

Candidate Information

Position: Senior Research Fellow - QCAP Dimension Lead Community Health & Wellbeing
School/Department: School of Social Sciences, Education and Social Work
Reference: 26/113407
Closing Date: Monday 22 June 2026
Salary: £51,016 - £62,695 per annum.
Anticipated Interview Date: Monday 6 July 2026 (in-person only)
Duration: 36 months

JOB PURPOSE:

To lead research activities across the Community Health and Wellbeing Dimension within the Queen's Communities and Place (QCAP) initiative, ensuring successful delivery of the QCAP research, evaluation, and knowledge exchange programme. This role will focus on developing and implementing community-centric research methodologies that contribute to the implementation of a co-produced health and wellbeing strategy within the community.

MAJOR DUTIES:

1. Lead the Development of Community-Centric Research Models:
 - Design and implement research methodologies that support community participation in health and wellbeing initiatives particularly within disadvantaged communities.
 - Drive the development of a community Health Strategy, ensuring that community voices shape the trajectory of health inequalities and the consequences of these. Further existing work focused on mental health initiatives, substance use and the community well being kitchen.
 - Manage and supervise a team of post Doctoral researchers and PhD students providing project supervision as required.
 - Maintain a personal research plan by managing and undertaking research activities related to community health and wellbeing.
2. Manage Strategic Partnerships and Stakeholder Engagement:
 - Collaborate with local, national, and international partners, including academia, public health sector, and community organisations, to promote transdisciplinary research and policy alignment.
3. Contribute to Policy and Strategic Frameworks:
 - Influence regional economic policies and local strategic frameworks by providing evidence-based recommendations that promote equitable health outcomes.
 - Engage in the promotion of community-centric health initiatives to enhance the skills and capacity of local residents and improve health outcomes.
4. Secure and Manage Research Funding:
 - Develop research proposals and funding bids to secure external funding from diverse sources, including ESRC, NIHR and other UKRI bodies.
 - In partnership with communities support proposals and funding bids to secure external funding from diverse sources, e.g. The National Lottery Community Fund, Innovate UK and other funding bodies, to secure funding for communities and contribute to QCAP's research strategy.
 - Ensure effective management of allocated project time and resources, in alignment with the strategic goals of QCAP.
5. Scholarly Activities and Dissemination:
 - Maintain a high-quality publication record, focusing on community-driven research and its implications for health outcomes and equity.
 - Present research findings at conferences, community events, and through various media, including podcasts and social media, ensuring accessibility to both academic and lay audiences.

ESSENTIAL CRITERIA:

1. An upper second class honours degree (or equivalent) or a Masters degree in a social science discipline.

2. PhD in a relevant subject.
3. Significant, recent relevant research experience working on a project that relates to community health and wellbeing.
4. Experience in quantitative and qualitative data analysis, particularly in the context of evaluating health and wellbeing programmes.
5. Expertise in the key issues and challenges associated with engagement with communities for research studies.
6. Demonstrable growing reputation in research within community health and wellbeing.
7. Proven ability to devise, advise on and manage research programmes effectively on time and target.
8. Experience of communicating research to lay audiences.
9. Track record in securing and managing research funding.
10. Publication record in health, wellbeing or research relevant to communities, commensurate with stage of career.
11. Experience of providing expert advice on own subject specialism to other staff, students and University Directorates e.g. CESR.
12. Ability to contribute to broader management and administrative processes.
13. Willingness to undertake additional training in statistics/research methods and other related skills as required.
14. Experience and demonstrable record of applying community-based participatory action research.
15. Ability to communicate complex information clearly.
16. Evidence of a high standard of report writing skills.
17. Ability to build contacts and participate in internal and external networks.
18. Ability to assess and organise resources.
19. Evidence of being able to work flexibly and to meet deadlines.
20. Willingness to work as part of a team.
21. Willingness to travel as required.
22. Current valid driving licence and access to a car or ability to fulfil the mobility requirements of the post.

DESIRABLE CRITERIA:

1. Experience of working in a Health and Social Care setting.
2. Clear understanding of the research impact agenda
3. Experience of evaluative research.
4. Experience of designing and delivering a research initiative in partnership with a community.
5. Experience of managing research projects with communities.
6. Experience of co-writing reports to external funders with communities.
7. Experience of successfully organising community and schools focused events and programme.
8. Demonstrated ability to influence policy and strategic frameworks, particularly those related to urban innovation and the knowledge economy.
9. Prior experience of linking with external colleagues and developing networks.
10. Experience of delivering co-designed community-based participatory action research e.g. citizen science programmes.
11. Commitment to community engagement and the principles of equitable health outcomes and experiences.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Informal enquiries can be directed to: Caroline O'Hare - caroline.ohare@qub.ac.uk.