

**Job Description**

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| Job Title: | Qualitative researcher in Health Services Research |
| Faculty/Professional Directorate: | Faculty of Health Sciences, Institute of Clinical and Applied Health Research |
| Subject Group/Team: | Nursing and Midwifery |
| Reporting to: | Professor  |
| Duration: | Fixed Term Full-time for 12 months until 31/03/2026 |
| Job Family:  | Academic |
| Pay Band: | 7 |
| Benchmark Profile: | Research Band 7 |
| DBS Disclosure requirement: | Enhanced |
| Vacancy Reference: |  |

**Details Specific to the Post**

**Background and Context**

### The post provides an exciting opportunity for a experienced qualitative researcher to join a multi-disciplinary team to co-develop a new alcohol care pathway within the Health Visiting Service. This post holder will be situated in the Institute of Clinical and Applied Health Research at the University of Hull and will work closely with the NHS in Hull and Derby.

**DevleoPing an Alcohol Risk rEduction pathway with pareNts and health visiTors (PARENT) study**

Excessive drinking by parents, including during pregnancy, can have a long-term impact on parents and children’s physical and mental health. The UK has the 4th highest percentage of pregnancies where alcohol has been consumed either before pregnancy confirmation or during pregnancy. This can lead to Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) which affects the child’s development and result in lifelong physical, behavioural, and learning problems with a large cost to society through health, educational and wider social care costs (~£2 billion per year).

Health Visitors (HVs) are encouraged to ‘make every contact count’ and enquire about alcohol consumption and advise women not to drink alcohol if planning to become pregnant or currently pregnant and to signpost them to sources of help should they need it. HVs provide public health support and guidance to women and families during the first five years from the antenatal period to post-birth. This provides an opportunity to support individuals and their partners with behaviour change regarding excessive drinking to prevent alcohol-related problems.

We carried out feasibility work to understand what women think about health professionals discussing prevention of fetal alcohol exposure with them before conception. We also consulted with a wide range of stakeholders, including HVs, 0-19 service providers, and service users. They have helped us to identify how to improve services in relation to this topic and their feedback has been incorporated into the design of this study.

We will co-produce tools and resources for HVs to support them having a conversation about alcohol consumption with parents. Co-production means we will do this by working closely with HVs, parents and other stakeholders in Hull and Derby – geographic areas with higher alcohol harms than the England’s average. If the results of this study show that our draft care pathway is promising, then we would progress to a larger study to develop it further and test how well it works in a number of NHS Trusts. If successful, then it would be available across the NHS.

The post-holder will undertake interviews with HVs and parents to identify factors that need to be taken into account to inform the development of a new alcohol care pathway, and be responsible for recruitment, data collection, analysis and writing up. They will work closely with the Co-leads for the research: Professor Lesley Smith and Ms Jayne Walker based at the University of Hull.

### Specific Duties and Responsibilities of the post

* Take responsibility for day-to-day project management alongside the Principal Investigators.
* Liaise with the project team and partners to facilitate successful team working and delivery of the project in a timely manner
* Help identify people from diverse communities who may be interested in participating in the research
* Engage health professionals at study sites to facilitate recruitment
* Undertake focus group discussions and in-depth interviews (face to face, online or telephone). **Note: Some travel will be required in the Yorkshire and Derbyshire areas.**
* Lead the analysis of the qualitative data, and work with other research team members to synthesise and interpret all of the research findings
* Lead the write up of the qualitative results and contribute to the final report and publications with the research team
* Work with the research team and wider partners to deliver and disseminate the research findings from the project.
* Organise and attend team meetings as required. This will include organising workshops and working with our Public and Patient Involvement (PPI) partners.
* Attend courses provided by the university designed to aid their professional development

**GENERIC JOB DESCRIPTION**

The job duties and responsibilities listed below are intended to describe the general nature of the role. The duties and responsibilities and the balance between the elements in the role may change or vary over time depending on the specific needs at a specific point in time or due to changing needs in the department. Candidates should note that there may not be an immediate requirement to carry out all the activities listed below.

### Overall Purpose of the Role

The researcher at this level will be:

* An experienced and professional researcher and will be a subject specialist, drawing upon knowledge gained from postgraduate research and/or working within a Research Band 6 role.
* Associated with a particular project (or projects) and will contribute ideas, and/or enhancement of techniques or methodologies and be expected to take significant initiatives in their work and consult with the Principal Investigator over the details of the project. They will work under supervision and receive academic, pastoral support and guidance which may include specific training, career opportunities and mentoring.

