



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
Accountable to: Prof. Henry Overman

Competency	Criteria	E/D
Knowledge and Experience	A first or upper second class undergraduate degree in Economics or other quantitative social science discipline	E
	A Masters in Economics or other quantitative social science discipline	E
	A PhD in Economics or other quantitative social science discipline (or be within 1 year of completing this)	D
	Sound understanding of applied econometrics and statistics	E
	Sound understanding of policy and project evaluation methods, particularly RCTs and quasi-experimental methods	E
	Experience of execution and write-up of independent research projects	E
	Experience of handling, and quantitative analysis of, survey and administrative datasets	E
	Experienced in STATA or other econometrics software	D
	Experience of design and/or developing own evaluation project(s)	D
	Experience of design and implementation of field experiments, especially working with public sector partners	D
Investigation, analysis and research	Understanding of the theory and empirics of evaluation	E
	Ability to identify appropriate methods of investigation	E
	Ability to interpret and analyse patterns or trends in data and to think through economic problems analytically	E
	Evidence of, or potential to author/co-author papers of refereed journal article quality	E



	Understanding of urban/spatial economics and local economic development	D
	Ability to design, deliver, manage and analyse randomised control trials and quasi-experimental programme evaluations, in areas such as skills, active labour market policy, transport and business support	E
	Ability to support our local partners to develop and deliver their own policy evaluations; draft policy toolkits and support policy working groups.	E
Decision Making	Ability to work independently of close supervision for long periods	E
	Experience of organising and supervising other project staff	D
Communication	Excellent written and verbal communication skills, and ability to convey technical material in non-technical terms for policy and other non-academic stakeholders	E
	Able to build and sustain working relationships with decision makers outside academia	D
	Experience of working with UK local / central government and Local Enterprise Partnerships	D
Team Work and Motivation	Demonstrate potential or existing personal research agenda, and commitment to development of research projects within the overall objectives of the WWC	E
	Experience of providing economic research assistance on joint long term (one year and more) research projects	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.