



# Reader/Professor in Quantum Technology

School	Physics ( <a href="http://www.strath.ac.uk/science/physics/">www.strath.ac.uk/science/physics/</a> )		
Faculty	Faculty of Science ( <a href="http://www.strath.ac.uk/science/">www.strath.ac.uk/science/</a> )		
Staff Category	Academic	Reference No	620800
Reports To	Head of Department	Grade	I0/Professorial
Salary Range	Salary commensurate with experience and standing	Contract Type	Open Contract
FTE	1 FTE	Closing Date	04/10/2024
Holidays	31 days + 11 statutory days Option to purchase additional holidays.	On Site Facilities	Car parking, sports centre, catering.
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

### Reader/Professor in Quantum Technology

The Department of Physics at the University of Strathclyde invites applications for a senior academic position in Experimental or Theoretical Quantum Technologies. This opportunity aims to enhance and broaden the University of Strathclyde's established position as a leading international centre for Quantum Technology research and innovation, ranging from fundamental and applied research to technology development and commercial exploitation. Our goal is to create and foster a diverse, vibrant and internationally leading cluster of research and innovation based on Quantum Physics.

We are looking for successful candidates with a strong academic track record. You will be expected to lead a research programme of international standing, attract significant funding, publish in leading journals and contribute to teaching and to the strategic leadership and management of the Department. Applications are invited at both Reader and Professorial level, with appointments made at level commensurate with experience.

Areas of research interest include, but are not restricted to:

- Theory and experiments focused on the foundations of quantum mechanics, quantum thermodynamics, quantum optics, quantum electronics and applications of quantum technologies for exploring fundamental physics.
- Quantum computing, including development of new platforms and technologies, algorithm development targeting both fault-tolerant digital hardware and analogue approaches for optimisation, quantum machine learning, and quantum error correction.

- Quantum simulation including development of theoretical tools for emulation to study Hamiltonian dynamics, quantum phase transitions and topological systems with opportunities to collaborate with leading experimentalists at Strathclyde offering atoms in optical lattices and Rydberg tweezers.
- Quantum sensors and devices based on atomic, solid-state, opto-mechanical and photonic platforms targeting applications including position, navigation and timing, range finding as well as a broad range of sensing modalities including electromagnetic fields, dimension, acceleration and temperature.
- Quantum communication and networking, including distributed quantum computing, quantum key distribution across fibre or satellite-based networks, quantum memories, cryptography and security.
- Time and Frequency metrology (in particular optical) with opportunities for engaging with the National Timing Centre node recently launched at University of Strathclyde by the National Physical Laboratory.

The position will extend and complement the Department's existing strong theoretical, computational and experimental research programmes in the area. The postholder will be based within the Department's Optics Division and align with the broader Scottish Universities Physics Alliance (SUPA) initiative in Quantum Technologies as well as the UK National Quantum Technologies Programme.

Start-up provision is made to support new appointments.

Informal enquiries about the post can be directed to Professor Stefan Kuhr, Head of Department ([stefan.kuhr@strath.ac.uk](mailto:stefan.kuhr@strath.ac.uk)), Professor Erling Riis ([e.riis@strath.ac.uk](mailto:e.riis@strath.ac.uk)), Professor Jonathan Pritchard ([jonathan.pritchard@strath.ac.uk](mailto:jonathan.pritchard@strath.ac.uk)) and Professor Viv Kendon ([viv.kendon@strath.ac.uk](mailto:viv.kendon@strath.ac.uk)).

## Job Description

### Brief Outline of Job:

As an acknowledged expert and leader in Quantum Technology: to direct an internationally acclaimed research programme; to oversee and deliver educational curricula and set appropriate academic standards; to lead the development of knowledge exchange activities; to provide academic leadership and contribute at a strategic level to the work of the Department, Faculty and University.

