

RESEARCH FELLOW



Job Title:	Research Fellow
Department:	Department of Public Health, Environment and Society (PHES)
Faculty:	Faculty of Public Health & Policy
Location:	15 – 17 Tavistock Place
FTE:	1.0 FTE
Grade:	G6
Accountable to:	Head of Department through Elizabeth McGill (line manager) and Matt Egan (Principal Investigator).
Job Summary:	<p>We require a public health researcher to contribute to evaluations of interventions implemented in English local authorities to address the commercial determinants of health.</p> <p>The researcher will join the UKRI-funded Local Health and Global Profits health hub, directed by Professor Anna Gilmore at the University of Bath. At LSHTM, Local Health and Global Profits is led by Professors Matt Egan and Mark Petticrew.</p> <p>The postholder will have experience conducting primary research, an excellent understanding of the English local government landscape, a good understanding of the commercial determinants of health, and a strong qualitative methods skillset. The post is planned to start on 01 April 2026 and end 31 March 2028.</p>

General Information

The London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine (LSHTM) is one of the world's leading public health universities.

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.

Staff and students are committed to helping create a more healthy, sustainable and equitable world for everyone, because we believe our shared future depends on our shared health.

We embrace and value the diversity of our staff and student population and seek to promote equity, diversity and inclusion as essential elements to improve 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

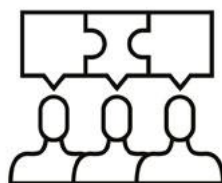
Our values establish how we aspire to achieve our mission both now and in the future - demonstrating what it means to work and study at LSHTM. Please visit our [LSHTM Values page](#) for further information.



**Act with
integrity**



**Embrace
difference**



**Work
together**



**Create
impact**

Faculty Information

The School is divided into three academic faculties, of which the Faculty of Public Health & Policy is responsible for research and teaching in the policy, planning and evaluation of health programmes and services. Its interests are both national and international, encompassing industrialized and low and middle-income countries.

The Faculty has three research departments:

- Global Health and Development
- Health Services Research and Policy
- Public Health, Environments and Society

In the Faculty there are about 50 Professional Services staff members, and 280 academic staff drawn from a variety of disciplines including medicine, statistics, epidemiology, sociology, economics, anthropology, operational research, psychology, nursing and history. Each department is responsible for its own research. The School has adopted a rotating system of management for its academic departments and faculties. The management of a department is under the control of the Department Head, appointed by the Director for a period of three years in the first instance. The Faculty Head is appointed in a similar manner but for an initial period of up to five years.

The Faculty of Public Health and Policy is responsible for organizing a one-year Master's course in Public Health, which allows students to take either a general MSc in Public Health, or to follow one of several more specialised streams: Health Services Management, Health Promotion, Environmental Health or Health Services Research. The Faculty also jointly teaches the MSc Public Health in Developing Countries and MSc Control of Infectious Disease (with the Faculties of Infectious and Tropical Diseases and Epidemiology and Population Health), and MSc Health Policy, Planning and Financing (jointly with the London School of Economics). Master's courses are organized in a modular format across the whole School. One of the growing areas of Faculty teaching is distance-based learning, with MScs in Public Health and Global Health Policy. In 2019/20, over 370 students were registered for our face-to-face Masters programmes and 1367 students were registered for distance learning MSc's.

The Faculty has also reorganized and expanded its research degree (MPhil/PhD; DrPH) training. Currently there are about 164 students and 36 staff members registered for a research degree.

Department of Public Health, Environments and Society (PHES)

The Department (headed by Professor Alex Mold) is one of three in the Faculty of Public Health and Policy and based in a new building (opened July 2023) in Tavistock Place. PHES carries out internationally renowned research into the social and environmental determinants of health and the evaluation and analysis of public health policy. It has a strong multi-disciplinary focus, with researchers working in the fields of sociology, anthropology, geography, history, epidemiology, and evaluation. Its principal areas of research include: drug use and health behaviour; sexual and reproductive health; young people's health; the social determinants of health; social interventions in health; the built environment and health; the environment, climate change and health; and history and health.

PHI UK: Local Health and Global Profits

Local Health and Global Profits is a UKRI-funded health hub bringing together researchers at the Universities of Bath, Cambridge, Edinburgh, Sheffield and the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine together to study the commercial determinants of health at the local level. At LSHTM, Profs Matt Egan and Mark Petticrew provide leadership.

The Consortium researchers are working with local governments, local populations and public health practitioners, including the Association of Directors of Public Health and civil society groups. Together, they aim to understand the building blocks, including the commercial factors, that impact on communities' health. Taking a systems approach, it will use that knowledge to identify, implement and evaluate the population-level interventions most likely to improve health, wellbeing and equity at scale. It will also work specifically to explore and address the barriers to implementing interventions.

Aims and objectives

The overall aim of the programme is to take an integrated systems approach, in order to

1. identify potential actions (diverse forms of interventions) to address the upstream determinants of health and the facilitators and barriers to implementing these actions
2. develop and implement resources and support systems, to better enable local authorities to implement these actions
3. take a comprehensive approach to assessing the health and economic impacts of these interventions and disseminate the selected interventions and supporting tools.

