

Candidate Information

Position: Research Fellow (Child Criminal Exploitation)
School/Department: School of Social Sciences, Education and Social Work
Reference: 25/112593
Closing Date: Monday 25 August 2025
Salary: £41,519 - £45,349 per annum
Anticipated Interview Date: Tuesday 9 September 2025
Duration: Available for 12 months or until 31 August 2026, whichever is soonest.

JOB PURPOSE:

To be an active member of the School of Social Sciences Education and Social Work (SSESW) and the Stable Lives Safer Streets (SLSS) Research North/South Research Hub.

Travel will be expected across NI and ROI at regular intervals, with international travel at times.

MAJOR DUTIES:

1. Contribute to the co-development of work packages within the SLSS.
2. Support the PI with research around understanding the prevalence, impact and responses to Child Criminal Exploitation (CCE).
3. Support the PI with the design, implementation and dissemination of qualitative research.
4. To present research findings to a range of audiences, including, the DOJ, Department for Communities, Education Authority, Probation Board and a range of voluntary and community sector organisations.
5. Contribute to the generation of research income through the development of research proposals.
6. Prepare material for publication in national and international journals, presentations at international conferences, press releases and social media sites.
7. Carry out routine administrative tasks associated with SSESW. These might include organisation of meetings and associated documentation.
8. Other specific duties as allocated by the PI of the project.

ESSENTIAL CRITERIA:

1. An upper second class honours degree (or equivalent) or a Masters degree in Criminology or Social Science.
2. Have or be about to obtain a PhD in a relevant subject (within 6 months).
3. Sufficient experience of engaging with statutory agencies (e.g. police, probation, education) or communities within a research environment.
4. Sufficient research experience working on a project that relates to youth violence, community violence, conflict and/or paramilitarism and/or CCE.
5. Experience in participatory and qualitative research designs and the analyses of qualitative data.
6. Ability to develop a high-quality publications record that is REF returnable.
7. Experience of communicating research to lay audiences.
8. Ability to work independently with an agreed workplan.
9. Ability to work in partnership with colleagues as a team.
10. Contribute to the University's outreach programme by making links with external community stakeholders.
11. Good understanding of the key issues and challenges associated with engaging 'high-risk' groups and communities in primary research.
12. Good understanding of the opportunities and challenges associated with partnership working within a research environment.
13. Ability to communicate complex information clearly, including the use of methods of data visualisation.
14. Evidence of a high standard of report writing skills.
15. Ability to build contacts and participate in internal and external networks.

16. Demonstrable intellectual ability.
17. Ability to assess and organise resources.
18. Evidence of being able to work flexibly and to meet deadlines.
19. Willingness to work as part of a team.
20. Willingness to travel.
21. Current valid driving licence and access to a car insured for business purposes.

DESIRABLE CRITERIA:

1. A PhD relevant to criminology and CCE.
2. Mixed methods research experience.
3. A record of being part of a funding bid and successfully attracting external research funding.
4. Experience of successfully organising events.
5. Data visualisation skills.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Informal enquiries may be directed to: Dr Colm Walsh at colm.walsh@qub.ac.uk