

## Candidate Information

<b>Position:</b>	Research Assistant
<b>School/Department:</b>	Centre for Public Health
<b>Reference:</b>	23/110624
<b>Closing Date:</b>	Monday 27 February 2023
<b>Salary:</b>	£29,619 per annum
<b>Anticipated Interview Date:</b>	Monday 13 March 2023
<b>Duration:</b>	10 months

### **JOB PURPOSE:**

This exciting position will allow the successful candidate to work on reducing the burden of disease for those in Northern Ireland living with visual impairment. The successful candidate will become a member of the QUB Centre for Public Health, Belfast Ophthalmic Reading Centre (BORC) working with Professor Peto.

The programme of research is focused on investigating the burden of vision impairment in Northern Ireland within the context of certification for visual loss. Better understanding of the issues around certification will lead to more appropriate interventions to prevent visual impairment and blindness. This particular post-holder will assist the team in collecting, collating and processing visual impairment data.

The post will involve working with Professor Tunde Peto, the Belfast Ophthalmic Reading Centre (BORC) and other key researchers in living with visual impairment, certification of visual impairment and eye diseases.

The post will involve conducting research into causes of visual loss in Northern Ireland conducting literature reviews on this topic, writing academic papers, presenting at conferences and working within a multidisciplinary team and external organisations such as RNIB and Macular Society.

### **MAJOR DUTIES:**

1. Working with the BORC study team in assisting analysis of visual impairment in Northern Ireland.
2. Assist with the collection of visual impairment data, compile and clean datasets.
3. Support the research team with data gathering, management and analysis.
4. Support the project team with routine administrative duties as requested (e.g. arranging research group meetings, helping organise travel etc.)
5. Assist in the development of social media account, and keeping these up to date with research materials and project publications.
6. Work with other members of the research team in delivering a detailed project plan for the research, in accordance with the funder's requirements.
7. Assist in the coordination of project activities with the research team and stakeholders.
8. Assist with the development of regular progress reports to members of the research group, external audiences nationally and internationally and external bodies to disseminate and publicize research findings.
9. Assist with the preparation, often in consultation with supervisors, material for publication in national and international journals and presentations at international conferences.
10. Read academic papers, journals and textbooks to keep abreast of developments in own specialism and related disciplines and engage in technical training as needed.
11. Participate, and in some cases lead relevant outreach activities on behalf of the Group/Centre.
12. Plan the use of research resources as appropriate utilising these in an effective and efficient manner.
13. Have experience in planning, undertaking and helping with research studies.

14. Plan own day-to-day activity in accordance with agreed research programme.
15. Feedback and liaise with research supervisors on manuscript drafts and work progress.

**ESSENTIAL CRITERIA:**

1. A primary degree in a public health-related science such as epidemiology, medical statistics, social science or in a discipline in a related area of professional practice for the built environment.
2. Have recent research experience and skills relevant to this project e.g. experience of data analyses in health system studies with relevance to the built environment and eyecare.
3. Experience of managing and analysing community based data-sets.
4. Experience of using SPSS and qualitative data analysis software.
5. Experience in writing and submitting academic manuscripts.
6. Experience in presenting research results and studies at regional and international conferences.
7. Sufficient breadth and depth of specialist knowledge in research methods and techniques pertinent to global public health research.
8. Excellent IT skills e.g. Microsoft Office suite.
9. Excellent organisational skills.
10. Excellent oral and written communication skills.
11. A clear communicator, written and oral, able to present research to the wider academic community and non-academic audiences.
12. Experience of successfully working as part of a team.
13. Evidence of ability to write reports and meet deadlines.
14. Evidence of ability to deal competently with administrative tasks.
15. Ability to work independently and on own initiative.
16. May be required to sign statement of confidentiality.
17. Ability and willingness to travel to meet the needs of the post.
18. Ability and willingness to work outside normal working hours.

**DESIRABLE CRITERIA:**

1. Have or be about to obtain a PhD in a public health science such as epidemiology, medical statistics, or in a discipline in a related area of professional practice.
2. Proven ability to participate in or initiate collaborative research.
3. Evidence of having co-ordinated a research project to successful completion.
4. Previous experience working with people with a visual impairment.
5. Previous knowledge of certification of visual impairment.