

## Research Assistant

**College of Health, Wellbeing & Life Sciences**

**Nursing & Midwifery**

**Fixed-term for 25 months**

**Part-time, 18.5 hours per week**

**£24,285 to £27,929 per annum, dependent on experience**

**Job number 093945**

**Closing date 05/03/2023 at 23:30**

### The Role / The Project

Sport England have made investments into multiple places across England to tackle physical activity inequalities by taking a 'whole-systems' and 'place-based' approach (WSA / PBA). Simply put, this approach addresses barriers and opportunities to physical activity at a range of difference levels – from individual to infrastructural and rooted in the distinctive mix of local characteristics. Sport England's ten-year strategy '[Uniting the Movement](#)' commits to deepening the approach in places with established WSAs and PBAs and expanding the place-based approach with further investment into new places. There is a need to identify the impact made by the WSAs and PBAs and illustrate which conditions lead to which impacts, in which circumstances. This will be supported by a Qualitative Comparative Analysis approach.

Sheffield Hallam University have an exciting and growing area in the evaluation of WSAs and PBAs to tackle societal issues such as physical inactivity and health inequalities. We are pleased to advertise two opportunities to join our research team and conduct the Qualitative Comparative Analysis [QCA] on the Impact of Local Delivery Pilots and other place-based approaches

The successful candidates will work on this high-profile project with an established team, led by Dr Katie Shearn, co-located at the [Advanced Wellbeing Research Centre](#). The candidates will join an established and renowned team of evaluators including, Drs Rob Vincent, Rick Davies and Kev Harris.

There are two roles:

- A full time post-doctoral researcher (or researcher with equivalent experience), Grade 7, who will take over the day-to-day running of the evaluation, liaison with the client and multiple stakeholders, contribute to design, data collection and analysis, training and contribute to evaluation reports and publications.
- A part-time research assistant (or researcher with equivalent experience), Grade 5, who will work with the wider team to liaise with cases, collect and analyse data and contribute to evaluation reports and publications.

To be successful you must be comfortable working with various data sources, qualitative interviewing experience and have employed systematic approaches to data analysis and reporting. You must also have excellent planning and organisation skills.

## Our benefits

We offer a diverse range of benefits and opportunities to pursue a rewarding and fulfilling career in a supportive environment. To find out more, please visit [The Hallam Deal: Your Benefits.](#)

## Location

### Collegiate Campus

This job will be based between our Collegiate Campus and our Advanced Wellbeing Research Centre, a tranquil setting amongst lawns and trees in one of Sheffield's leafiest suburbs. It's close to Ecclesall Road which is bustling with shops, bars and cafés.

We anticipate that upon appointment the successful candidate may need to undertake work either remotely, or on site, or a mixture of both.

## Application Guidance

Please attach a CV &/or a Supporting Statement (which should be a maximum of 4 sides of A4) clearly demonstrating how you meet the 'Essential' criteria on the person specification (below), using examples from your current and previous experience

As this role will be employed on an academic contract, our online application guidance asks for evidence of any research, scholarly activity, or teaching experience you may have, in addition to your professional experience.

If you don't have any experience of working in an academic setting, and therefore can't reference this in your application, please just refer to your professional experience in your CV and cover letter. As long as you meet the essential criteria in the person specification, not having experience of working in an academic setting will not preclude you from being shortlisted.

Having trouble with your application? Please see [our FAQ's](#) for more information

## Discussion and selection event

For informal enquiries about this job please contact Dr Katie Shearn PhD (Senior Research Fellow) on:

**Email**                      k.shearn@shu.ac.uk

**Proposed selection event date**                      13/03/2023

The selection event will comprise of an **interview and presentation.**

You will be expected to prepare a 10 minute presentation on:

- Demonstrating your knowledge of the multiple causes of physical activity inequalities.
- Outline your experience of undertaking and analysing qualitative and quantitative interviews.