They may contribute to the Department’s teaching, through supervision of projects, overseeing practical classes, or taking small group tutorial classes.

The main focus of the work will involve conducting individual and collaborative research projects under the general guidance of a senior academic or Principal Investigator using new research techniques and methods, analysing and interpreting data and writing up research for publication.

**Main Work Activities**

1. Conduct individual and collaborative research projects to include:
* Using expertise to carry out projects they are working on.
* Contribute to the preparing proposals and applications for external bodies, e.g. for funding and contractual purposes with appropriate support or contribute to the writing of collective bids.
* Use new research techniques and methods.
* Analyse and interpret research data.
* Write up research work of the project and its dissemination through seminar and conferences presentations and publications.
1. Responsible for the management of projects to include:
* Plan and manage own research activity in collaboration with others.
* Manage administrative activities with guidance if required.
* Plan and monitor the work of the project or projects if applicable.
1. Assist with teaching and learning support in own area of study to include:
* Assist in the development of student research skills.
* Assess student knowledge and supervision of projects.
* Supervise and guide final year students.
1. Develop and initiate collaborative working internally and externally to include:
* Build internal contacts and participate in internal networks for exchange of information and to form relationships for future collaboration and to progress their research.
* Develop links and join external networks to share information and identify future potential sources of funding.
* Work with colleagues on joint projects as required.
* Attend and contribute to relevant meetings.
1. Demonstrate evidence of own personal and professional development to include:
* Continually update knowledge and understanding in field or specialism.
* Appraisal, induction and performance reviews.
* Participate in training and development activity.
* Maintain links with professional institutions and other related bodies.
* Collaborate with academic colleagues on areas of shared research interest.

### Additionally the post holder will be required to:

* Fulfil the employees’ duties described in the University’s health and safety policies and co-operate with the health and safety arrangements in place within the department. May be required to undertake specific health and safety roles on request e.g. Display screen equipment assessor, departmental safety officer, fire warden etc.
* Show a commitment to diversity, equal opportunities and anti-discriminatory practices this includes undertaking mandatory equality and diversity training.
* Comply with University regulations, policies and procedures.

**PERSON SPECIFICATION – Research Band 7**

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| **Specification** | **Essential**  | **Desirable** | **Examples Measured by** |
| **Education and Training**Formal qualifications and relevant training | * A PhD in health, biomedical or social sciences; psychology or similar relevant experience
 | Formal Training in qualiative analysis techniques | Application |
| **Work Experience**Ability to undertake duties of the post | **Evidence of:*** Expertise in health services research (qualitative or mixed-methods)
* Working collaboratively with staff across a range of organisations allied to health
* Experience of working with or for the NHS
* Experience of working alongside people with lived experience
 | Experience of supporting co-creation workshopsExperience of using health behaviour frameworks and modelsAn emerging track record in an appropriate research field, including scientific publications, presentations at scientific conferences and contributing to grant applications | ApplicationInterview  |
| **Skills and Knowledge**Includes abilities and intellect | **Evidence of:*** Qualitative interviewing skills
* Data processing and qualitative analysis skills
* Excellent communication skills with ability to facilitate meetings and focus groups
* Ability to work with people who have different perspectives and values
* Ability to produce work accurately and to a high standard with emphasis on attention to detail
* Effective organisational and planning skills, ability to prioritise work and adapt to changing circumstances
* Be IT literate, including competence in using MS packages and NVIVO
 | * Mixed-methods research skills
* Qualitative analysis skills using the Framework approach
* Participation in networks that seek to promote research collaboration
* Knowledge of co-production approaches and principles
* Knowledge of current themes and priorities in research on population health improvement generally and maternal/infant health specifically
 | ApplicationInterview References |
| **Personal Qualities**Includes any specific physical requirements of the post – (subject to the provisions of the Equality Act 2010) | * Willingness to travel across Humber region in Yorkshire and Derby region in Derbyshire
* Ability to work to timescales and deadlines in line with budgets
* Show evidence of collaborative working, particularly on interdisciplinary activities
* Evidence of working in an open and transparent way, providing information and communicating effectively with colleagues
* Be self-motivated and work independently as well as a flexible member of a small team
* Evidence of Continuous Professional Development
 | * An expectation to positively contribute to University activities and initiatives which may include open days, graduation ceremonies, etc., and have a willingness to undertake administrative activities
 | ApplicationInterview References |