### Main Activities/Responsibilities:

1.	Lead an internationally acclaimed programme of research in Quantum Technology. Disseminate results through regular and sustained publications in high impact journals, books and conference proceedings.
2.	Secure substantial research grant funding and attract income through knowledge exchange activities.
3.	Manage significant activities and resources and provide leadership, support and direction to research/academic/professional staff.
4.	Provide research leadership within the Department, Faculty and University through identifying, developing and leading significant research directions and projects, and contribute to a strong performance in research assessment activities.
5.	Collaborate with other members of the Department's Optics Division and engage closely with the UK National Quantum Technologies Programme.
6.	Oversee the design and delivery of educational degree curricula and playing a lead role in the development of educational strategy and operational standards.
7.	Lead the development of knowledge exchange activities and promote public engagement by, for example, establishing research and/or educational links with industry and influencing public policy and the professions at national and international level.
8.	Engage in, and where appropriate set the agenda in, national and international academic debates and within professional institutes, learned/practitioner societies and governmental committees.
9.	Contribute, at a strategic level, to the work of the Department, Faculty and University, for example through participation in the Department senior management team and by playing a lead role on University committees.
10.	Contribute to the life, vitality and success of the Department and promote the external image and perception of the Department and the University.
11.	Engage in continuous professional development.

## 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 Good honours degree and PhD (or equivalent) in Physics or a related subject.

D1 Membership of relevant Chartered/professional bodies (including the Higher Education Academy).

### Experience

E2 Research interests and internationally leading research track record in Quantum Technology.

E3 An established international reputation as an expert and leader within specialist field.

E4 Ability to build an internationally leading research group and successfully manage and promote that group's research within an international arena.

E5 Extensive experience of delivering high quality teaching to undergraduate and postgraduate students and supervision of research students.

D2 Sustained track record of leading the development and delivery of large and varied educational programmes.

### Job Related Skills and Achievements

E6 An outstanding and inspiring record of achievement in research and publication recognised internationally.

E7 Proven ability to attract substantial research funding over a sustained period.

E8 Track record of multi/inter-disciplinary research collaborations and developing external partnerships.

E9 An established track record of project, budget and staff management.

D3 Established links with industry, learned societies, government and/or relevant Chartered/professional bodies.

### Personal Attributes

E10 Ability to think strategically and contribute at a senior level to the Department, Faculty and University.

E11 Excellent interpersonal and communication skills, with the ability to listen, engage and persuade, and to present complex information in an accessible way to a range of audiences.

## Application Procedure

Applicants are required to complete an application form including the name of three referees who will be contacted without further permission, unless you indicate 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 as well as a Research Plan outlining your research strategy for the next 5 years. Applicants should also complete the Equal Opportunities Monitoring Form.

## Other Information

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 Professor Stefan Kuhr, Head of Department ([stefan.kuhr@strath.ac.uk](mailto:stefan.kuhr@strath.ac.uk)), Professor Erling Riis ([e.riis@strath.ac.uk](mailto:e.riis@strath.ac.uk)), Professor Jonathan Pritchard ([jonathan.pritchard@strath.ac.uk](mailto:jonathan.pritchard@strath.ac.uk)) and Professor Viv Kendon ([viv.kendon@strath.ac.uk](mailto:viv.kendon@strath.ac.uk)).

### Conditions of Employment

Conditions of employment relating to the Academic 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](#).

### Basic Disclosure

This role requires the satisfactory outcome of a Basic Disclosure Scotland Check. The successful applicant will be asked to carry out a Basic Disclosure Scotland Check. Whether an outcome is satisfactory will be determined by the University.

## Pre-employment health screening

An offer of appointment will be subject to a medical assessment by Occupational Health. An individual who accepts an offer of employment must complete a confidential medical questionnaire and forward it to the Occupational Health Nurse within 5 days of receipt. If further information is required the individual may be contacted by the OHN or a Medical Advisor and a personal appointment with the individual may be arranged. An unconditional contract of employment will not be issued until Human Resources receives confirmation that applicant is fit to undertake the duties of the post.

## Probation

Where applicable, the successful applicant will be required to serve a 12 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](#).

## Relocation

Where applicable, the University offers a relocation package to support new employees who meet the eligibility criteria. The relocation package is offered as a contribution towards costs incurred, and is designed to be flexible, allowing staff to use the financial support available in the way that will be most helpful to them. Further details are outlined in the Relocation Policy.

