



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

Job Summary

What Works Growth is part of the UK What Works Network. We help to make local growth policy more cost effective, through better use of evidence and evaluation. We do this by:

- Improving the use of evidence in policy
- Enabling more and better impact evaluation
- Summarising what works using robust evidence.

The Research Economist will work with What Works Growth senior staff, academic partners and policymakers in central and local government, to help 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. There may also be opportunities to work with senior staff, policymakers and academic partners to design, deliver and manage randomised control trials and quasi experimental evaluations of local and national policies.

Duties and Responsibilities

- 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 'how to' guides, briefings, rapid evidence reviews, blog posts and reports for policymakers.
- Provide advice and guidance to What Works Growth partner organisations on evidence and evaluation.
- Work with senior staff, policymakers and academic partners to help design, deliver, manage and analyse randomised control trials and quasi-experimental programme evaluations.
- 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.



- Help develop and maintain relationships with What Works Growth partners in local government, central government, and other organisations.
- 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](#)

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.