



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: Geographical Research Economist

Department: Urban and Spatial Programme, Centre for Economic Performance
Accountable to: Prof. Steve Gibbons

Job Summary:

The Geographical Research Economist will assist the Directors on projects for the Urban and Spatial programmes of the Centre for Economic Performance at LSE. These projects will be on topics related to applied urban economics, infrastructure, spatial economics and housing. These topics will include, amongst others: land use, structure of cities; urbanization and development; housing and planning; amenities; 'left behind' places and lifetime migration. The role will involve extraction, creation, processing and analysis of geographical data sources, so requires experience in geographical information systems and other types of geographic data science. For some of the projects, the post-holder will take responsibility for the major part of research design, analysis and writing up. The post-holder should also expect to spend a proportion of their working time developing their personal research agenda, within the context of the overall work programme of the Centre.

Duties/Responsibilities

To assist the Director, Programme Leaders and Research Associates of the Urban and Spatial Programme at the Centre for Economic Performance in the execution of projects within the centre's current research programme and in the development of future work. Topics include:

- (i) the causes and consequences of changes in the physical structure of cities
- (ii) infrastructure and land use change;
- (iii) urbanization and development in developing countries;
- (iv) structural change, entrepreneurship and industrial clustering;
- (v) housing and planning;
- (vi) amenities in cities;
- (vii) 'left behind' places and lifetime migration

Much of the Centre's programme is based on quantitative analysis of administrative and survey data sets. Increasing use is being made of geographical remote sensed sources such as satellite images and the post-holder will be expected to work on the analysis of these sources for investigation of housing development, development of commercial space and other aspects of land use change.

Specific tasks to apply to these and other projects will be:



1. To clean and prepare data sets;
2. To work with supervisors in developing the research project and analysing data, analysing and researching complex ideas, concepts or theories and applying appropriate methodologies
3. To author and co-author reports and papers;
4. Where necessary, to coordinate the submission of drafts by members of others in the research team and communicate feedback to them;
5. To coordinate and supervise research assistance as and if necessary;
6. To present research findings to academic and policy audiences and attend meetings and conferences as necessary;
7. To liaise with sponsors and outside agencies to report on research progress, obtain data, resolve data difficulties;
8. To organise and attend seminars and conferences and participate fully as a team member within the group;
9. To assist in the preparation of funding bids and tenders;

The post-holder will be required to be largely self-directed at all stages of the research process including drafting research design and methodology and to take responsibility for writing the research up under the supervision of the Directors.

Postholders will also be encouraged and provided with sufficient time to develop their own research agendas within the overall themes of the Centre.

Flexibility

To deliver services effectively, a degree of flexibility may be required in the duties performed in order to meet the demands 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](#)