Candidate Information

Position: Research Fellow
School/Department: Centre for Public Health
Reference: 22/109920
Closing Date: Monday 4 July 2022
Salary: £34,304 - £38,587 per annum
Anticipated Interview Date: Tuesday 19 July 2022
Duration: Fixed term for up to 48 months or available until 31 August 2026, whichever comes sooner

JOB PURPOSE:

We are interested in adding to our team researchers interested in public health intervention development and evalution, and with research and analytical skills fit for this purpose, such as quantitative, qualitative, mixed-methods, and systems-thinking skills.

You will take responsibility for designing, analysing and disseminating a programme of co-produced research as part of GroundsWell Consortium, which aims to drive community innovation by applying systems science that maximises the contribution of urban green and blue spaces to the primary prevention of, and reduction of inequalities in, non-communicable diseases in urban settings.

The GroundsWell Consortium, recently funded by the UK Prevention Research Partnership, has over 20 co-investigators across 7 institutions, as well as a range of non-academic stakeholders. The post-holders will liaise with the investigators and researchers based at Queen's University Belfast, University of Liverpool and University of Edinburgh.

The Research Fellow will work closely with the Directors, project partners and the Consortium Management group. This will entail working with partners to co-develop and implement systems evaluations of a set of urban green and blue space interventions in Northern Ireland, publishing and disseminating outputs to relevant members in the consortium and the wider scientific community.

MAJOR DUTIES:

1. Plan, design and deliver high quality research developing and evaluating urban green and blue spaces interventions, incorporating systems evaluation methods where appropriate.
2. Co-design research projects with GroundsWell researchers, external organisations and public involvement.
3. Identify new and emerging systems science techniques that will enhance project design and analytical rigour.
4. Lead on research publications and outputs, as well as collaborate and support projects/outputs with others within GroundsWell.
5. Disseminate diverse types of outputs to a range of groups including both scientific, policy and lay audiences.
6. Prepare and present regular updates on research progress to the GroundsWell team.
7. Attend meetings and conferences, both nationally and internationally, to promote research and support outreach activities.
8. Build and sustain relationships with other researchers in GroundsWell, as well as establish new networks outside of GroundsWell relevant to the project.
9. Potentially supervise PhD students, where required and desired.

ESSENTIAL CRITERIA:

1. Have or be about to obtain a relevant PhD in a Public Health or Social Science or relevant subject area.
2. At least 3 years' research experience in:
   • methods for developing and evaluating public health interventions;
   • systems evaluation methods;
   • development and evaluation of urban green and blue space interventions.

3.   Knowledge of a range of techniques in:
     • systems thinking and complexity science;
     • public health intervention development and evaluation;
     • development and evaluation of urban green and blue space interventions.
4.   Proven ability to work with a range of stakeholders.
5.   Excellent organisational skills.
6.   Excellent inter-personal skills.
7.   Excellent oral and written communication skills.
8.   Ability to write reports and meet deadlines.
9.   Good presentation skills including ability to articulate complex information clearly.
10. Articulate, fluent.
11. Ability to work independently and on own initiative.
12. Strong commitment to a career in research.
13. Access to transport and willingness to travel to meet the needs of the post.

DESIRABLE CRITERIA:
1.   Subject knowledge on the importance of green and blue spaces and/or the drivers of health inequalities.
2.   Experience working as part of a multidisciplinary team.