## Interviews

Formal interviews for this post will be held in October / November.

## 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.



# Conditions of Employment

## Non-Professorial Academic Staff

### 1. GENERAL CONDITIONS

Members of staff are subject to the Charter and Statutes and the Ordinances and Regulations of the University, published in the Calendar, and to any amendments or additions thereto approved by the University Court and, in the case of the Charter and Statutes, the Privy Council. Staff are also expected to familiarise themselves with, and adhere to, general University policies and procedures, as published on University web pages.

The University Court recognises Strathclyde Universities and Colleges Union (SUCU) as the sole body with which it will negotiate and consult on all collective issues concerned with the terms and conditions of employment of Academic Staff. Such terms and conditions may be varied by the University Court after negotiation and consultation with SUCU.

Each member of staff is responsible for the proper performance of allocated duties to the person or persons specified in the member of staff's letter of appointment and any accompanying papers.

The University is committed to ensuring that its business is conducted in an open and transparent manner and will take all appropriate steps to address risks of bribery or corruption. Members of staff are required at all times to act honestly and with integrity and to safeguard the resources for which they are responsible. The University has in place a robust Public Interest Disclosure (Whistleblowing) Policy to enable concerns to be brought to its attention. This is available at [www.strath.ac.uk/publicinterestdisclosure](http://www.strath.ac.uk/publicinterestdisclosure). Other relevant policies, e.g. Fraud Prevention and Conflicts of Interests, can also be found on the University's website.

Any member of staff may at any time be exposed to commercially sensitive information, information related to potentially valuable intellectual property or information which may otherwise be of a confidential nature. This information, which could be found anywhere in the University, may be written or disclosed orally, can include information of a commercial or technical nature, and may be owned by the University or by third parties. The University requires all employees to keep any such information confidential in the first instance and not disclose, publish or otherwise disseminate it without prior consent of the University. Such confidentiality obligations are commonplace and in the commercial interests of the University. When in doubt advice should always be sought from Research and Knowledge Exchange Services prior to disclosure.

The University operates probationary periods for new staff. The probation period for posts in this staff category is 12 months. Further guidance on probationary procedures is published at [www.strath.ac.uk/hr](http://www.strath.ac.uk/hr).

Further information on the terms and conditions specified in this document and other staffing policies and procedures can also be found at [www.strath.ac.uk/hr](http://www.strath.ac.uk/hr).

### 2. SALARY

Appointments are made at an appropriate salary point on the University's grading structure, with initial placing determined according to qualifications and experience. Increments are paid to staff on 1 April each year, when the employee has a minimum of 6 full months of service at the appointed grade, allowing progression to the next point on the salary scale until the top guaranteed point of the scale is reached.

Salaries are paid directly to staff members nominated bank account, normally on the second last working day of the month.

### 3. HOURS OF WORK

Working time is that required to fulfil the duties of the post. The duties are: research, teaching, knowledge exchange and administrative activities organised by agreement with the Head of Department/School/equivalent to produce a reasonable balance of commitment between these duties. The University Court recognises that Academic Staff carry out these duties in a wide variety of ways, but expects student contact to take place on the campuses during normal working hours on week days. There are exceptions to this pattern which may involve student contact at other locations or in the evenings, or at the weekends, but these arrangements will be made with the agreement of the member of staff concerned and may involve additional payment.

### 4. HOLIDAYS

Annual leave entitlement is 31 days per year to be taken by agreement with the line manager. For staff members working on a part-time basis, holidays will be calculated on a pro-rata basis.

In addition to annual leave there is an entitlement to eleven public holidays per year which should be taken on days that the University is closed for this purpose. The University presently closes for four additional days over the Christmas and New Year period. **These additional days count against the annual leave entitlement.**

For staff members working on a part-time basis, public holiday entitlement will be calculated on a pro-rata basis.

Annual leave and public holiday entitlements should be taken in the leave year to which they relate. Up to five days leave can be carried forward into the new leave year subject to line management agreement. In exceptional circumstances, Heads of Department/School/equivalent may approve carry forward of accrued annual leave in excess of five days.

