



**UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS**

## **CANDIDATE BRIEF**

**Research Fellow in Urban Governance**

**Institute for Transport Studies, Faculty of Environment**



**Salary: Grade 7 (£32,548 – £38,833)**

**Reference: ENVTR1064**

**Closing date: 13 May 2018**

**Interviews are expected to be held on 22 May 2018**

**Fixed-term: available from May 2018-May 2020 (external funding)**

**Job share and flexible working arrangements will be considered**

## Research Fellow in Urban Governance

### Institute for Transport Studies, Faculty of Environment

**Are you an ambitious researcher looking for your next challenge? Do you have a background in urban governance? Do you want to further your career in one of the UK's leading research intensive Universities?**

This post is for the lead research fellow in an exciting multi-disciplinary international collaboration to understand a set of on-going urban governance reforms in India. Whilst the need to accelerate the sustainable transformation of Indian cities is widely acknowledged, the capacity to do so lags behind due to weak urban governance. This project will develop cutting edge, theoretically informed, insights into the nature of urban transport governance reform and the potential to generate more sustainable urban mobility in India. It does so through the analysis of on-going reforms delivered in four cities as part of the 'Smart Cities Mission', a nationally driven initiative to deliver better infrastructure for all users through a new governance approach.

The research project is funded jointly by the Economic and Social Research Council and its Indian equivalent ICSSR as a joint Urban Transformations programme. As well as developing a cutting edge research study and jointly developing academic publications, the post holder will be expected to play a major role in the project's mission to bring together, develop and inspire a community of researchers and practitioners to advance the study and understanding of urban transport governance across India and between the UK and India. To this end, the project will involve delivering research training, the facilitation of networks and the development of an international research workshop and Summer School.

The role is based at the Institute for Transport Studies at the University of Leeds under the supervision of project Principal Investigator Professor Greg Marsden. It involves collaboration with Dr Louise Reardon at the Institute of Local Government Studies at the University of Birmingham, Professor Sanjay Gupta of the School of Planning and Architecture Delhi and Professor Ashish Verma from the Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore. The successful candidate will be expected to travel and play an active role in a range of activities in India as well as at the University of Leeds.



## What does the role entail?

As a Research Fellow, your main duties will include:

- Working with and in support of Prof Greg Marsden's research grant to ensure the project is successfully completed;
- Developing institutional maps of key cities and facilitating governance workshops with stakeholders to co-produce key issues for exploration;
- Reviewing literature and developing a theoretically informed interview programme for expert stakeholders in the four cities;
- Coordinate research fellows at SPA Delhi and IISC Bangalore to deliver an interview programme across four cities, taking responsibility for interviews at two of the sites;
- Conducting a cross-site analysis of the interview data using NVivo, working with the project team to develop and debate themes and interpret findings;
- Communicating or presenting research results through publication or other recognised forms of output;
- Preparing papers for publication in leading international journals and independently writing reports;
- Working both independently and also as part of a larger team of researchers, engaging in knowledge-transfer activities;
- Maintaining your own continuing professional development and acting as a mentor to less experienced colleagues as appropriate;
- Contributing to the research culture of the Institute, where appropriate;
- Contributing to the training of both undergraduate and postgraduate students where appropriate, including assisting with the supervision of projects in areas relevant to the project.

These duties provide a framework for the role and should not be regarded as a definitive list. Other reasonable duties may be required consistent with the grade of the post.

## What will you bring to the role?

As a Research Fellow you will have:

- A first degree and PhD (or close to completion) in political science, urban studies, human geography, planning or a closely allied discipline;



- A strong background in studying governance processes and/or cross-site comparative studies of governance;
- Have a good track record in interviews as a data collection method;
- Practical experience of qualitative analysis using NVivo or other similar tool;
- Good time management and planning skills, with the ability to meet tight deadlines and work effectively under pressure;
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills including presentation skills;
- A developing track record of academic writing for journal papers;
- The ability to communicate effectively with a wide range of stakeholders;
- Proven ability to manage competing demands effectively, responsibly and without close support;
- A proven ability to work well both individually and in a team;
- A strong commitment to your own continuous professional development;
- A willingness to travel to and work in India.

You may also have:

- Experience of working in an emerging economy context;
- Proven ability to develop a deliver training for PhD students and fellow researchers.

## How to apply

You can apply for this role online; more guidance can be found on our [How to Apply](#) information. Applications should be submitted by **23.59** (UK time) on the advertised closing date.

## Contact information

To explore the post further or for any queries you may have, please contact:

**Greg Marsden, Professor of Transport Governance**

Tel: +44 (0)113 343 5358

Email: [tragrm@leeds.ac.uk](mailto:tragrm@leeds.ac.uk)



## Additional information

Find out more about the [Faculty of Environment](#).

Find out more about our [Institute for Transport Studies](#).

Find out more about our [Research and associated facilities](#).

### Working at Leeds

Find out more about the benefits of working at the University and what it's like to live and work in the Leeds area on our [Working at Leeds](#) information page.

### Candidates with disabilities

Information for candidates with disabilities, impairments or health conditions, including requesting alternative formats, can be found in our [Accessibility](#) information or by getting in touch with us at [disclosure@leeds.ac.uk](mailto:disclosure@leeds.ac.uk).

## Criminal record information

### Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974

A criminal record check is not required for this position, however, all applicants will be required to declare if they have any 'unspent' criminal offences, including those pending.

Any offer of appointment will be in accordance with our Criminal Records policy. You can find out more about required checks and declarations in our [Criminal Records information](#).

