

## JOB DESCRIPTION

Vacancy Ref: A2802

<b>Job Title:</b> Senior Research Associate, part time (0.5) fixed term 2 years.	<b>Present Grade:</b> 7
<b>Department/College:</b> Division of Health Research	
<b>Directly responsible to:</b> Professor Carol Holland/Dr Claire Hardy	
<b>Supervisory responsibility for:</b> N/A	
<p><b>Other contacts</b></p> <p><b>Internal:</b> Lancaster University “Together an Active Future” (TaAf) Project Evaluation Team; Division and Faculty colleagues and students</p> <p><b>External:</b> Pennine Lancashire Public Health, local delivery pilot team, TaAF: District and specific category project leads; Study participants; Funding bodies; Sport England; relevant healthcare and government organisations; National network of project evaluators.</p>	
<p><b>Together an Active Future (TaAF): The programme</b></p> <p>Given the health impacts of physical activity, Sport England is funding the development of a Local Delivery Pilots scheme (LDP) aimed at tackling inactivity at a focused, local level. Pennine Lancashire was one of 12 LDPs selected to deliver this vision and explore ways of doing things differently. The team at Lancaster University has been commissioned by the TaAF team at Pennine Lancashire to deliver the evaluation of the process and range of projects that will be supported across the region.</p> <p>The 0.5 time research associate will specifically support the process evaluation package of the project with another researcher who will also work part-time on this component of the evaluation. The objectives of this 2-year project are: to understand the processes and factors involved in the delivery/ implementation of physical activity programmes across six Local Authority Districts (LAD) and two of TaAF’s target groups; to evaluate the TaAF team, including understanding the potential facilitators and inhibitors of their implementation effectiveness; to provide feedback on evaluation insights in a timely-manner to facilitate rapid shared learning and evidence-based changes within the ‘test and learn’ ethos of the Pathfinder phase; and to develop resources (e.g. a toolkit, training) to allow individuals or groups at local levels in Pennine Lancashire to be able to conduct their own evaluations using the proposed evaluation approach (guided by the Consolidated Framework for Implementation Research, CFIR). The role will require you to use qualitative and quantitative methods, but predominantly qualitative (e.g. conduct telephone interviews) to achieve the objectives.</p> <p><b>Major Duties:</b></p> <p>To undertake research and scholarship to benefit the Division of Health Research and to fulfil the aims of the Strategy Plan.</p> <p>This post holder is responsible for conducting, as part of a project team and under supervision, the TaAF evaluation project funded by Pennine Lancashire Public Health. Key activities of the Research Associate are as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To contribute to day-to-day management of this work package within the project, ensuring that key milestones are achieved on time, liaising with team members and managing time flexibly to respond to time-limited needs.</li> <li>2. To undertake the collection, collation, analysis and reporting of the information gained throughout the research project, contributing to design of studies as appropriate. Duties will include:</li> </ol>	

- a. Contribution to preparing and obtaining ethical and research governance approvals where necessary, and maintaining records relating to these
  - b. Contributing to materials and resources to support the identification and recruitment of participants
  - c. Collection of data from key stakeholders involved in the delivery/implementation of the programme, analysing the data, and then feeding this back to the respective Local Authority Districts in a brief report.
  - d. Collect the data using a longitudinal, repeated measures design (four data collection periods), that includes monitoring the impact of the regular feedback. This will include conducting and analysing:
    - i. Interviews via telephone (qualitative methods)
    - ii. Survey including quantitative and qualitative data collection
  - e. Maintain accurate record systems for the project including databases
  - f. Compile information for feedback sessions and reports; occasionally leading the sessions
  - g. Prepare interim and final reports, journal publications and other outputs
3. Work with other team members to facilitate an advisory group to inform the research process and dissemination of outcomes
4. To attend meetings specific to the project and general meetings within the University, including:
  - a. Meetings of the project management group
  - b. Participant Involvement meetings as appropriate
  - c. Relevant internal meetings of the Division of Health Research, and Faculty of Health & Medicine at Lancaster University
5. To undertake training as appropriate, including mandatory training required by the University, as well as specific training identified in discussion with the project lead for the post-holder's own professional development and/or of benefit to the project
6. Undertake any other duties as required by Head of Division or nominated representative