Objectives

Operating at local level, the primary objectives of this research consortium are to:

- use an integrated systems approach to better understand, identify and prioritise potential areas of action to address upstream (commercial and interlinked social, political and economic) determinants of health
- critically examine evidence for actions that can address upstream (commercial) determinants of health, categorising them to help identify those that require minimum agency, can promote health and equity at scale and act on system levers
- explore facilitators and barriers to the effective implementation of such actions and how these can most effectively be addressed
- co-develop appropriate resources (tools and training), support systems and locally relevant evidence that will enable local actors to overcome these barriers
- comprehensively assess the anticipated health and economic impacts of actions and whether changing the paradigm of the impact assessment approach (for example changing the underlying economic model) changes their measured effectiveness and how they are perceived and prioritised by policy-makers
- compile novel large scale data resources for use at local level to enable this
- enable implementation of actions, including policy change, by providing appropriate support systems
- undertake complex systems evaluations of the selected actions, resources and support systems
- scale up and exchange knowledge to promote equitable population health improvement.

The Role

We are offering an exciting opportunity for a researcher with an interest in the commercial determinants of health and strong qualitative skills to contribute to evaluations in up to eight case study sites. An excellent understanding of English local government and policymaking processes is essential to this role.

The Local Health and Global Profits consortium is led by Prof Anna Gilmore (University of Bath) with deputy directors Dr Nason Maani (University of Edinburgh) and Prof Elenora Fichera (University of Bath). Co-investigators and work package leads Prof Matt Egan and Prof Mark Petticrew are based at LSHTM. The Research Fellow will be based at LSHTM and supervised by Egan.

The postholder will conduct systems evaluations of the actions, resources and support systems implemented in the chosen local authority case study sites, as part of a larger team. The postholder will primarily use qualitative methods, including interviews, focus groups, observation and documentary analysis. The postholder will be expected to play a key role in the analysis of the collected data, and therefore have a good understanding of qualitative data analysis techniques. The evaluations undertaken as part of this role will be informed by relevant systems evaluation frameworks, with initial stages dedicated to gaining insight into implementation and potential system responses. Subsequent stages will assess wider systemic processes, mechanisms and impacts. Additionally, the postholder will contribute to the evaluation of systems approach taken by the consortium as a whole, exploring the value-added of applying a systems lens. The postholder will work with another evaluator based at LSHTM, an evaluator at the University of Bath, and other workpackage leads and researchers.

The consortium is working with 8 local authority sites across England. Some travel will be required to the sites for fieldwork, including conducting interviews and / or focus groups and observing meetings.

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 & scholarship, including contributing to drafting major grant proposals and/or leading on drafting small grant proposals, and evaluating teaching practice;
2. To contribute to peer-reviewed publications and other outputs, including as lead author;
3. To make a contribution to doctoral student supervision, as appropriate to qualifications and experience;
4. To manage small grants or elements of larger grants, ensuring compliance with good practice in relation to the conduct of research, the ethics policy and other relevant LSHTM policies.
5. You will contribute to data collection and analysis under the supervision of Professor Egan. This work is expected to include:

- a. Using a range of qualitative methods to understand intervention processes, theories of change, barriers, facilitators and impacts within a wider system.
- b. Developing relationships with local practitioners to facilitate data collection.
- c. Analysing primary and secondary data.
- d. Liaising with researchers in other workpackages outside of LSHTM for coherence and to avoid overburdening research participants and local authority case sites.
- e. Leading and contributing to peer-reviewed publications and other written outputs.
- f. Presenting, communicating and disseminating research to researchers, policymakers and practitioners via presentations and posters at conferences, seminars and workshops.

Education

- 1. To contribute to the delivery of high quality, inclusive, research-informed teaching and assessment in relation to your specific subject and within the broader area covered by your department and disciplinary field;
- 2. To contribute to the improvement of the quality of LSHTM's education, by participating in the development of new and updated learning and teaching materials or approaches.

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 contributing to learned society/conference events, journal and grant reviews etc;
- 2. To promote knowledge translation and enterprise by participating in networks and activities that disseminate research-based knowledge beyond academia.

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. 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, including when acting as Principal Investigator, accepting academic, managerial, financing and ethical responsibility for a project
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 postgraduate degree, ideally a doctoral degree, in a relevant topic.
2. Relevant experience in research in local government settings on topics relevant to the commercial determinants of health.
3. Contributions to written output, preferably peer-reviewed, as expected by the subject area/discipline in terms of types and volume of outputs.
4. Proven ability to work independently, as well as collaboratively as part of a research team, and proven ability to meet research deadlines.
5. Evidence of excellent interpersonal skills, including the ability to communicate effectively both orally and in writing
6. Evidence of good organizational skills, including effective time management.
7. Experience of different forms of qualitative data collection, including interviews, focus groups, observation and documentary analysis.
8. Experience of undertaking different forms of qualitative data analysis.
9. Demonstrable understanding of English local government landscape.
10. Experience working closely with local government stakeholders.
11. Demonstrate experience of approaches to understanding policy processes: examples could include relevant conceptual frameworks or theories; stakeholder analysis; systems perspectives.

Desirable Criteria

1. Some experience of contributing to research grant applications.
2. Some experience of teaching and assessment.
3. Some experience of supervising and supporting junior researchers and/or research degree students, and non-academic staff.

Salary and Conditions of Appointment

The post is full-time 35 hours per week, 1.0 FTE and fixed term until 31 March 2028. The post is funded by the Local Health and Global Profits UKRI funded health hub and is available from 01 April 2026. The salary will be on the LSHTM salary scale, Grade 6 in the range £45,728 - £51,872 per annum pro rata (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 operates a Hybrid Working Framework which, alongside agreed service requirements, enables teams to work more flexibly where the role allows - promoting wellbeing and a better work/life balance. Please note that roles based in London are required to work on-site a minimum of two days per week.

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: January 2026