



UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

CANDIDATE BRIEF

Research Fellow in Household Travel Behaviour Change, Faculty of Environment



Salary: Grade 7 (£38,205 – £45,585 p.a. depending on experience)

Reporting to: Jillian Anable

Reference: ENVTR1202

Fixed term for 48 months to complete specific time limited work

Location: University of Leeds

We are open to discussing flexible working arrangements

Overview of the Role

Would you like to be part of a major collaborative research programme to help tackle transport's contribution to the climate crisis? Are you looking to apply your research skills to assess and shape transitions towards sustainable mobility systems? Do you thrive on working in an exciting and creative environment committed to making a difference?

Inspiring Futures for Zero Carbon Mobility ([INFUZE](#)) is a major £7.8m five-year research grant funded by the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council. Working across the Universities of Leeds, Lancaster and the Royal College of Art INFUZE is seeking to achieve transformative change in how transport works, addressing the climate challenge whilst improving fairness and quality of life. INFUZE is an exciting new collaboration which will work with citizens and businesses to re-imagine our transport systems. The programme will build an increasingly ambitious suite of real-world trials with communities, transport providers and government partners.

We are looking to recruit a passionate and committed researcher to drive forward our work on assessing possible transitions away from individualised car ownership. The candidate will require expertise in the statistical analysis of trends in individual and household travel patterns and aspirations over time, with experience in the analysis of secondary data sources as well as in the design of bespoke surveys. This work will have a direct interface with stakeholders and mobility service providers, so we are particularly seeking applicants who are comfortable working with external stakeholders to co-create data sources and analysis plans and creatively present the results of the analysis.

We will consider flexible working arrangements. Please get in touch to discuss.

Main duties and responsibilities

- Undertaking descriptive, multivariate and longitudinal data analysis to understand mobility demand and the policies, behaviours, technologies and infrastructures that underpin them;
- Sourcing and potentially fusing together publicly available and commercial datasets;



- Designing surveys to collect primary data on mobility behaviours and relevant attitudes and expectations from individuals and businesses;
- Using creativity to analyse and interpret research data and draw conclusions on the results, including salient, realistic and practical conclusions on the role of infrastructure and other policy and service changes;
- Explaining differences in behaviours and policy outcomes between groupings and places and over time;
- Participating in co-creation activities to develop the research direction, test and receive feedback;
- Contributing towards the development of an evaluation framework to assess the public benefit of different system configurations;
- Developing research objectives and proposals and contribute to setting the direction of the research project and team including preparing proposals for funding in collaboration with colleagues;
- Evaluating methods and techniques used and results obtained by other researchers and to relate such evaluations appropriately to your own work;
- Preparing papers for publication in leading international journals and disseminating research results through other recognised forms of output;
- Working both independently and also as part of a larger team of researchers, engaging in knowledge-transfer activities where appropriate and feasible;
- Maintaining your own continuing professional development and acting as a mentor to less experienced colleagues as appropriate;
- Contributing to the training of both undergraduate and postgraduate students, 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?

Essential

- A PhD in geography, transport studies, energy studies, policy studies or a closely allied discipline;
- A track record of innovative quantitative analysis of the UK National Travel Survey and other data sets related to mobility practices;



- Demonstrable understanding of appropriate and relevant, fundamental and applied statistical knowledge, methodologies and computational tools;
- Solid understanding and development of theories and models of human behaviour, decision-making and activity choice within mobility contexts;
- The ability to design quantitative survey instruments;
- Experience of working with governmental partners and/or companies on behaviour change;
- A clear personal motivation for the goals of the project;
- The ability to spend the majority of time in Leeds to undertake fieldwork, stakeholder engagement and team meetings;
- 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

- A proven track record of peer-reviewed publications in high impact factor journals in the above-mentioned topics and disciplines;
- Experience of working with the Understanding Society dataset;
- Experience of spatial statistics.

How to apply

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

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.



Please note that this post may be suitable for sponsorship under the Skilled Worker visa route but first-time applicants might need to qualify for salary concessions. For more information please visit: www.gov.uk/skilled-worker-visa

For research and academic posts, we will consider eligibility under the Global Talent visa. For more information please visit: <https://www.gov.uk/global-talent>

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

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](#).

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 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 page.

