

RESEARCH ASSISTANT



Job Title:	Research Assistant
Department:	Department of Population Health
Faculty:	Faculty of Epidemiology and Population Health
Location:	Keppel Street
FTE:	1 FTE
Grade:	G5
Accountable to:	Robert Hughes Principal Investigator
Job Summary:	<p>The Lower-Carbon; Healthier-Lives Evidence aim to contribute to a shared evidence base for integrated and equity-focused policies to promote population health and to respond to climate change. Two Evidence Collections will be made for sustainable diets and active travel. The Evidence Collections will summarise evidence relevant to the UK and be designed for policy users in public health and in climate mitigation and adaptation. Each Collection will include four formats to suit different user needs: a public-facing Infographic, a 1-page Evidence Briefing, a longer Evidence Review with embedded links to individual studies and systematic reviews in the source material, and a searchable Evidence Guide with extracted information from individual studies and reviews.</p> <p>The post-holder will contribute to the Lower-Carbon; Healthier Lives evidence collections for active travel.</p>

General Information

The London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine (LSHTM) is renowned for its research, postgraduate studies and continuing education in public and global health.

Our mission is to improve health and health equity in the UK and worldwide; working in partnership to achieve excellence in public and global health research, education and translation of knowledge into policy and practice.

We embrace and value the diversity of our staff and student population and seek to promote equity, diversity and inclusion as essential elements in contribution to improving health worldwide. We believe that when people feel respected and included, they can be more creative, successful, and happier at work. While we have more work to do, we are committed to building an inclusive workplace, a community that everyone feels a part of, which is safe, respectful, supportive and enables all to reach their full potential.

To find out more please visit our [Introducing LSHTM page](#).

Our Values

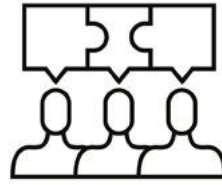
Our values establish how we aspire to achieve our mission both now and in the future - demonstrating what it means to work and study at LSHTM. Please visit our [LSHTM Values page](#) for further information.



**Act with
integrity**



**Embrace
difference**



**Work
together**



**Create
impact**

Faculty Information

The Faculty of Epidemiology & Population Health (EPH) houses a large group of epidemiologists, demographers, statisticians and nutritionists working on issues of major public health importance in the UK and globally. EPH has approximately 400 staff members organised into four research departments.

- Department of Infectious Disease Epidemiology
- Department of Medical Statistics
- Department of Non-communicable Disease Epidemiology
- Department of Population Health

The Faculty has a teaching programme consisting of ten MSc courses: Epidemiology, Demography and Health, Medical Statistics, Public Health for Development (run jointly with the Faculties of Infectious & Tropical Diseases and Public Health & Policy), Nutrition for Global Health, Reproductive & Sexual Health Research, Veterinary Epidemiology (run jointly with the Royal Veterinary College), Global Mental Health (run jointly with Kings College London - Institute of Psychiatry) and the Distance Learning courses in Epidemiology, Clinical Trials and Demography in Health. The Faculty also has approximately 120 research students studying for an MPhil, PhD or DrPH degree. The Dean of Faculty is Professor Elizabeth Allen.

Department of Population Health

The Department of Population Health aims to bring important benefits to global population health and health equity by generating, evaluating and disseminating effective interventions, treatments and policies. It is a centre of excellence in the determinants and consequences of population change. Our research involves epidemiology, drug trials, complex intervention development and trials, demography, research on the mechanisms of disease, treatments and interventions, qualitative research and systematic reviews of evidence. We work on some of the largest public health issues in the world including: climate change and planetary health, Covid-19, demography, emergency care, global mental health, maternal, newborn and child health (MNCH), nutrition, non-communicable disease and sexual and reproductive health (SRH). The Department of Population Health has strong links with the Malawi Epidemiology and Intervention Research Unit (MEIRU), the MRC unit the Gambia, international agencies, and a large network of overseas research collaborators. The Head of Department is Professor Suneetha Kadiyala.

The Project

The Lower-Carbon; Healthier-Lives Evidence Collections are funded by the NIHR Public Health Policy Research Unit (PH-PRU).

This project **aims** to contribute to a shared evidence base for integrated and equity-focused policies to promote population health and to respond to climate change.

The **outcome** of this project is a set of open-source Evidence Collections that fill key evidence gaps across the two policy fields. Two Evidence Collections will be made for sustainable diets and active travel.

The Evidence Collections will summarise evidence relevant to the UK and be designed for policy users in public health and in climate mitigation and adaptation. Each Collection will include four formats to suit different user needs: a public-facing Infographic, a 1-page Evidence Briefing, a longer Evidence Review with embedded links to individual studies

and systematic reviews in the source material, and a searchable Evidence Guide with extracted information from individual studies and reviews.

The portfolio of duties outlined below will vary in accordance with the academic expectations of the role, which may be varied from time to time, and agreed at your annual Performance and Development Review (PDR).