The University's expectation is that staff take all accrued holidays prior to their termination date. If staff have exceeded their entitlement the University will deduct an equivalent number of days pay from final salary payments.

### 5. SICKNESS ABSENCE

During any period of absence through illness or injury provided the appropriate notification and certification procedures have been followed the University will pay a member of staff (having taken account of the aggregate of all periods of absence due to illness during the twelve months immediately preceding the first day of the current absence) as follows:

Period of Continuous Employment at start of absence from work	Full Pay	Half Pay
Less than 1 year	1 month	1 month
1 year but less than 2 years	2 months	2 months
2 years but less than 3 years	4 months	4 months
3 years but less than 5 years	5 months	5 months
5 years or more	6 months	6 months

In order to manage the University's sick pay scheme the University requires to maintain sickness absence records on individual members of staff. When making payments after the expiry of statutory sick pay the University will deduct an amount equivalent to any benefit normally payable by the Department of Work and Pensions. For full details on the general University policy in this area please refer to the Sickness Absence Management Policy at [www.strath.ac.uk/staff/policies/hr](http://www.strath.ac.uk/staff/policies/hr)

## 6. PENSIONS

If you are under age 75 at the date your appointment commences you will automatically become a member of the pension scheme operated by the University — the Universities Superannuation Scheme (USS). You will be admitted to the career revalued benefits scheme called the USS Retirement Income Builder; the contribution rate that currently applies is 6.1% of pensionable salary. A threshold applies to the maximum salary that counts towards the USS Retirement Income Builder. The current threshold from 1 April 2024 is £70,296 per year. Contributions based on salary above the monthly equivalent rate of the threshold are paid to the defined contribution section of the scheme called the USS Investment Builder. Please use the following link to access information, including the USS Member Guide: <https://www.uss.co.uk/for-members/youre-a-new-joiner>. The scheme booklet is called 'Your Guide to the Universities Superannuation Scheme'.

The University operates a salary exchange arrangement, Pensions Plus, for members of the USS. Pensions Plus enables pension contributions to be made in a manner so that both employees and the University can benefit from available National Insurance Contribution savings. You will be automatically included in Pensions Plus, provided it does not adversely affect your take-home pay or your ability to claim certain state benefits. If your earnings fall below the Pension Plus pay protection limit you will be opted out of Pension Plus. This will not affect your membership of the USS.

New members of staff may opt out of USS within three months of taking up appointment and will then be treated as if they had never been a member of the scheme. After three months members of staff who wish to withdraw from USS during their employment will be required to give a minimum of 28 days' notice in writing to the University. Any member of staff who wishes to opt out should contact the Pensions Section, Finance, in the first instance ([pensions@strath.ac.uk](mailto:pensions@strath.ac.uk)). Please note that if you are a member of Pensions Plus and withdraw from USS with less than two years of membership, or cease employment with the University and have less than two years of USS membership, the option of a refund of pension contributions will not be available to you. Instead, USS must provide you with a pension benefit that is payable from your Normal Pension Age. Regardless of whether you participate in Pensions Plus, if you are a member of the pension scheme for two years or more you are not entitled to a refund of pension contributions on leaving the scheme, you will be entitled to a pension benefit.

The University reserves the right to alter or withdraw Pensions Plus as it sees fit or as required to comply with legislative changes. Withdrawal or amendment of Pensions Plus will not affect your membership of USS. If you do not wish to participate in Pensions Plus but wish to remain in the pension scheme please contact the Pensions Team who will provide you with a non-participation form.

Information regarding pension scheme membership can be found on the Pensions pages of the University's website. Full information regarding USS can be found on the USS website – [www.uss.co.uk](http://www.uss.co.uk)

## 7. PLACE OF WORK AND RESIDENCE

Members of staff will be based on the John Anderson Campus, unless otherwise stated in the letter of appointment. The Department/School in which the post is initially placed will be specified in the letter of appointment although there will be an expectation to work at such other places as required in the course of employment.

