



UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

## CANDIDATE BRIEF

Associate Professor in Urban Environmental Change, Faculty of Environment



**Salary: Grade 9 (£56,021 – £64,914 p.a. depending on experience)**

**Reporting to: Professor Alice Owen, Director of the Sustainability Research Institute**

**Reference: ENVEE1730**

**Location: University of Leeds (with scope for hybrid working)**

**We are open to discussing flexible working arrangements**

**We expect interviews to be held in Leeds on Friday 7th June. Online interviews will be possible**

## Overview of the Role

**Are you an experienced and influential academic with a proven ability to carry out teaching and research on urban environmental change and related topics? Do you have an excellent research record and proven success obtaining funding and the vision and drive to tackle new challenges? Are you passionate about delivering an exceptional world leading research and an exceptional student experience in a Russell Group University?**

The Sustainability Research Institute (SRI) in the School of Earth and Environment is looking for an enthusiastic and self-motivated academic with a focus on urban environmental change to join our world-leading team. Following recent successes in student recruitment and grant income from a range of funders, we are seeking to expand our portfolio of excellent research and teaching. We are specifically looking for someone whose work complements, and adds depth and breadth to that of our current team.

SRI is an internationally leading centre for research and teaching in interdisciplinary environmental research. Our research groups include economics and policy for sustainability; business and organisations for sustainable societies; environment and development; energy and climate change mitigation; social and political dimensions of sustainability; and climate change adaptation, vulnerability and services.

We are seeking an experienced and ambitious researcher with a strong motivation to develop and deliver innovative research in the field of urban environmental change. You should have interdisciplinary expertise in cities' responses to pressures of climate change, food security, agriculture, ecosystem services, nature-based solutions, planning or a related topic. You will have an excellent research record and proven success obtaining funding and a vision to tackle new urban environmental change challenges. You will bring innovative research-led approaches and solutions to our teaching. You will also bring a broad network of existing research collaborators and a strong interest to work in collaboration with new colleagues across the institute and wider University.

You will contribute to research excellence, leadership and innovation in student education across the School's Masters and Undergraduate programmes, notably the MSc Sustainable Cities. This will include teaching related to urban environmental



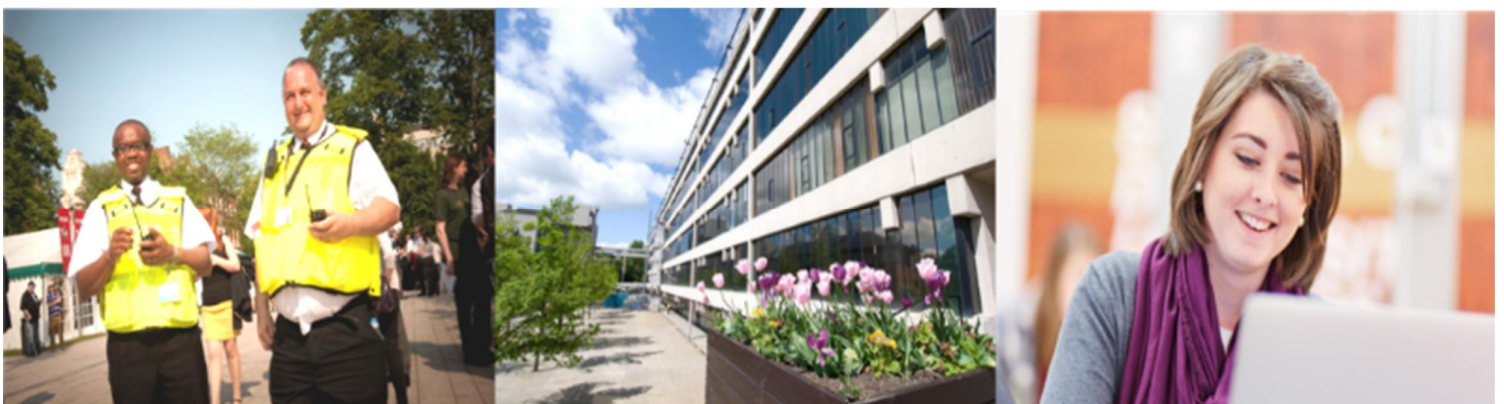
change, sustainability and research methods, supervising dissertations, contributing to field courses, tutoring and attracting and supervising post-graduate researchers.

