



# Research Assistant in Schools and Community Cycling

Department	Physical Activity for Health ( <a href="http://www.strath.ac.uk/humanities/psychologicalscienceshealth/physicalactivityforhealth/">www.strath.ac.uk/humanities/psychologicalscienceshealth/physicalactivityforhealth/</a> )		
Faculty	Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences ( <a href="http://www.strath.ac.uk/humanities/">www.strath.ac.uk/humanities/</a> )		
Staff Category	Research	Reference No	645426
Reports To	Senior Lecturer	Grade	6
Salary Range	£31396 (Pro rata)	Contract Type	Fixed Term (9 months)
FTE	0.6 (21 hours/week)	Closing Date	15/09/2024
Working Arrangements	Hybrid. The standard requirement across the University is that at least three days per week (based on IFTE) will be spent working on-site (with flexibility as appropriate).		
Holidays	31 days + 11 statutory days (pro rata) Option to purchase additional holidays.		
Pensions	Contributory pension scheme available to all staff including generous employer contribution.		
Training	Professional Development with <a href="#">Organisational and Staff Development Unit</a> (OSDU) plus external training if required.		
Family Friendly Benefits	Generous parental leave provision, on-campus nursery and options for flexible working.		
Health and Wellbeing	University Sport centre, Occupational Health service, access to health and wellbeing events, cycle to work scheme, Employee Assistance Programme, agile working and established carers support network and carer friendly policies.		

## Job Advert

The Department of Psychological Sciences and Health aims to recruit a Research Assistant (60% at Grade 6) to work on the portfolio of projects with the University of Strathclyde's Active Mobility Hub.

There are two upcoming projects that the candidate will be a research assistant role on: "Evaluation of Scottish Cycling's Rock up and Ride (RUAR) cycling programme" and "Play Streets evaluation." While the advertised role is for 9 months initially, it is assumed this will be extended to 12 months, additional funding dependent.

As a Research Assistant, under the supervision and guidance of the grant holder Dr Deirdre Harrington, you will play a key role within the evaluation of these two programmes. Both projects include a set of research and dissemination activities that have been co-developed with stakeholder organisations. These activities can be summarised under the following stages:

1. Data collation – bringing together and displaying existing data and evidence.
2. Evaluation data collection – organising and running data collection sessions in person and online with programme participants, delivery partners and policy stakeholders.

3. Writing and dissemination – writing funder/progress reports and preparing other relevant outputs (including academic papers).

The projects will involve planning, managing and leading everyday activities that relate to the stages above. All work will be done with support of the grant holder and will have input from University colleagues within Strathclyde's Active Mobility Hub. You will be expected to attend monthly Hub meetings and can avail of upskilling and training opportunities happening in other Hub projects.

Strong interpersonal skills are critical as the role involves communicating and interacting with third sector representatives, school staff, children and members of the public from diverse backgrounds. A willingness and ability to travel is essential as data collection is planned to happen in Shetland, Inverness and Dumfries and Galloway although the majority will be in Glasgow city and the wider west coast area of Scotland. Your own car is not a necessity as you can access the University pool eVehicle. Equally, we encourage and support non-vehicle travel and time will be allocated for travel to sites via bike, train, bus and/or ferry.

## Job Description

### Brief Outline of Job:

To be considered for the role, you will be educated to Masters level in an appropriate discipline, and have experience of working in school and community settings in person. You will have experience collecting primary data using both qualitative and quantitative methods.

### Main Activities/Responsibilities:

1.	Play a lead role in planning to deliver project activities, with guidance from senior colleagues as required.
2.	Communicate with designated Scottish Cycling staff and community coaches and other stakeholder via email, Zoom and in person.
3.	Meet and work in locations outside of the University.
4.	Lead data collection in schools and community locations.
5.	Prepare outputs for dissemination to academic and non-academic audiences.
6.	Analyse the display quantitative and qualitative data and information using software (e.g. Excel, SPSS, Nvivo).
7.	Co-write progress reports and lead on writing the final evaluation report for the funder.
8.	Engage in further research or knowledge exchange activity as is deemed appropriate to the post by the grant holder.
9.	Ability to travel within Scotland to project locations

## Person Specification

### Educational and/or Professional Qualifications

(E=Essential, i.e. a candidate must meet all essential criteria to be considered for selection, D=Desirable)

E1 Masters in an appropriate discipline

### Experience

E2 Experience in qualitative and quantitative research methods

E3 Experience in communicating to staff and stakeholders at a variety of levels

E4 Experience of working with partners and collaborators on projects or initiatives in schools and communities

D1 Experience of collecting data in schools and community settings

D2 Experience of report writing

### Job Related Skills and Achievements

E5 Ability to plan and organise own workload effectively

E6 Ability to take direction and work to a set timeline and protocol

E7 Ability to work individually or collaboratively when required

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## Personal Attributes

- E8 Excellent interpersonal and communication skills, with the ability to listen, engage and to present information in an accessible way to a range of audiences internal and external to the University
- E9 Excellent spoken and written English
- E10 Willingness and ability to travel in Scotland
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## Application Procedure

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Applicants are required to complete an application form including the name of three referees who will be contacted without further permission, unless you indicate that you would prefer otherwise. Applicants should also submit a Curriculum Vitae and a covering letter detailing the knowledge, skills and experience you think make you the right candidate for the job. Applicants should also complete the Equal Opportunities Monitoring Form.

## Other Information

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Further information on the application process and working at Strathclyde can be found on our website (<http://www.strath.ac.uk/hr/workforus>).

Informal enquiries about the post can be directed to Deirdre Harrington, Senior Lecturer ([deirdre.harrington@strath.ac.uk](mailto:deirdre.harrington@strath.ac.uk)).

### Conditions of Employment

Conditions of employment relating to the Research staff category can be found at: [Conditions of Employment](#).

### Rewards and Benefits

Our staff have access to a wide range of outstanding benefits that include financial rewards, family friendly and wellbeing benefits and career development opportunities, details of which can be found [here](#).

### PVG Check

This position involves regulated work, making it a legislative requirement that the successful candidate becomes a member of the Protection of Vulnerable Groups Scheme. If appointed, employment with the University will not be confirmed, until membership of the Scheme has been received. The successful applicant will be precluded from working with protected groups until that time.

### Probation

Where applicable, the successful applicant will be required to serve a 9 month probationary period.

### Pension

The successful applicant will be eligible to join the Universities' Superannuation Scheme. Further information regarding this scheme is available from [Payroll and Pensions](#).

### Interviews

Formal interviews for this post will be held on 25/09/2024.

### Equality and Diversity

The University of Strathclyde is a socially progressive institution that strives to ensure equality of opportunity and celebrates the diversity of its student and staff community. Strathclyde is people-oriented and collaborative, offering a supportive and flexible working culture with a deep commitment to our equality, diversity and inclusion charters, initiatives, groups and networks.

We strongly encourage applications from Black, Asian and minority ethnicity, women, LGBT+, and disabled candidates and candidates from lower socio-economic groups and care-experienced backgrounds.

### University Values

The University's Values capture what we're all about: who we are, what we believe in and what we stand for. [Our Values](#) have been derived from how we act and how we expect to be treated as part of Strathclyde.

