

Job Title: Senior Research Advisor

Grade: 8

Salary: £49,250 to £55,295 per annum, pro rata if part-time

Department: Department of Population Health Sciences

Hours/Contract: Full-time, or job share considered, fixed term contract until 31 March 2026

Job Family: Teaching and Research

Reference: 10517

Role Purpose

This post is jointly funded by the Centre for Ethnic Health Research (CEHR), and the NIHR Research Support Service (RSS) Hub delivered by the University of Leicester and Partners.

As a member of the NIHR Research Support Service Hub you will provide specialist advice on innovative approaches to undertaking research with underserved populations and methods or approaches that address equality, diversity and inclusion in research, to research teams across England using the NIHR RSS service. You will assist researchers to develop high-quality applications to national funding competitions for health and social care research, ensuring the inclusion of appropriate public involvement in project development and delivery plans, using your professional knowledge and experience. As a member of the CEHR, you will contribute to an exciting programme of work addressing health

inequalities and to understand and improve the health of people from ethnic minorities and other underrepresented groups, working alongside the wider team to lead and contribute to the publication of extensive community inclusion activities. In addition to the above, you will assist researchers and Community Engagement Officers in the development of

In both roles you will demonstrate exceptional expertise in a variety of qualitative research methods and approaches, and extensive experience of applying these methods to applied health research. You will have outstanding communication and consultancy skills, and a proven ability to contribute to the development and delivery of important health and social care research and peer reviewed publications.

You will work closely with investigators using the CEHR, colleagues within the CEHR, the RSS and across its partnership, and staff in other research infrastructure groups locally and nationally.

Using highly developed research skills, you will:

- Provide consultancy support to researchers in areas of strategic importance to the NIHR, for the benefit of the public, including in under-served regions and communities with unmet health needs.
- Discuss research approaches and methods that support equality, diversity and inclusion in research.
- Promote the use of innovative approaches to public involvement in project development and delivery
- Develop research on health inequalities and the health of people from ethnic minorities.
- Engage other researchers and research infrastructure and support groups, as needed.
- Review draft applications for research funding.
- Contribute to the development and reputation of the RSS and CEHR locally, regionally, nationally and internationally.





Main Duties and Responsibilities

CEHR

- Support the design, delivery and analysis of collaborative research projects and programmes within the CEHR.
- Produce research outputs, including high-quality internationally recognised publications and represent the CEHR by disseminating results/findings at national and international conferences and broader community.
- Participate in team meetings and discussion with colleagues in the CEHR.
- Supervise research students and contribute to events, workshops, and seminars as required.

RSS

- Offer specialist advice, review and feedback on innovative approaches to undertaking research with underserved populations and methods or approaches that address equality, diversity and inclusion in research, to research teams across England using the service (through one-to-one consultancy, multi-disciplinary meetings, and individual and panel review).
- Participate in team meetings and discussion with colleagues in the RSS regarding project support and service development.
- Develop and deliver events, workshops, and occasional seminars, as required, to promote the Research Support Service and NIHR funding opportunities.
- Undertake personal learning and professional development to attain and enhance skills, knowledge, and competencies.

Internal and External Relationships

- Establish/maintain collaborations with other researchers at the University of Leicester, across RSS Hub, and nationally and internationally.
- Help to establish and maintain productive relationships with NHS, social care, public health and National Institute for Health and Care Research groups, units, and networks.

Planning and Organising

- Plan and organise learning activities to promote research design, delivery, and dissemination.
- Contribute to the planning and delivery of service improvement projects locally, regionally, and nationally.
- Plan and organise own research programme in ethnic health research.
- Support research design and review applications for new project funding, including in meetings with researchers using the service and other people with specialist knowledge involved in developing and delivering health and social care research.





- Contribute to the planning and delivery of events to promote the RSS service.

Qualifications, Knowledge and Experience

Essential

- PhD or other postgraduate qualification related to health and/or social care research.*
- Specialist knowledge of one or more qualitative approach(es) as well as broad knowledge of a wide range of other qualitative data collection and analytic approaches.*
- Experience undertaking research with underserved populations and/or implementing innovative methods or approaches that address equality diversity and inclusion in research.*
- Substantial experience involving patients, the public, and/or community organisations in research.*
- Record of supporting successful research applications to major funders of health and social care research.*
- Record of leadership of qualitative aspects of research projects and programmes.*
- Significant record of peer-reviewed publications involving qualitative research methods.*
- Developing profile of research involving ethnicity and health and/or health inequalities.*

Desirable

- Record of teaching, training and/or student supervision.*
- Record of research, publication, or teaching experience in ethnicity and health and health inequalities.*
- Experience of managing research projects/programmes.
- Record of PhD supervision and/or playing an active role in supporting postgraduate research students.
- Awareness of other non-qualitative (quantitative) methods and approaches pertinent to health and social care research.
- Experience of reviewing for a scientific journal.
- Experience as a member of funding awards committees.

Skills, Abilities and Competencies

Essential

- High level of proficiency in English.*
- Exceptional written communication skills.
- Exceptional consultancy skills.
- Ability to manage and deliver collaborative research.
- Excellent interpersonal skills including effective communications with people from different scientific disciplines, and different institutions across the country.
- Strong work ethic and ability to contribute effectively as part of a team and independently.
- Excellent time management and organisational skills with the ability to work to tight deadlines.
- Ability to engage and communicate with non-researchers.
- Excellent IT skills, including use of analytic packages.
- Ability to work flexibly as required and to cope with rapid change.
- Ability to promote and enact equality, diversity and inclusion throughout their role.





****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 expected to support key university activities such as clearing, graduation ceremonies, student registration and recruitment open days. We expect all staff as citizens to work flexibly across the University if required.

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

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 equity 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 equity, diversity and inclusion.