The University has recently started a process of transforming its programme portfolio, with a new Leeds Curriculum that highlights: inclusive and authentic teaching and assessment approaches, evidence-based pedagogies, global citizenship and digital technologies. This ten-year project will involve significant development of our undergraduate and MSc programmes. We are looking for someone who will embrace the opportunity to contribute innovative new teaching approaches and new research-based materials to this process.

## Main duties and responsibilities

- Pursuing, leading and developing the strategic direction of research, innovation and impact around urban environmental change at an appropriately benchmarked level, attracting research income for high-quality research;
- Being recognised as an authority in the broad field of urban environmental change, developing and maintaining a visible external profile;
- Growing a record of high-quality research outputs;
- Promoting the integration of your own research area with other research interests within and outside the School, Faculty and University;
- Providing high quality postgraduate research student supervision and attracting research students to the University;
- Undertaking research-based teaching at undergraduate and postgraduate taught courses; regularly collecting, and responding to, student feedback as well as being involved in coursework assessment and examinations;
- Playing a role in the design, development, planning and review of modules and programmes as required;
- Contributing to the management and administrative processes and committee structures of the School, Faculty and University;
- Managing or leading initiatives or areas of work and taking on leadership roles which facilitate School, Faculty or University performance or business as required.

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.



## Qualifications and skills

### Essential

- A PhD on aspects of environmental change or a closely allied discipline;
- A track record of interdisciplinary experience and from working across disciplines;
- An international profile with sustained track record of excellent publications on environmental change, particularly urban environmental change;
- A sustained track record of generating research funding;
- Experience from the development of new teaching approaches and materials on urban environmental change, including module and programme design, review and development;
- Experience from supervising undergraduate or postgraduate dissertations;
- Outstanding communication, team working and networking skills;
- Experience from academic leadership and managing resources and staff;
- Evidence of the ability to build trust to ensure engagement and commitment, and to treat staff fairly, with respect and dignity.

### Desirable

- Expertise on socio-economic aspects of climate change, food security, agricultural sustainability, ecosystem services, nature-based solutions, planning or related issues in urban environmental change;
- An ability to design and deliver innovative learning experiences that contribute to enhancing the student experience;
- An ability to build partnerships with industrial, professional and public sector organisations for collaboration, knowledge exchange and funding.

## Additional information

Please note: If you are not a British or Irish citizen, from 1 January 2021 you will require permission to work in the UK. This will normally be in the form of a visa but, if you are an EEA/Swiss citizen and resident in the UK before 31 December 2020, this may be your passport or status under the EU Settlement Scheme.

Find out more about our [School of Earth and Environment](#)



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

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

Find out more about [equality](#) in the Faculty.

### **Working at Leeds**

We are a campus based community and regular interaction with campus is an expectation of all roles in line with academic and service needs and the requirements of the role. We are also open to discussing flexible working arrangements. To find out more about the benefits of working at the University and what it is like to live and work in the Leeds area visit our [Working at Leeds](#) information page.

### **Our University**

As an international research-intensive university, we welcome students and staff from all walks of life and from across the world. We foster an inclusive environment where all can flourish and prosper, and we are proud of our strong commitment to student education. Within the Faculty of Environment we are dedicated to diversifying our community and we welcome the unique contributions that individuals can bring, and particularly encourage applications from, but not limited to Black, Asian and ethnically diverse people; people who identify as LGBT+; and people with disabilities. Candidates will always be selected based on merit and ability.

The Faculty of Environment has received a prestigious Athena SWAN silver award from [Advance HE](#), the national body that promotes equality in the higher education sector. This award represents the combined efforts of all schools in the Faculty and shows the positive actions we have taken to ensure that our policies, processes and ethos all promote an equal and inclusive environment for work and study.

### **Information for disabled candidates**

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