If the need arises for members of staff to work outside the UK for a period (or periods) of more than one month then such arrangements will be subject to mutual agreement. Members of staff would then be provided with a statement in advance setting out the terms covering such periods of employment.

The University does not normally place specific restrictions upon the place of residence of members of staff. All staff are, however, expected to reside in a location which is compatible with the satisfactory fulfilment of all the duties associated with their appointment.

## 8. CONSULTANCY/FURTHER ACTIVITIES

To support the strategic objectives of the University and to facilitate individual professional development, the University encourages staff to engage in professional activities with outside bodies related to their field of work. In many cases, such activity will be approved on the basis that it represents University knowledge exchange activity and should therefore be treated as part of the individual's overall workload and managed through the University's systems. It is also recognised that there will be some cases where an activity is entirely separate from the University and should thus be notified/approved as a personal business activity. For further information please refer to the "University Procedure in relation to Work for Outside Bodies including Consultancies", which forms part of the employment contract and can be accessed at [www.strath.ac.uk/hr](http://www.strath.ac.uk/hr).

## 9. DISCIPLINARY AND GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES

Further information on the University's disciplinary and grievance procedure can also be found at [www.strath.ac.uk/hr](http://www.strath.ac.uk/hr) or on request from Human Resources.

## 10. NOTICE AND TERMINATION

The employment of a member of staff is terminable by at least three months' notice, in writing, on either side; termination dates are normally 31 March, 30 June, 30 September and 31 December. If notice is being given by a member of staff earlier release may be granted if this can be arranged without detriment to the work of the department or area. If the appointment is for a fixed term it will expire at the end of the period without the necessity for notice. Staff whose appointment has so terminated shall not normally be regarded as having been dismissed or removed from office in circumstances to which the terms of Ordinance 4.3 shall apply. Fixed term contracts may be terminated by either party short of the expiry date by the serving of three months' notice in writing. The University is not obliged to continue a fixed term appointment beyond the employment period.

Revised April 2024

# Conditions of Employment

## Professorial Staff



### 1. GENERAL CONDITIONS

Members of staff are subject to the Charter and Statutes and the Ordinances and Regulations of the University, published in the Calendar, and to any amendments or additions thereto approved by the University Court and, in the case of the Charter and Statutes, the Privy Council. Staff are also expected to familiarise themselves with, and adhere to, general University policies and procedures, as published on University web pages.

The University Court recognises Strathclyde Universities and Colleges Union (SUCU) as the sole body with which it will negotiate and consult on all collective issues concerned with the terms and conditions of employment of Academic Staff. Such terms and conditions may be varied by the University Court after negotiation and consultation with UCU.

Each member of staff is responsible for the proper performance of allocated duties to the person or persons specified in the member of staff's letter of appointment and any accompanying papers.

Each professor is responsible to the Court of the University through the Head of Department/School, Dean and Principal for the fulfilment of the normal professorial duties. Unless otherwise indicated, members of staff are appointed for full time service.

Heads of Department/School are responsible to the Court of the University through the Principal for that department as a whole. The conditions of such appointment are as set out in Regulation 1.13, and a separate letter of appointment. Each professor is ex-officio a member of the Board of Study for the Faculty in which the professor's department or area is located.

The University is committed to ensuring that its business is conducted in an open and transparent manner and will take all appropriate steps to address risks of bribery or corruption. Members of staff are required at all times to act honestly and with integrity and to safeguard the resources for which they are responsible. The University has in place a robust Public Interest Disclosure (Whistleblowing) Policy to enable concerns to be brought to its attention. This is available at [www.strath.ac.uk/publicinterestdisclosure](http://www.strath.ac.uk/publicinterestdisclosure). Other relevant policies, e.g. Fraud Prevention and Conflicts of Interests, can also be found on the University's website.

Any member of staff may at any time be exposed to commercially sensitive information, information related to potentially valuable intellectual property or information which may otherwise be of a confidential nature. This information, which could be found anywhere in the University, may be written or disclosed orally, can include information of a commercial or technical nature, and may be owned by the University or by third parties. The University requires all employees to keep any such information confidential in the first instance and not disclose, publish or otherwise disseminate it without prior consent of the University. Such confidentiality obligations are commonplace and in the commercial interests of the University. When in doubt advice should always be sought from Research and Knowledge Exchange Services prior to disclosure.