## Equality, diversity and inclusion

Equality, diversity and inclusion are essential to our academic and business strengths. We believe that excellence comes through recognising the value of each individual.

Sheffield Hallam welcomes applications from all candidates irrespective of age, pregnancy and maternity, disability, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, race, religion or belief, or marital or civil partnership status.

Find out more about equality and diversity at Sheffield Hallam at [shu.ac.uk/about-us/jobs/people/a-diverse-workforce](https://shu.ac.uk/about-us/jobs/people/a-diverse-workforce)

## Right to Work in the UK

The University is unable to employ anyone who does not legally have the right to work in the UK. If you require sponsorship to undertake this role, please visit [GOV.UK](https://gov.uk) to check your eligibility before applying.

## Benefits

At Sheffield Hallam, we are committed to building a great university and an outstanding environment in which to study, research, and work. We value the contribution of our staff every day, in terms of their commitment, passion, delivery and sheer hard work. In return we offer a range of fantastic rewards and benefits, challenging and interesting work and opportunities to achieve your potential in a supportive and inclusive environment where people treat each other fairly and with respect. We call this the Hallam Deal.

To find out more about the leading package of benefits we offer, visit [The Hallam Deal: Your Benefits](#).

## Job share

Whilst this job is unlikely to be suitable for work on a job share basis, we understand the need for a healthy work-life balance, so where possible we operate a number of flexible working schemes.

**If you'd like to work on a flexible basis please contact the recruiting manager to discuss options available for this job.**

## Job description

<b>Job Title</b>	Research Assistant
<b>Faculty/Dept</b>	College of Health, Wellbeing and Lifesciences
<b>Grade</b>	5
<b>Reports to</b>	Project lead
<b>Direct reports</b>	n/a
<b>Role Purpose</b>	To undertake fieldwork, analysis and writing in co-ordination with evaluation participants the project team.

## Responsibilities

- Arranging and undertaking data collection including observations, co-facilitation of workshops and surveys.
- Undertaking data cleaning, data analysis and contributing to report writing along with the project team.
- Attending regular meetings and keeping organised and up to date with your contribution to project goals and milestones.
- The above list is not exhaustive and, as such, it is expected that you will be responsible for related issues commensurate to the level of the role.

## Person Specification

<b>Job Title</b>	Research Assistant			
<b>Faculty / Directorate</b>	College of Health Wellbeing & Life Sciences			
(* <b>E</b> ssential or <b>D</b> esirable)	<b>Details</b>	<b>E*</b>	<b>D*</b>	<b>Evidence**</b>
<b>Attainment</b>  Evidenced achievements	Good honours degree in psychology, public health, politics, sport science, politics, management (or equivalent qualifications) or equivalent experience.	E		AF + Q/C
<b>Experience</b>  Type of experience and specific knowledge required for this job	Experience or demonstrable working knowledge of complexity, systems science, realist and/or developmental evaluation methodologies.  Knowledge of physical activity and/or public health and/or health inequalities.	E  E		AF + I  AF + I  AF + I
<b>Competencies</b>  Skills and abilities required for effective performance e.g., numeracy, attention to detail, oral and written communication, planning and organising, leadership skills, ability to cope with conflicting demands/deadlines.	Good understanding of qualitative research techniques  Good understanding of quantitative research techniques  Good IT skills including Microsoft Office  Experience of qualitative software  Good planning and organisation skills and the ability to prioritise work with conflicting deadlines.  Ability to work effectively, both independently and as part of a team.	E  E  E  E  E	D	AF + I  AF + I  AF + I  AF + I  AF + I
<b>Other relevant information</b>  e.g., shift work or weekend working, travel in UK or abroad.	Undertake travel across campuses, research centres and to the West Midlands and other UK locations where necessary.	E		I

### \*\*Evidence / Method of Assessment:

**AF** = Application form

**G** = Group Exercise

**I** = Interview

**R** = Report

**P** = Presentation

**Q/C** = Qualifications / Certificates