



UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

## CANDIDATE BRIEF

Research Fellow in Spatial Inequality, Faculty of Environment



**Salary: Grade 7 (£37,099 – £44,263 p.a. depending on experience)**

**Reporting to: Dr Vikki Houlden**

**Reference: ENVGE1233**

**Fixed term: 16 months - to complete specific time limited work**

**Location: main campus (with scope for hybrid working)**

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

## Overview of the Role

**Are you an ambitious researcher with experience in spatial inequality? Do you want to address key questions currently facing urban science and society? Do you want to develop your career in one of the UKs leading research intensive universities?**

We seek a Research Fellow in Spatial Inequality with experience of inequalities and spatial methods to support the delivery of an exciting new ESRC-funded research project, “*Green AWARE: Greenspace Accessibility, Wellbeing, and Resident Equality*”.

Working with the project lead Dr Vikki Houlden in the School of Geography and co-lead Dr Anna Barker in the School of Law, you will be conducting novel socio-spatial research to develop new understanding of inequalities in access to greenspace, and propose ways in which greenspace can be designed and managed to reduce socio-demographic access inequalities, overcome social and cultural barriers to use, and promote wellbeing. Key tasks will include reviewing research evidence, supporting survey design, data entry and integration, conducting focus groups, statistical analysis and spatial modelling of surveys, and delivering impactful outputs for academic and practitioner audiences. For full details of the project plans, role details, or to discuss your suitability for the role, please feel free to contact Dr Vikki Houlden ([v.houlden@leeds.ac.uk](mailto:v.houlden@leeds.ac.uk)). Please also see the [Green AWARE Project Webpage](#).

## Main duties and responsibilities

- Assisting the Research Team in designing and conducting data collection, analysis, and focus group discussions;
- Leading data entry, statistical analysis, and spatial modelling of survey data;
- Evaluating methods and techniques used and results obtained by other researchers and to relate such evaluations appropriately to your own work through a Rapid Evidence Review;
- Reporting to regular team meetings, reviewing and presenting progress with investigators and external project stakeholders;
- Preparing papers for publication in leading international journals and disseminating research results through other recognised forms of output, including an interactive data dashboard;



- Working both independently and also as part of a larger team of researchers, engaging in knowledge-transfer activities where appropriate and feasible.

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 or near completion - i.e. the initial thesis needs to have been handed in at the point of application in geography/urban science/computer science/GIS or a closely allied discipline;
- A strong background in inequalities, accessibility, or health geography;
- Proficiency in programming in either R or Python;
- Experience of statistical, spatial, and network analysis of large data sets;
- A proven track record of peer-reviewed publications in high impact factor journals;
- Good time management and planning skills, with the ability to meet tight deadlines, manage competing demands and work effectively under pressure without close support;
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills including presentation skills;
- A proven ability to work well both individually and in a team;
- A strong commitment to your own continuous professional development.

### Desirable

- Experience of working with Ordnance Survey data;
- Experience of developing interactive data dashboards or research data archiving;
- Skills in mapping software such as ArcGIS or QGIS;
- Experience of facilitating focus group discussions;
- Experience of thematic analysis of qualitative data.

## 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 the [Faculty of Environment](#).

Find out more about the [School of Geography](#).

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

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

## **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, people who belong to a minority ethnic community; people who identify as LGBT+; and disabled people. 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.

## **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.



### **Candidates with disabilities**

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

