

## Candidate Information

<b>Position:</b>	Research Fellow in Centre for Public Health
<b>School/Department:</b>	Centre for Public Health
<b>Reference:</b>	21/109250
<b>Closing Date:</b>	Monday 1 November 2021
<b>Salary:</b>	£34,304 - £38,587 per annum.
<b>Anticipated Interview Date:</b>	Tuesday 16 or Wednesday 17 November 2021
<b>Duration:</b>	Available until 30 September 2026

### JOB PURPOSE:

This exciting position will allow the successful candidate to join the recently funded, UKPRP GroundsWell consortium. The successful candidate will become a member of the GroundsWell research team working with Prof Ruth Hunter and Dr Leandro Garcia. The programme of research is focused on using complexity science and systems-thinking methods to inform systems transformations of urban green and blue spaces for the prevention of non-communicable disease and reduction of inequalities in the UK. The post will involve the generation of new evidence related to the intersection of complexity science and health, with a particular emphasis on non-communicable diseases.

The successful candidate will have the opportunity and support to be creative and academically brave, add their own ideas and innovations to the Consortium, and conduct high-quality research that will resonate at local, national, and global levels. We are particularly interested in working with someone with a passion for research involving a range of quantitative methods for complexity science such as agent-based modelling, system dynamics modelling and causal inference methods.

The GroundsWell consortium, recently funded by the UK Prevention Research Partnership, which aims to drive community innovation applying systems science that maximise the contribution of Urban Green and Blue Space to the primary prevention of, and reduction of inequalities in, non-communicable diseases (NCD) in urban settings. The consortium has over 20 co-investigators across 7 institutions as well as a range of non-academic stakeholders. The post-holder will be based at the Centre for Public Health, Queen's University Belfast.

### MAJOR DUTIES:

1. Carry out data analyses, critical evaluations, and reports using appropriate methodologies.
2. Present regular progress reports on research to members of the research group, other groups within the Centre/University, and to external audiences nationally and internationally to disseminate and publicize research findings.
3. Undertake research under supervision within the GroundsWell consortium or as a member of a research team.
4. Prepare, often in consultation with supervisor, material for publication in national and international journals and presentations at international conferences.
5. Assist grant holder in the preparation of funding proposals and applications as well as project progress reports to external bodies.
6. Carry out routine administrative tasks associated with the research projects/group to ensure that project/s are completed on time and within budget and that the group functions efficiently.
7. Carry out undergraduate/post-graduate student and visiting researcher training and supervision, demonstrating or lecturing duties within the post holder's area of expertise and under the direct guidance of a member of academic staff.
8. Read academic papers, journals and textbooks to keep abreast of developments in own specialism and related disciplines and engage in technical training as needed.
9. Participate and in some cases lead outreach activities on behalf of the group/Centre.

### Planning and Organising:

1. Plan for specific aspects of research programmes and contribute to research group planning.

2. Plan for the use of research activities and workshops where appropriate.
3. Plan own day-to-day activity within framework of the agreed research programme.
4. Plan to meet deadlines for grant applications, journal publications and to prepare presentations and papers for conferences and meetings.
5. Coordinate and liaise with other members of the research group and collaborative research groups over work progress and management.

**Resource Management Responsibilities:**

1. Ensure research resources are used in an effective and efficient manner.
2. Provide guidance as required to support staff and any post-graduate/under-graduate students and visiting researcher who may be assisting with research.

**Internal and External Relationships:**

1. Build internal contacts and participate in internal networks for the exchange of information and to form relationships for future collaboration.
2. Be prepared to travel to and present at scientific meetings and collaborative laboratories.
3. Join external networks to share information and ideas and help develop external collaborations, as appropriate.
4. Contribute to the School's outreach program by establishing links with local community groups, industries etc.

**ESSENTIAL CRITERIA:**

1. Have, or about to obtain, a PhD in public health, epidemiology, computer science, biostatistics, engineering or a related area.
2. 3 years relevant experience.
3. Experience of a range of quantitative methods for complexity science such as agent-based modelling and system dynamics modelling.
4. Experience of modern statistical and computational approaches for causal inference.
5. Publications commensurate with career stage.
6. Demonstrated skills in using at least one statistical analysis package (e.g., Python, R, Stata) and capacity and willingness to learn others
7. Familiarity with the governance and ethical arrangements for accessing and using administrative and clinical data-sets.
8. Willingness to teach postgraduate/undergraduate students.
9. Ability to contribute to broader management and administrative processes.
10. Willingness to contribute to the School's outreach program by links with industry, community groups etc.
11. Sufficient breadth and depth of specialist knowledge in the discipline and of research methods and techniques to work within established research programmes.
12. Ability to communicate complex information clearly.
13. Ability to build contacts and participate in internal and external networks.
14. Good team working skills in multiple team settings as well as leadership qualities.
15. Excellent problem-solving skills and able to use own initiative.
16. Must be willing to travel to national and international meetings and collaborative laboratories.

**DESIRABLE CRITERIA:**

1. Experience working in public health or health behaviours.
2. Experience of natural experiment methodologies.
3. Grant, manuscript and abstract writing experience.
4. Research project management.
5. Demonstrated skills in using at least one spatial analysis package (e.g., Python QGIS, ArcGIS).
6. Evidence of having presented at conferences (poster or oral).
7. Irregular hours, including weekend working, might be a component of the research at times.