



## Job Description

This form summarises the purpose of the job and lists its key tasks. It is not a definitive list of all the tasks to be undertaken as those can be varied from time to time at the discretion of the School, in consultation with the postholder.

**Job title: Research Officer**

**Department/Division: Personal Social Services Research Unit (PSSRU)**  
**Accountable to: Dr Jose-Luis Fernandez, Deputy Director, PSSRU**

**Job Summary:** The Personal Social Services Research Unit is a research unit based at the LSE. Directed by Professor Martin Knapp, PSSRU undertakes research particularly in the areas of long-term care and mental health economics and policy. Most of PSSRU's research focuses on the UK or Europe.

PSSRU is seeking to appoint a full-time Research Officer to start in June/July 2017 to support economic evaluations across PSSRU research studies. This post will involve undertaking economic evaluations and developing and applying methods for assessing changes through time in national and local level social care expenditure and activity in England.

The Research Officer should be able to work independently within a research team, and will work under the supervision of Dr Jose-Luis Fernandez (Deputy Director, PSSRU). The Research Officer will be expected to contribute to the objectives of the studies they work on and to play an active role in the life and activities of PSSRU.

This appointment is for 24 months in the first instance.

### Duties/Responsibilities

The Research Officer will:

- Collect and analyse local and national-level data on social care activity and expenditure in order to contribute to the development of standardised indicators that can be used to assess the performance of the public social care system in England.
- Conduct economic evaluations to examine the economic case for different health and/or social care interventions.
- Research duties will involve:
  - Supporting the relevant project team to identify data/evidence relevant to economic evaluation for the individual interventions identified;
  - Identifying, collecting and manipulating large data sets on needs, activity, outcome measures, quality and costs;
  - Using advanced quantitative modelling techniques to assess cost-effectiveness and performance in social care applying cost-benefit, cost-effectiveness, cost-consequences or cost-minimisation analysis, depending on the nature of available data;
  - Contributing to the drafting of reports and papers.

The Research Officer will need the ability to analyse and research complex ideas, concepts or theories, and apply appropriate methodologies and contribute creative solutions to address research challenges.



- Contribute to communications and dissemination activities, which may involve:
  - Writing up analyses;
  - Writing up research for publication in a variety of modes including peer-reviewed journals and project outlines or summaries for the PSSRU and project-specific websites;
  - Presenting research papers at conferences and seminars as appropriate;
  - Contributing to the organization of relevant conferences, seminars and workshops as appropriate.
- Undertake activities to further PSSRU's research agendas. Activities may involve:
  - Contributing to the formulation of peer-reviewed research grant proposals;
  - Initiating and sustaining links with external bodies to foster collaboration.

This role will additionally require the Research Officer to:

- Play a constructive role in the life of PSSRU;
- Manage the activities of research assistants on a day-to-day basis should this be required.

#### **Note**

The LSE has a progressive pay structure that rewards you with annual pay increases up to a certain level as you develop in your role. We also provide for further reward past this point in the form of further pay increases based on exceptional performance.

#### **Flexibility**

To deliver services effectively, a degree of flexibility is needed, and the post holder may be required to perform work not specifically referred to above.

#### **Equality and Diversity**

LSE believes that equality for all is a basic human right. We actively encourage diversity and inclusion, while opposing all forms of unlawful and unfair discrimination on the grounds of age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation.

#### **Environmental Sustainability**

The post holder is required to minimise environmental impact in the performance of the role, and actively contribute to the delivery of the LSE Environmental Policy.