Job Description

Main Activities and Responsibilities

Knowledge Generation

1. To undertake high quality research as directed by your line manager, including contributing to drafting grant proposals and peer-reviewed and other outputs, and evaluating teaching practice;
2. To support the administration of projects linked to your employment, helping ensure compliance with good practice in relation to the conduct of research, the ethics policy, and other relevant LSHTM policies;
3. To complete a policy landscape analysis for active travel policies in the UK
4. To develop a map of UK-based stakeholders of active travel policy
5. To organize and complete a series of stakeholder engagements with the key active travel policy stakeholders
6. To synthesize findings from stakeholder engagements and identify key evidence gaps
7. To complete rapid evidence reviews targeting key evidence gaps
8. To develop Active Travel Evidence Collection in line with the project protocol
9. Contribute to the generation of the ongoing Evidence Collection for diets (including evidence synthesis and mapping using EPPI Reviewer)

Education

1. To participate in some aspects of LSHTM's Education Programme or educational outreach activities;

Internal Contribution

1. To undertake activities that support the Department, Faculty, MRC Unit or LSHTM;
2. To reflect LSHTM's EDI goals in your work and behaviour;
3. To participate in LSHTM's PDR process;

External Contribution

1. To demonstrate good external citizenship by supporting the external academic and practice communities;

RESEARCH ASSISTANT



Professional Development and Training

1. To keep up-to-date with the latest research / thinking in your academic field and with changes to pedagogic practice within LSHTM and more generally;
2. For lab-based disciplines: where the length and nature of the position permits, to apply for and, if accepted, undertake a doctoral degree (if not already acquired);
3. To undertake and successfully complete the mandatory training required by LSHTM as appropriate to the role;

General

All academic staff are free within the law to question and test received wisdom, and put forward new ideas and controversial or unpopular opinions, to enable LSHTM to engage in research and promote learning to the highest possible standards.

All staff at LSHTM are also expected to:

1. Act at all times in LSHTM's best interests;
2. Treat staff, students and visitors with courtesy and respect at all times;
3. Comply fully with LSHTM policies, procedures and administrative processes relevant to the role;
4. Uphold and support LSHTM's values (as set out in the LSHTM Strategy);
5. Act as ambassadors for LSHTM when hosting visitors or attending external events;

Academic Expectations

All academic roles have a statement of academic expectations attached to each level. Please ensure that these have been read and understood. For further information please refer to the [Academic Expectations page](#).

The above list of duties is not exclusive or exhaustive and the role holder will be required to undertake such tasks as may reasonably be expected within the scope and grading of the role.

Role descriptions should be regularly reviewed to ensure they are an accurate representation of the role.

Person Specification

This form lists the essential and desirable requirements needed by the post holder to be able to perform the job effectively.

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

Essential criteria:

1. A relevant first degree in a health-related field
2. Demonstrated experience in stakeholder mapping
3. Relevant analytical skills in literature/systematic review, policy/intervention analysis
4. Evidence of good organisational skills, including effective time management.
5. Proven ability to work independently, as well as collaboratively, as part of a research team.
6. Evidence of excellent interpersonal skills, including the ability to communicate effectively both orally and in writing.
7. Demonstrated knowledge of active travel policy and key stakeholders in the United Kingdom
8. Demonstrated knowledge of EPPI Reviewer software
9. Demonstrated design skills for generating public-facing evidence pieces
10. Relevant and transferrable knowledge of interventions and policies to shift diets towards being healthier and more sustainable
11. Relevant and transferrable knowledge of interventions and policies to promote active travel or interventions with co-benefits in both physical health and the environment

Desirable Criteria

12. Some experience of teaching
13. Experience with stakeholder engagement or transferrable public/patient involvement activities
14. Previous experience with a similar project
15. Understanding of the aims and objectives of the Lower-Carbon; Healthier-Lives project
16. Experience in economic analysis of policies

Salary and Conditions of Appointment

The post is fixed term until 31 March 2024 and full-time 35 hours per week, 1 FTE. The post is funded by the NIHR Public Health Policy Research Unit (PH-PRU) and is available immediately. The salary will be on the Academic scale, Grade 5 at £38,282 (inclusive of London Weighting).

The post will be subject to the LSHTM terms and conditions of service. Annual leave entitlement is 30 working days per year, pro rata for part time staff. In addition to this there are discretionary "Wellbeing Days". Membership of the Pension Scheme is available.

LSHTM has a Hybrid Working Framework, which alongside agreed service requirements, enables teams to work more flexibly (if the role allows), promoting a greater wellbeing and work/life balance.

Application Process

Applications should be made on-line via our [jobs website](#). Applications should also include the names and email contacts of 2 referees who can be contacted immediately if appointed. Online applications will be accepted by the automated system until 10pm of the closing date. We regret that late applications cannot be accepted. Any queries regarding the application process may be addressed to jobs@lshtm.ac.uk.

The supporting statement section should set out how your qualifications, experience and training meet each of the selection criteria. Please provide one or more paragraphs addressing each criterion. The supporting statement is an essential part of the selection process and thus a failure to provide this information will mean that the application will not be considered. An answer to any of the criteria such as "Please see attached CV", "Yes" or "No" will not be considered acceptable and will not be scored.

Please note that if you are shortlisted and are unable to attend on the interview date it may not be possible to offer you an alternative date.

Asylum and Immigration Statement

LSHTM will comply with current UKVI legislation, which requires all employees to provide documentary evidence of their legal right to work in this country prior to commencing employment. Candidates will be required to email a copy of their passport (and visa if applicable) to HR prior to their interview and if appointed will be asked to bring the original documents in to be copied and verified before their start date.

Applications from candidates who require sponsorship to work in the UK will be considered alongside other applications. Applicants who do not currently have the right to work in the UK will have to satisfy UK Visas & Immigration regulations before they can be appointed.

Further information about Sponsorship and eligibility to work in the UK, can be found on the [government immigration rules page](#).

Date amended: Sept 2023

