



UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

CANDIDATE BRIEF

Research Fellow , People, Work and Employment Department/ Leeds University Business School



Salary: Grade 7 (£39,105 – £46,485 p.a. depending on experience)

Reporting to: Professor Charles Umney, Professor Vera Trappmann, Professor Mark Stuart

Reference: BUSWE1011

Fixed term (for 3 years - to complete a specific task)

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

We are open to discussing flexible working arrangements

Overview of the Role

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

The Leeds Index of Platform Labour Protest (Leeds Index) is a database which uses news reporting to track and analyse instances of protest by platform workers globally. As a postdoctoral researcher you will join the Leeds Index team to help us extend the dataset, and increase the depth of our analysis. Specifically, over the course of this project we plan to develop an understanding of which organisational, institutional and economic factors enable platform worker protest to make organisational and bargaining gains. This will require an ability to engage with our quantitative dataset as well as the ability to undertake independent qualitative research.

Main duties and responsibilities

- Working with and in support of Prof Trappmann, Stuart and Umney's research grant to ensure the project is successfully completed;
- Generating and pursuing original research ideas relevant to the Leeds Index project;
- Developing research objectives and proposals and contributing to setting the direction of the research project and team including, where appropriate 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;
- 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 where appropriate and feasible;
- Maintaining your own continuing professional development and acting as a mentor to less experienced colleagues as 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.

Qualifications and skills

Essential

- A first degree and PhD (or close to completion) in employment relations or protest movement research, or a closely allied discipline;
- A strong background in quantitative and qualitative research into labour unrest by platform workers;
- Demonstrated experience of conducting both qualitative and quantitative research into labour unrest by platform workers;
- 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 and 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.

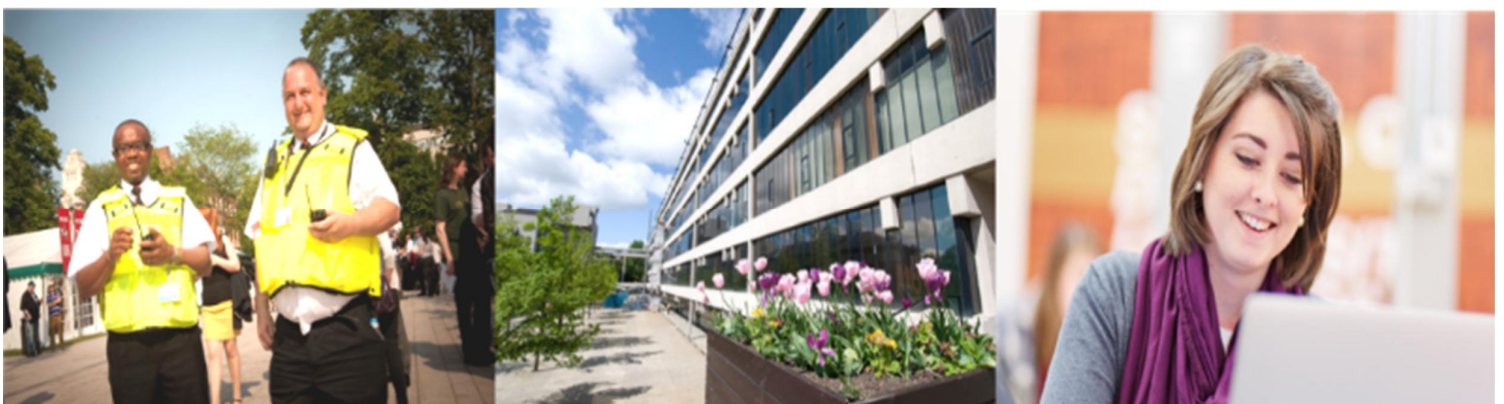
Desirable

- A track record of successful, high quality, publications on labour unrest by platform workers;
- Familiarity with the Leeds Index and its methodological approach;
- A grasp of techniques such as Protest Event Analysis.

Additional information

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 and School

As an international research-intensive university, we welcome students and staff from all walks of life. We foster an inclusive environment where all can flourish and prosper, and we are proud of our strong commitment to student education.

At Leeds University Business School we work hard to ensure that our shared University values (collaboration, compassion, inclusivity and integrity) guide all our activities. We are committed to developing our culture so that we are able to work together to deliver our purpose to “make an exceptional impact on the economy, society and the planet”. We aim to do this by pursuing our goals of developing innovative solutions for society and building a community of responsible leaders.

Everyone at the Business School has a part to play in realising this vision - whether you are involved in education, research, external engagement or professional support. Everyone has skills, knowledge, talent and experience of value - we all have something to offer and we all have a part to play in contributing to collective success. This is at the heart of who we are and how we treat one another. We want all colleagues to feel excited about going to work, to feel valued, to be challenged, to feel part of something bigger and to have fun along the way. To make this a reality we expect all colleagues to champion our shared values, to help us to strengthen our culture and to contribute to our common purpose.

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.

Information for disabled candidates

Information for disabled candidates, impairments or health conditions, including requesting alternative formats, can be found under the ‘Accessibility’ heading on our [How to Apply](#) information page or by getting in touch by [emailing HR via 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 page.

Salary Requirements of the Skilled Worker Visa Route

G7 - 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 [the Government's Skilled Worker visa page](#).

For research and academic posts, we will consider eligibility under the Global Talent visa. For more information, please visit [the Government's page, Apply for the Global Talent visa](#).

