

<b>Job Title:</b>	Research Fellow A - Quantitative Researcher Embedded at Surrey Health Determinants Research Collaboration.
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<b>Responsible to:</b>	University of Surrey Principal Investigator (Prof Jo Armes) and Head of HDRC (Dr Negin Sarafraz-Shekary)
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<b>Responsible for:</b>	Not applicable
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<b>Job Summary and Purpose</b>
To undertake research in accordance with the specified research project(s) under the supervision of the principal investigator.

<b>Main Responsibilities/Activities</b>
<p>To undertake a range of research activities within a specified research area, assuming responsibility for specific areas of projects and making use of new research techniques and methods, in consultation with the research award holder or supervisor. This may include fieldwork, interviews, laboratory experimentation, critical evaluation and interpretation, computer-based data analysis and evaluation or library research.</p> <p>Using initiative and creativity to identify areas for research develop new research methods and extend the research portfolio. Analysing and interpreting results of own research. Write up results and prepare papers for submission to appropriate journals and conferences, and other outputs as required and/or appropriate. Attend appropriate conferences for the purpose of disseminating research results of personal development. The post holder may also contribute to writing bids for research grants and will contribute to collaborative decision making with colleagues in areas of research.</p> <p>Continually to update knowledge and develop skills, and translate knowledge of advances in the area into research activity.</p> <p>To plan and manage own research activity in collaboration with others. To carry out administrative tasks associated with specified research funding, for example risk assessment of research activities, organisation of project meetings and documentation. Implementation of procedures required to ensure accurate and timely formal reporting and financial control.</p> <p>To contribute to teaching in the Faculty by carrying out student supervision and/or demonstrating within the post holder's area of expertise and under the direct guidance of a member of departmental academic staff, as appropriate.</p> <p>The post holder may occasionally be required to supervise more junior research staff. To contribute to teaching within the Faculty by carrying out student supervision, demonstrating or lecturing duties within the post holder's area of expertise. To supervise research students and contribute to the teaching activities of the Faculty.</p> <p>To contribute to the management of quality, audit and other external assessments, e.g. the Research Assessment Exercise.</p>

<b>Person Specification</b>
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**The post holder must have:**

A doctoral degree in a relevant discipline (although individuals who have almost completed a doctoral degree may be appointed). Consideration may also be given to individuals who do not hold a doctoral degree but have required skills based on a number of years experience in specified / relevant fields

The post holder will have authority over some aspects of project work and must be capable of providing academic judgement, offering original and creative thoughts and be able to interpret and analyse results.

**Relationships and Contacts**

Direct responsibility to the principal investigator or academic supervisor. The post holder may be asked to serve on a relevant Faculty committee. There may be additional reporting and liaison responsibilities to external funding bodies or sponsors. The post holder may work on original research tasks with colleagues in other institutions.

**Special Requirements**

To be available to participate in fieldwork as required by the specified research project.

To attend national and international conferences for the purpose of disseminating research results.

**All staff are expected to:**

- Positively support equality of opportunity and equity of treatment to colleagues and students in accordance with the University of Surrey Equal Opportunities policy.
- Help maintain a safe working environment by:
  - Attending training in Health and Safety requirements as necessary, both on appointment and as changes in duties and techniques demand
  - Following local codes of safe working practices and the University of Surrey Health and Safety Policy
- Undertake such other duties within the scope of the post as may be requested by your Manager.

## Research Role Profile Addendum

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<b>Main Responsibilities/Activities</b>
<p><u>This information sheet should be read in conjunction with the accompanying generic Senior Research Fellow role profile and will be used for shortlisting processes.</u></p> <p>The post holder will contribute to the delivery of the Health Determinants Research Collaboration, HDRC, programme of work, which is a partnership between Surrey County Council, the University of Surrey and third sector organisation (further details in the background information section below).</p> <p>The post holder will work closely with the Head of S-HDRC, Programme Manager and the Surrey Principal Investigator. The post holder will use analytical skills and practical experience of quantitative research approaches to manage and analyse complex datasets relating to the wider determinants of health.</p> <p>This role will be responsible for providing expert advice and guidance on quantitative research methodologies and data and intelligence that will be used to inform the HDRC programme. Key responsibilities include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide analytical skills and expertise to Surrey HDRC, linking and analysing data across multiple domains that align with research priorities and strategic objectives.</li> <li>• Provide leadership and research expertise to Surrey HDRC and partners across the functions covered by the role, coordinating the sharing of best practice and promoting a culture of continuous improvement and innovation.</li> <li>• Provide statistical and analytical support to the HDRC team, local authority, and other key stakeholders</li> <li>• Build and maintain positive relationships with partners, including with the community, to promote the work of the Surrey HRDC and ensure the delivery of high-quality products and outcomes.</li> <li>• Support a range of activities and projects across the Surrey HRDC team, leading and coordinating project proposals, and assisting with the development of the work, providing advice and support to ensure the successful implementation and completion.</li> <li>• Participate in local authority staff training and development, designing and maintaining learning programmes and sessions</li> <li>• Act as a mentor and resource for junior members of the research team, including the HDRC Community Researchers, to meet individual and organisational learning needs with available resources and within specified timescales.</li> </ul>

### Person Specification

In addition to the criteria outlined in the accompanying generic Research Fellow Role Profile, the post holder should have (E = Essential; D = Desirable):

- PhD in a health-related subject (E)
- Proven written and oral communication and interpersonal skills with good negotiation and influencing skills and the ability to work collaboratively with internal and external partners/professionals (E).
- Specialist knowledge and experience of quantitative research methods and analysing data from a range of sources (E).
- Competence in analytic/statistical software such as SPSS, R, or advanced Excel to support research (E).
- Able to develop, deliver and evaluate research training programmes in group/1-1 settings to internal and external organisations ensuring they are audience appropriate (E).
- Able to manage complex projects, assessing and taking account of known risks, able to adapt to changes and problems along the way (E).
- Excellent organisational skills and an eye for detail, with ability to handle competing deadlines (D).
- Experience in developing, delivering and evaluating formal project evaluations and/or research projects and/or research funding applications with robust methods and ensure they will be of benefit to Surrey HDRC (D).
- Knowledge of the determinants of health and of health inequalities and inequities (D).

### Background information

- In October 2022 Surrey County Council was awarded funding from the National Institute for Health and Care Research (NIHR) for a Health Determinants Research Collaboration (HDRC). NIHR is England's largest funder of health and care research with a mission to improve the health and wealth of the nation through research. The Health Determinants Collaboration (HDRC) is a new element of research infrastructure funding from the NIHR's Public Health Programme and is based in local government ([Health determinants research collaborations | NIHR](#))
- The Surrey HDRC was developed in collaboration with the University of Surrey and several partners from the VCFSE sector. The principal aim of the Surrey HDRC (S-HDRC) is to promote a change in research culture across a 2-tier local authority that will ensure high-quality research aimed at addressing Wider Determinants of Health, (WDH), is generated, implemented and evaluated.
- Surrey HDRC is designed to boost the capacity of Surrey County Council to do research, together with our communities, with the aim of improving health outcomes and reducing health inequalities in Surrey communities. Surrey HDRC will develop a sustainable research culture, build research capacity and capability, and increase our local evidence-base on wider determinants of health.