The University operates probationary periods for new staff. The probation period for posts in this staff category is 12 months. Further guidance on probationary procedures is published at [www.strath.ac.uk/hr](http://www.strath.ac.uk/hr).

Further information on the terms and conditions specified in this document and other staffing policies and procedures can also be found at [www.strath.ac.uk/hr](http://www.strath.ac.uk/hr).

### 2. SALARY

Appointments are made at an appropriate level at or above the minimum for professorial staff. Performance is reviewed annually and any adjustments to salary are at the University's discretion.

Salaries are paid directly to staff members nominated bank account, normally on the second last working day of the month.

### 3. HOURS OF WORK

Working time is that required to fulfil the duties of the post. The duties are: research, teaching, knowledge exchange and administrative activities organised by agreement with the Head of Department/School/equivalent to produce a reasonable balance of commitment between these duties. The University Court recognises that academics carry out these duties in a wide variety of ways, but expects student contact to take place on the campuses during normal working hours on week days. There are exceptions to this pattern which may involve student contact at other locations or in the evenings, or at the weekends, but these arrangements will be made with the agreement of the member of staff concerned and may involve additional payment.

### 4. HOLIDAYS

Annual leave entitlement is 31 days per year to be taken by agreement with the line manager. For staff members working on a part-time basis, holidays will be calculated on a pro-rata basis.

In addition to annual leave there is an entitlement to eleven public holidays per year which should be taken on days that the University is closed for this purpose. The University presently closes for four additional days over the Christmas and New Year period. **These additional days count against the annual leave entitlement.**

For staff members working on a part-time basis, public holiday entitlement will be calculated on a pro-rata basis.

Annual leave and public holiday entitlements should be taken in the leave year to which they relate. Up to five days leave can be carried forward into the new leave year subject to line management agreement. In exceptional circumstances, Heads of Department/School/equivalent may approve carry forward of accrued annual leave in excess of five days.

The University's expectation is that staff take all accrued holidays prior to their termination date. If staff have exceeded their entitlement the University will deduct an equivalent number of days pay from final salary payments.

## 5. SICKNESS ABSENCE

During any period of absence through illness or injury provided the appropriate notification and certification procedures have been followed the University will pay a member of staff (having taken account of the aggregate of all periods of absence due to illness during the twelve months immediately preceding the first day of the current absence) as follows:

<b>Period of Continuous Employment at start of absence from work</b>	<b>Full Pay</b>	<b>Half Pay</b>
Less than 1 year	1 month	1 month
1 year but less than 2 years	2 months	2 months
2 years but less than 3 years	4 months	4 months
3 years but less than 5 years	5 months	5 months
5 years or more	6 months	6 months

In order to manage the University's sick pay scheme the University requires to maintain sickness absence records on individual members of staff. When making payments after the expiry of statutory sick pay the University will deduct an amount equivalent to any benefit normally payable by the Department of Work and Pensions. For full details on the general University policy in this area please refer to the Sickness Absence Management Policy at [www.strath.ac.uk/staff/policies/hr](http://www.strath.ac.uk/staff/policies/hr).

## 6. PENSIONS

If you are under age 75 at the date your appointment commences you will automatically become a member of the pension scheme operated by the University — the Universities Superannuation Scheme (USS). You will be admitted to the career revalued benefits scheme called the USS Retirement Income Builder; the contribution rate that currently applies is 6.1% of pensionable salary. A threshold applies to the maximum salary that counts towards the USS Retirement Income Builder. The current threshold from 1 April 2024 is £70,296 per year. Contributions based on salary above the monthly equivalent rate of the threshold are paid to the defined contribution section of the scheme called the USS Investment Builder. Please use the following link to access information, including the USS Member Guide: <https://www.uss.co.uk/for-members/youre-a-new-joiner>. The scheme booklet is called 'Your Guide to the Universities Superannuation Scheme'.

