

**Role Descriptors
Outputs and Requirements**

Title: Research Associate

Reports to: Principal Investigator

School: Architecture and Cities

This post is offered at 0.5FTE for seven months.

Professional Values

All Research Associates are required to demonstrate respect for individual learners and be committed to incorporating the process and outcomes of relevant research, scholarship and/or professional practice. All Research Associates are required to be committed to the development of learning communities and encouraging participation in Higher Education, while acknowledging diversity and promoting equality of opportunity. It is also a requirement that all staff are committed to undertaking continuing professional development and evaluation of individual practice and that they are proactive in improving the student experience.

Role Purpose

To work with Dr Jamie Furlong (Research Fellow, Active Travel Academy) and colleagues on analysis of data from the longitudinal Travel and Places survey, funded by TfL. The post holder will undertake quantitative research to contribute to the agreed project objectives. Tasks will include but not be limited to data cleaning and reshaping; post-stratification weight creation; imputation; spatial data linkage; analysis relating to active travel behaviour/attitudinal changes between baseline and wave 1; data visualisation; writing-up findings in a report; and contributing to academic articles.

Principal Accountabilities

1. Working with the Principal Investigator and other colleagues, to understand and make use of research techniques and methodologies; analyse and interpret results from research and generate original ideas based on these outcomes.
2. To contribute to developing funding applications, overseen and advised by the Principal Investigator and other colleagues.

3. To plan and manage personal day-to-day research activity, within the framework of projects, and to deal with any problems that may affect the achievement of research objectives and deadlines.
4. To undertake basic research, including reviewing relevant literature and datasets, ensuring that results are written up and that methods and outcomes are regularly presented to colleague/s.
5. To contribute to the production of research reports and academic publications, and participate in dissemination and other research events, including helping to prepare material under the supervision of the Principal Investigator.
6. To attend and contribute to relevant internal and external meetings and to the decision-making process in general, in a positive and collaborative manner.
7. To make a contribution to teaching as appropriate, for instance to assist in the supervision of student projects in relevant areas.
8. It is envisaged the postholder will look to engage in subject, professional and pedagogic research and other scholarly activities which can support teaching activity and where the quality of the outputs can be recognised nationally in terms of originality, significance and rigour.
9. To ensure a personal programme of Continuous Professional development (CPD) is developed and maintained.
10. To have an understanding of individual health and safety responsibilities and an awareness of the risks in the work environment, together with their potential impact on both individual work and that of others.
11. To undertake any other duties within their competence, as required by the University.

CONTEXT

The Active Travel Academy at the University of Westminster, which sits within the School of Architecture and Cities, has developed a research programme studying active travel measures such as Low Traffic Neighbourhoods (LTNs), School Streets and more widely, travel behaviour change. Research has included using travel survey data to look at effects of interventions on how local people get around, using secondary data to explore impacts on injuries, crime, and other outcomes, and some qualitative work with local authority officers and other stakeholders. This post relates specifically to an ongoing project with TfL, which aims to understand how travel behaviour, attitudes and local area perceptions change across London, in relation to demographic/geographical characteristics and importantly the implementation of active travel infrastructure (e.g. LTNs).

The postholder will be expected to show consideration towards colleagues (both within the immediate research team and beyond) and liaise and work collaboratively with other members of staff and students on areas of shared research interest. They will need to co-ordinate their own work with others to avoid either conflict or duplication of effort and be able to contribute to the decisions affecting the work of the team. The postholder will be expected to deal with routine communication using a range of media and be able to communicate effectively. They will be an excellent researcher with strong quantitative

analysis skills and an interest in active travel.

The postholder has responsibility for ensuring that suitable and sufficient risk assessments are undertaken for the activities for which they are responsible and that measures to control risk are identified and implemented and communicated to all affected. They will be expected to ensure a programme of continuous professional development including 'on the job' learning, internal and potentially external training as needed.

They must ensure the provision of adequate supervision and training, to include: the responsibility to work with due regard for the health and safety of themselves and others; familiarity with actions to be taken in the event of emergency; and the duty to report accidents and hazards appropriately.

They will also require a thorough understanding of diversity and equal opportunities issues.

DIMENSIONS

The postholder will work with Dr Jamie Furlong and Professor Rachel Aldred, and with colleagues at TfL and other partners, contributing to reports and research to be produced over a seven-month period. This may include desk research, quantitative analysis, and contributing to the write-up of reports and academic articles.

**Person Specification
Research Associate**

Qualifications	Essential	Desirable
Degree in a relevant discipline (e.g. Geography)	E	
Post-Graduate Degree or Professional Qualification in a relevant discipline (e.g. MSc)		D
PhD or the equivalent in professional qualifications and experience (or working towards this)		D
Teaching Qualification		D
You will have proven experience and evidence of:-		
Recognised record of experience in research	E	
Research expertise that is up to-date	E	
Contribution to design of teaching or research		D
Experience of working with quantitative data	E	

<p>Skills</p> <p>Knowledge of relevant research models, techniques and method relevant to active travel</p> <p>Ability to communicate effectively with collaborators, both academic and non-academic, verbally and in writing</p> <p>High level analytical capability</p> <p>Ability to encourage commitment to learn in others</p> <p>Ability to conduct data cleaning, analysis and visualisation using a computer programming language (ideally 'R')</p> <p>Ability to assess and organise resources</p>	<p>E</p> <p>E</p> <p>E</p> <p>E</p> <p>E</p> <p>E</p>	<p>D</p>
<p>Personal Attributes</p> <p>Fully committed to contributing to a stimulating learning and working environment which is supportive and fair, based on mutual respect and trust, and in which harassment and discrimination are neither tolerated nor acceptable.</p> <p>Interest in active travel</p>	<p>E</p> <p>E</p>	