

Candidate Information

Position:	Research Assistant – Psychology and Systems Mapping Science in Public Health
School/Department:	School of Psychology
Reference:	25/112544
Closing Date:	Monday 2 June 2025
Salary:	£33,785 per annum pro-rata (0.6 FTE)
Anticipated Interview Date:	Friday 13 June 2025
Duration:	Part Time (0.6 FTE), available for 9 months

JOB PURPOSE:

The School of Psychology at Queen's University, recently funded by the Public Health Agency for Northern Ireland, aims to drive health innovation by applying psychology and systems science that maximises the contribution of various government departments, community stakeholders and academics to the primary prevention of, and reduction in obesity in two council areas of northern Ireland. The coinvestigators come from psychology, public health and systems science across QUB, 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, and the Public Health Agency. The Research Assistant will work closely with the project partners.

We are interested in adding to our team a Research Assistant with experience and skills in developing and interpreting system maps of public health interventions that target obesity. The selected candidate will support the designing and delivery of participatory system mapping workshops that will inform the Northern Ireland's whole-systems strategy to tackle obesity, as well as the interpretation, writing up and dissemination of the outputs of these workshops.

MAJOR DUTIES:

1. Support the planning, designing and delivery of participatory system mapping workshops.
2. Support the interpretation, writing up and dissemination of the outputs of these workshops.
3. Support those with lived experience of obesity during workshop planning and implementation.
4. Prepare and present regular updates on progress to the project team and partners.
5. Attend project meetings and support outreach activities.

ESSENTIAL CRITERIA:

1. Primary degree in a relevant discipline, e.g., psychology, public health, social science or equivalent discipline.
2. Experience in the use of system mapping methods in the context of psychology, public health, social science or relevant subject area.
3. Experience in undertaking systems mapping of an issue of public health relevance.
4. Experience in writing a research project report that used system mapping methods.
5. Proven ability to work with a range of stakeholders.
6. Excellent organisational skills.
7. Excellent inter-personal skills.
8. Excellent oral and written communication skills.
9. Ability to write reports and meet deadlines.
10. Good presentation skills, including ability to articulate complex information clearly.
11. Articulate, fluent.
12. Ability to work independently and on own initiative.
13. Willingness to travel within Northern Ireland to meet the needs of the post.

DESIRABLE CRITERIA:

1. Have a Master's Degree in Psychology, Public Health, Social Science or relevant subject area.

2. Experience in participatory systems mapping.
3. Experience working as part of a multidisciplinary team.
4. Subject knowledge in systems-thinking and complexity science methods.