The University operates a salary exchange arrangement, Pensions Plus, for members of the USS. Pensions Plus enables pension contributions to be made in a manner so that both employees and the University can benefit from available National Insurance Contribution savings. You will be automatically included in Pensions Plus, provided it does not adversely affect your take-home pay or your ability to claim certain state benefits. If your earnings fall below the Pension Plus pay protection limit you will be opted out of Pension Plus. This will not affect your membership of the USS.

New members of staff may opt out of USS within three months of taking up appointment and will then be treated as if they had never been a member of the scheme. After three months members of staff who wish to withdraw from USS during their employment will be required to give a minimum of 28 days' notice in writing to the University. Any member of staff who wishes to opt out should contact the Pensions Section, Finance, in the first instance ([pensions@strath.ac.uk](mailto:pensions@strath.ac.uk)). Please note that if you are a member of Pensions Plus and withdraw from USS with less than two years of membership, or cease employment with the University and have less than two years of USS membership, the option of a refund of pension contributions will not be available to you. Instead, USS must provide you with a pension benefit that is payable from your Normal Pension Age. Regardless of whether you participate in Pensions Plus, if you are a member of the pension scheme for two years or more you are not entitled to a refund of pension contributions on leaving the scheme, you will be entitled to a pension benefit.

The University reserves the right to alter or withdraw Pensions Plus as it sees fit or as required to comply with legislative changes. Withdrawal or amendment of Pensions Plus will not affect your membership of USS. If you do not wish to participate in Pensions Plus but wish to remain in

the pension scheme please contact the Pensions Team who will provide you with a non-participation form.

Information regarding pension scheme membership can be found on the Pensions pages of the University's website. Full information regarding USS can be found on the USS website – [www.uss.co.uk](http://www.uss.co.uk)

## 7. PLACE OF WORK AND RESIDENCE

Members of staff will be based on the John Anderson Campus, unless otherwise stated in the letter of appointment. The Department/School in which the post is initially placed will be specified in the letter of appointment although there will be an expectation to work at such other places as required in the course of employment.

If the need arises for members of staff to work outside the UK for a period (or periods) of more than one month then such arrangements will be subject to mutual agreement. Members of staff would then be provided with a statement in advance setting out the terms covering such periods of employment.

The University does not normally place specific restrictions upon the place of residence of members of staff. All staff are, however, expected

to reside in a location which is compatible with the satisfactory fulfilment of all the duties associated with their appointment.

## 8. CONSULTANCY/FURTHER ACTIVITIES

To support the strategic objectives of the University and to facilitate individual professional development, the University encourages staff to engage in professional activities with outside bodies related to their field of work. In many cases, such activity will be approved on the basis that it represents University knowledge exchange activity and should therefore be treated as part of the individual's overall workload and managed through the University's systems. It is also recognised that there will be some cases where an activity is entirely separate from the University and should thus be notified/approved as a personal business activity. For further information please refer to the "University Procedure in relation to Work for Outside Bodies including Consultancies", which forms part of the employment contract and can be accessed at [www.strath.ac.uk/hr](http://www.strath.ac.uk/hr).

## 9. DISCIPLINARY AND GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES

Further information on the University's disciplinary and grievance procedure can also be found at [www.strath.ac.uk/hr](http://www.strath.ac.uk/hr) or on request from Human Resources.

## 10. NOTICE AND TERMINATION

The employment of a member of staff is terminable by at least six months' notice, in writing, on either side; termination dates are normally 31 March, 30 June, 30 September and 31 December. If notice is being given by a member of staff earlier release may be granted if this can be arranged without detriment to the work of the department or area. If the appointment is for a fixed term it will expire at the end of the period without the necessity for notice. Staff whose appointment has so terminated shall not normally be regarded as having been dismissed or removed from office in circumstances to which the terms of Ordinance 4.3 shall apply. Fixed term contracts may be terminated by either party short of the expiry date by the serving of six months' notice in writing. The University is not obliged to continue a fixed term appointment beyond the employment period.

Revised April 2024