



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 Economist

Department/Division: What Works Centre for Local Economic Growth (What Works Growth)
Accountable to: Prof. Henry Overman

What Works Growth is part of the UK What Works Network. Our overall aim is to increase the cost-effectiveness of local growth policies by:

- Improving the use of evidence in policy design and delivery
- Supporting and delivering high quality impact evaluation
- Filling gaps in our understanding of what works.

The Research Economist will work with What Works Growth senior staff, academic partners and policymakers in central and local government, to help design, deliver, manage and analyse randomised control trials and quasi-experimental impact evaluations of local economic growth policies. They will also support our national and local partners to develop and deliver evaluations, draft What Works Growth evidence and guidance and deliver workshops. The postholder may also work with other members of the team to develop research projects that will apply rigorous quantitative evaluation methods to areas of interest in local economic growth or related fields.



Duties and Responsibilities

- Work with What Works Growth senior staff, policymakers and academic partners to help design, deliver, manage and analyse randomised control trials and quasi-experimental programme evaluations. This will include:
 - Developing appropriate evaluation frameworks.
 - Collecting, cleaning and preparing of data for analysis, including matching data from different datasets.
 - Analysis of evaluation data, including econometric analysis and preparation of charts and graphs.
 - Drafting reports and papers to communicate evaluation methodologies and findings.
 - Presenting research findings and attending meetings and conferences as necessary.
 - Liaising with project sponsors to report on research progress, obtain data and resolve data difficulties.
- Help develop and maintain relationships with What Works Growth partners in local government, central government, local enterprise partnerships and others.
- Provide advice and guidance to What Works Growth partner organisations on evaluation, including assisting Evaluation Panel members to provide support to these organisations.
- Contribute to the development of What Works Growth products that share evidence on ‘what works’ in local economic growth policies and guidance on undertaking evaluation. These are likely to include evidence reviews, toolkits, case studies, blog posts and reports for policymakers.
- Contribute to the development and delivery of What Works Growth workshops.
- Work with other members of the team to develop research projects that will apply rigorous quantitative evaluation methods to areas of interest in local economic growth or related fields
- To seek research funding for these projects, where appropriate.
- Supervise and project-manage more junior members of staff when asked to do so.
- Promote the work of What Works Growth.
- Attend academic seminars and other events relevant to the work of What Works Growth.

**Flexibility**

To deliver services effectively, a degree of flexibility may be required in the duties performed in order to meet the exigencies of service. Job roles may also naturally develop over time and ongoing substantial changes to a role will be discussed between line managers and their staff, with job descriptions updated as and when appropriate.

Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI)

LSE is committed to building a diverse, equitable and truly inclusive university. All posts (and post holders) will seek to ensure diversity and inclusion, while opposing all forms of unlawful and unfair discrimination on the grounds of age, disability, gender identity, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, nationality, ethnic or national origin, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation, or social and economic background.

Ethics Code

Posts (and post holders) are assumed to have a responsibility to act in accordance with the School's Ethics Code and to promote the principles and values that the Code enshrines. The Ethics Code clearly states that the whole LSE community, including all staff, students, and governors of LSE, are expected to act in accordance with the principles which are set out in the Code. As such you are required to read and familiarise yourself with it. The School's Effective Behaviours Framework is designed to support this Code. It sets out examples for the six behaviours that all staff are expected to demonstrate, these can be found on the following link: [click here](#)