

Candidate Information

Position: Research Fellow

School/Department: School of Medicine, Dentistry and Biomedical Sciences

Reference: 25/112352

Closing Date: Monday 3 February 2025
Salary: £39,922 - £47,631 per annum
Anticipated Interview Date: Friday 14 February, 2025
Duration: Fixed Term - 18 months

JOB PURPOSE:

The GroundsWell Consortium, funded by the UK Prevention Research Partnership, aims to drive community innovation by applying systems science that maximises the contribution of Urban Green and Blue Space to the primary prevention of, and reduction of inequalities in, non-communicable diseases in urban settings. The Consortium has over 30 co-investigators across 7 institutions, as well as a range of non-academic stakeholders. The post-holder 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.

You will take responsibility for designing, analysing and disseminating a programme of co-produced research as part of GroundsWell.

MAJOR DUTIES:

- Leading the development and facilitation of continued research in the GroundsWell consortium that fits with the overall delivery intent of the study.
- 2. Plan, design and deliver high quality research evaluating how urban green and blue spaces influence child and maternal health and can tackle health inequalities.
- 3. Co-design research projects with GroundsWell researchers, external organisations and public involvement.
- 4. Lead on research publications and outputs, as well as collaborate and support projects/outputs with others within GroundsWell.
- 5. Lead on dissemination of 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. First or upper second class honours degree or equivalent related to a public health science such as epidemiology, medical statistics, psychology, and or in a discipline in a related area.
- 2. Have or be about to obtain* a PhD in a relevant public health sciences discipline (such as epidemiology, medical statistics, psychology or in a discipline in a related area). (must be obtained within 3 months of the closing date of the post).
- 3. Demonstrated, relevant research experience in data science or quantitative data analysis applied to public health and environment to include secondary data synthesis and relevant quantitative analysis skills as evidenced by publication in peer reviewed journals.
- 4. Significant demonstrated experience of quantitative secondary datasets applied to public health and environment (e.g., administrative records, survey data, geospatial data).
- 5. Significant demonstrated experience of research on child/maternal health and environment research involving data analysis.
- 6. Substantial experience in handling, cleaning and analysing health/medical data and geospatial data.
- 7. Experience in programming / statistical programming (e.g. STATA, R, Python).
- 8. Knowledge of data curation, storage, cleaning/handling and reporting best practice.

- 9. Knowledge of a range of data science, statistical, quantitative or spatial analysis techniques.
- 10. Understanding of how to handle sensitive or secure data; knowledge of data/code sharing practices.
- 11. Excellent organisational skills.
- 12. Excellent inter-personal skills.
- 13. Excellent oral and written communication skills.
- 14. Ability to write reports and meet deadlines.
- 15. Excellent written and verbal communication skills including presentation skills and the ability to communicate effectively with a wide range of stakeholders.
- 16. Ability to work independently and on own initiative.
- 17. Strong commitment to a career in research.
- 18. Proven ability to work collaboratively and independently.
- 19. Ability to act decisively and confidently.
- 20. Access to transport or ability to meet the mobility requirements for the post.
- 21. A willingness to travel to meet the needs of the post.

DESIRABLE CRITERIA:

- 1. MSc in Public Health, Research Methods or equivalent.
- 2. Experience working as part of an interdisciplinary team.
- 3. Utilising data science methods to analyse large datasets.
- 4. Analysis of large linked or matched datasets.
- 5. Experience of open source sharing of code and outputs.
- 6. Knowledge of methods for exploiting natural experiments or interrupted time series designs.
- 7. Subject knowledge on the importance of green and blue spaces and/or the drivers of health inequalities.
- 8. Knowledge or experience of longitudinal studies.
- 9. Evidence of having co-ordinated a research project to successful completion.
- 10. Experience of public engagement activities and disseminating research to non-academic audiences.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Informal queries may be directed to Niamh O'Kane - (niamh.okane@qub.ac.uk).