience of developing and devising models, theories, techniques and methods \*
- Practical experience and knowledge of meta-analysis methods, including IPD meta-analysis and/or multivariate meta-analysis \*
- Practical experience and knowledge of Bayesian statistics \*
- Proven track record of delivering research on time

### Desirable

- Evidence of contribution to successful grant applications
- Practical experience and knowledge of Bayesian evidence synthesis and/or decision modelling
- Experience of project management of a research programme

## Skills, Abilities and Competencies

### Essential

- Experience using R statistical software \*
- Practical experience using WinBUGS and/or Stan (or similar software) \*
- Familiarity with MS Excel \*
- Proven analytical/technical problem-solving capability\*
- Evidence of statistical model critique through simulations \*
- Ability to manage and deliver collaborative based research projects
- Commitment to Personal Professional Development in subject expertise\*
- Ability to contribute to successfully to securing research funding where applicableEvidence of working effectively as part of a team and the ability to work independently
- Evidence of working with, and building relationships, with internal and external stakeholders
- Excellent communication skills – written and verbal\*

### Desirable

- Skills in managing, motivating and supporting colleagues
- Practical experience using RStudio and libraries such as ggplot, RShiny, RStan, R2WinBUGS.
- Familiarity with Linux and high performance computing (HPC).

***\*Criteria to be used in shortlisting candidates for interview***



## Reason for Fixed Term Contract

The reason for the fixed term contract is stated in section 1.9 in the summary of contractual terms in your contract of employment.

## Criminal Declaration

If you become an employee, you must inform your manager immediately, in writing, if you are the subject of any current or future police investigations/legal proceedings, which could result in a criminal offence, conviction, caution, bind-over or charges, or warnings.

## Supporting University Activities

As a University of Leicester citizen, you are encouraged to support key university activities such as clearing, graduation ceremonies, student registration and recruitment open days. We encourage all staff as citizens to work flexibly across the University if required. If supporting these activities is likely to affect your workload, please speak to your line manager in the first instance

## University Values

**Inclusive** - We are diverse in our makeup and united in ambition. Our diversity is our strength and makes our community stronger.

**Inspiring** - We are passionate about inspiring individuals to succeed and realise their ambitions. We challenge our community to think differently, to get involved, and to constantly embrace new ideas.

**Impactful** - As Citizens of Change we will generate new ideas which deliver impact and empower our community

## Freedom of Speech

The University is committed to upholding freedom of speech and academic freedom within the law throughout our recruitment processes. We ensure that all candidates are considered based on merit and suitability for the role, without regard to their lawful viewpoints or the expression of challenging or controversial ideas. Our recruitment policies and practices are designed to protect applicants from discrimination or adverse treatment on the basis of their opinions, and to foster an environment where open debate and diverse perspectives are valued as essential to our academic mission.

## Equity and Diversity

We believe that equity, diversity and inclusion is integral to a successful modern workplace. By developing and implementing policies and systems that challenge stereotypes across all aspects of our work, we have a culture that recognises and values the diverse contributions of our staff which benefits everyone. Our strong values of inclusivity and equality support our efforts to attract a diverse range of high quality staff and students, and identify our University as a progressive and innovative workplace that mainstreams equality, diversity and inclusion.

