



Person Specification

This form lists the essential and desirable requirements needed in order to do the job.

Applicants will be shortlisted **solely** on the extent to which they meet these requirements.

Job title: Research Economist

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

Competency	Criteria	E/ D
Knowledge and Experience	1. An undergraduate degree in Economics or other quantitative social science discipline,	E
	2. with a first or upper second grade (or equivalent)	D
	3. A Masters degree in Economics or other quantitative social science discipline	E
	4. Understanding of policy evaluation methods, including randomised control trials and quasi-experimental methods	E
	5. Sound understanding of applied econometrics and statistics	E
	6. Experience of undertaking and writing-up research projects	E
	7. Experience of design and implementation of impact evaluation projects	E
	8. Experience of handling and quantitative analysis of survey and administrative datasets	E
	9. Experience in STATA, R, or other econometrics software	E
	10. Understanding of local economic growth policies or closely related policy area (e.g. employment training, business support, innovation)	E
Investigation, Analysis and Research	11. Ability to identify appropriate methods of investigation	E
	12. Ability to analyse and interpret data and to think through economic problems analytically	E
	13. Ability to provide advice and support to our national and local partners to develop and deliver evaluations	E



Decision Making	14. Ability to work independently of close supervision for long periods	E
	15. Experience of organising and supervising other project staff	D
Communication	16. Excellent written and verbal communication skills, and ability to convey technical material in non-technical terms for policy and other non-academic audiences	E
	17. Able to build and sustain working relationships with policymakers	D
	18. Experience of working with UK local and central government	D
Team Work and Motivation	19. Able to work as part of a team	D

E – Essential: requirements without which the job could not be done.

D – Desirable: requirements that would enable the candidate to perform the job well.