



Job Title: Research Associate

Grade: 7

Salary: £38,205 to £44,263 per annum

Department: School of Business

Hours/Contract: Full-time, fixed term contract to 31 October 2025

Job Family: Teaching and Research

Reference: 10422

Role Purpose

To have research responsibilities as part of the Leicester Collaboration to Achieve Net Zero research project. To work collaboratively and independently as part of a research team to achieve defined milestones and produce high quality research as part of the wider project.

Main Duties and Responsibilities

Research

- To undertake research, taking responsibility for some element(s) of the planned research including developing best and worst practice case studies of net zero / carbon reduction initiatives.
- To contribute to the overall research programme using innovative research models, novel approaches and techniques.
- Undertake qualitative and quantitative market research on behalf of the Project Team with client organisations to help develop the Project proposition.
- Liaise with the Project Lead and other key stakeholders in the coordination and organisation of project administration.
- To lead in writing up research findings for dissemination amongst the research team and broader community, and develop ideas and contributions for future outputs.
- To contribute to research outputs as a co-author to journal articles, technical papers, monograph, book chapter.
- Lead the development of academic outputs for the Project Team, including for academic conferences, journal submissions and for a REF Impact Case.
- Developing resources for stakeholder and client workshops and for the LCN website.

Professional Development

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

Impact and Knowledge Exchange

- Network and contribute to the maintaining and furthering of the wider research programme and research area
- To contribute to industry collaborations
- To consult effectively on own specialism directly with people external to the University





- To engage positively and pro-actively in research impact

Leadership and Citizenship

- Guidance to other team members both research staff and students
- Pro-actively build networks and collaborations.

Internal and External Relationships

- Regular contact with the Project Lead and other members of the Project Team.
- Regular contact with stakeholders including but not limited to external businesses, local authorities, and individuals.
- Regular contact with, and support to, academic staff members within the Project Team.

Planning and Organising

- Plan own work in advance and contribute to the Project Team’s activities.
- Support the setting of priorities, with reference to the academic output of the Project.
- Work independently with the collection and processing of data and with tasks of a practical and administrative character

Qualifications, Knowledge and Experience

- Educated to PhD level with research experience in relevant area*
- Completion of a substantial marketing research project, demonstrating quantitative and qualitative data analysis skills, in either university or industry*
- Practical market research or academic research experience.
- Experience of supporting a digital learning and teaching environment.
- Knowledge of SPSS/R and NVivo software packages.
- Knowledge of academic journals in the field of sustainability and/or marketing.

Desirable

- Knowledge of and interest in net zero /carbon reduction/environmental sustainability initiatives.
- Knowledge of Net Zero accreditation schemes (e.g. Carbon Literacy...) national/international standards and guidelines: e.g. Taskforce on Nature-related Financial Disclosures (TNFD), ISO Net Zero.
- Knowledge of national/international climate change policies: e.g. European Green Deal.
- Previous experience of publishing academic papers and reports.
- Experience of working within businesses and other stakeholders to solve real-world challenges / needs particularly in the areas of sustainability / CSR / net zero.
- Interest in working with organizations on their carbon reduction challenges/needs.
- Experience of undertaking market research to support the development of new propositions.

Skills, Abilities and Competencies

Essential

- Effective communication skills, both written and verbal, report writing skills, and ability to





communicate with colleagues and stakeholders at all levels

- Excellent qualitative and quantitative data analysis skills
- Organising and undertaking substantial research projects
- Excellent IT skills and knowledge including use of Microsoft Office package
- Ability to understand regulations and policies and interpret this into appropriate advice and guidance.
- Excellent team working skills with the ability to work collaboratively and co-operatively with colleagues.
- Ability to analyse, present and draw conclusions from data/research findings. Pro-actively contribute to the resolution of problems and the improvement of systems and processes in client organisations.
- Good project and time management skills.
- Effective interpersonal skills to establish good working relationships with colleagues, stakeholders, industrial partners and general public. A willingness and ability to travel within the Leicestershire area.
- A proactive approach towards workload, with the ability to multi-task and complete tasks promptly, accurately and with attention to detail.
- Self-motivated, with ability to generate own work and work on own initiative.
- Confident and professional manner and ability to act with discretion and diplomacy.
- Strong time management and organisational skills.
- High level of proficiency in English, sufficient to undertake research and administrative activities.

****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.

