



**UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS**

## **CANDIDATE BRIEF**

**Research Assistant**

**Faculty of Medicine and Health**



**Salary: Grade 6 (£27,511 – £32,817 p.a. pro-rata)**

**Reference: MHHEA1141**

**Closing date: 7 October 2019**

**Fixed-term for 12 months**

**Part-time – 0.5fte**

# Research Assistant in Applied Mental Health and Sexual Violence Research

School of Healthcare

Faculty of Medicine and Health

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

An exciting opportunity has arisen for an enthusiastic Research Assistant to work on an exciting research study funded by National Institute for Health Research (NIHR); The Effectiveness of Sexual Assault Referral Centres with regard to Mental Health and Substance Use: A National Mixed Method Study (MiMoS). This study is being led by University of Leeds in collaboration with researchers at Division of Psychiatry, School of Health and Related Research (SCHARR) at University of Sheffield, UCL; and the Section of Women's Mental Health at Institute of Psychiatry, Psychology and Neuroscience (IOPPN), Kings College, London. In addition to academic partners, we have a range of stakeholders involved in all aspects of the study including survivors, people with lived experience of mental health and/or substance use, and provider representatives.

This study focuses on people who attend Sexual Assault Referral Centres (SARCs) and aims to examine their mental health and substance use needs, how SARCs identify, intervene or refer to support in relation to those needs. We are using Realist Evaluation methodology i.e., we want to understand what the nature of the problem is, and then identify what works for whom in what circumstances in order to make service recommendations. We are working closely with NHS England to ensure that the research has impact. This is a three year study that has already commenced. The post will commence in October 2019 for 12months 0.5 FTE and will support the data collection phase of the study. There will be some travel and overnight stays involved as part of the role.



## What does the role entail?

As a Research Assistant your main duties will include:

- Recruiting SARC attendees, health and social care and voluntary agency staff to participate in the completion of questionnaires, interviews and focus groups
- Assisting with collection and analysis of questionnaire and interview data;
- Providing regular feedback to the project Steering Group regarding the progress of the work;
- Writing reports, undertaking literature reviews and preparing papers for publication, with guidance as necessary;
- Working both independently and as part of a larger team of researchers and stakeholders;
- Supporting research activities, including contributing to research results and outputs and to the generation of independent and original ideas, ensuring a successful programme of investigation;
- Continually updating your knowledge, understanding and skills in the research field.
- Participating in the research group and presenting research output where appropriate;
- Contributing to the research culture of the School, where appropriate.

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 Research Assistant you will have:

- A first degree or Masters in applied health research or a relevant discipline, e.g. psychology, sociology;
- The ability to communicate effectively and sensitively with a wide range of stakeholders
- Experience of engaging participants in research within the fields of domestic violence, sexual violence, mental health and/or substance use
- Well-developed analytical skills;



- The ability to write clearly;
- Good time management and planning skills, with the ability to meet tight deadlines and work effectively under pressure;
- The ability to work unsupervised and to use your own initiative;
- A strong commitment to your own continuous professional development;
- Willingness to travel to study sites when necessary.

You may also have:

- Experience of using realist methods, either in a realist evaluation or synthesis;
- Experience of collection and analysis of interview data;
- A proven ability to publish in peer-reviewed journals.

## 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:

Dr Rebekah Shallcross

Tel: 0113 343 0963 (internal 30963)

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

## Additional information

Find out more about the [Faculty of Medicine and Health](#).

Find out more about [Athena Swan](#) in the Faculty of Medicine and Health.



Find out more about our [School of Healthcare](#).

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

You will report to Dr Rebekah Shallcross in the School of Healthcare.

### **Working at Leeds**

You can find out more about our generous benefits package and more about what it is like to work at the University and live in the Leeds area in our [Working at Leeds](#) information.

### **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).

### **Security checks**

Appointment to this post will be subject to appropriate security checks being carried out with your permission by a third party company.

## **Criminal record information**

### **Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 (Exceptions) Order 1975**

This post requires an enhanced criminal record check from the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS), and any equivalent overseas authorities where relevant. The successful candidate will be required to give consent for the University to check their criminal record status. All applicants are required to make a self-declaration where applicable.

Any offer of appointment will be: subject to the University being satisfied with the outcome of these checks, in accordance with our Criminal Records policy. You can find out more about required checks and declarations in our [Criminal Records information](#).

