



Research
England



Lincoln Institute
for Rural and
Coastal Health



UNIVERSITY OF
LINCOLN

UNIVERSITY OF LINCOLN JOB DESCRIPTION

JOB TITLE	Senior Research Associate in Rural and Coastal Health				
DEPARTMENT	Lincoln Institute for Rural and Coastal Health (LIRCH)				
LOCATION	Lincoln				
JOB NUMBER	CHS268	GRADE	8	DATE	November 2025
REPORTS TO	Professor within LIRCH				

CONTEXT

At the heart of one of the world's great historic cities, research at the University of Lincoln engages in transforming lives and communities. In recent years the city has seen significant investment in redeveloping areas of the city centre and the University was awarded the prestigious Queen's Anniversary Prize for Higher Education in 2023.

The Lincoln Institute for Rural and Coastal Health (LIRCH) is the country's first integrated and multidisciplinary research institute dedicated to rural and coastal health research. LIRCH has been awarded £10.9 million funding from Research England's Expanding Excellence in England (E3) fund and is in the process of significant expansion. As part of this expansion, the University will recruit to over twenty research positions. A technical and professional services team will also be embedded within the Institute to support the research and develop a financially sustainable research Institute.

With this expanded capacity, the Institute will bring together multiple disciplines to produce impactful research helping to tackle the place-based inequalities experienced by rural, coastal, and remote communities. LIRCH aims to create the future academic and community leaders of rural and coastal health.

JOB PURPOSE

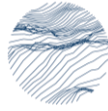
This post will be an independent researcher, undertaking research with a significant degree of autonomy under direction from the Director of the Institute.

The post holder is expected to develop and sustain a programme of research activities focused on the inequalities faced by rural and coastal communities. This will include developing the publication profile, bidding for and obtaining research funding, managing research assistants and research associates, and supervising research students.

The post will work contribute to curriculum development and the advancement of relevant discipline areas within the University, undertake student tutoring and support, and plan, design and deliver teaching within programmes in relevant discipline areas.



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The post will collaborate across diverse health services and networks, including NHS, healthcare providers, community groups, and related institutions to foster and strengthen existing ties between LIRCH, health organisations and networks through collaborative research projects.

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

Programme of Research
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plan, undertake and lead programmes of research in alignment with the LIRCH areas of focus. • Develop external collaborative links, leading as appropriate joint programmes of research. • Develop external reputation of self and LIRCH, including, for example, participation in relevant professional/research bodies, research degree examination, membership of conference programme committees, and other indicators of esteem. • Contribute to the management of research within LIRCH, including interviewing, organisation of research activities, contribution to strategy development, membership of committees and contribution to external returns (e.g. Research Excellence Framework). • Plan, prepare and submit grant applications, and obtain external research funding, sufficient to sustain contribution to LIRCH.
Research Outputs and Impact
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lead in the production of high quality research outputs of international standing, of sufficient quality and quantity to submit to the Research Excellence Framework at a level commensurate with the University's expectations for staff at grade 8 level with full-time research duties. • Where appropriate, contribute to the development of research impact and of impact case study descriptions for submission to the REF.
Teaching and Learning Support
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To engage in teaching on your specific area of knowledge on undergraduate and/or postgraduate level programmes across the wider University to foster collaboration between Schools. The range of teaching duties may change from time to time. • Take responsibility for the design, content and delivery of specific areas of teaching and learning and for the quality of teaching delivered. • Ensure that teaching content is appropriately informed by current research and advanced scholarly activity • Collaborate with colleagues in the continuous review and development of the teaching programmes • Work in accordance with University policies and procedures to undertake assessment of students' work and give feedback. • Support the development of the LIRCH post graduate teaching provision.

Student Support

- Act as academic tutor to post graduate students as allocated by the Director and act as first line contact for them for advice and support on academic matters, ensuring that students are directed to relevant support services when necessary.
- Supervise research degree students as appropriate.
- Supervise student projects and placements as appropriate.

Liaison and Networking

- Establish contacts within the wider community; disseminate knowledge through public activities which enhance the reputation of LIRCH.
- Participate in academic activities with industry and other external partners.
- Maintain and develop links with relevant professional bodies and academic groups.
- Represent LIRCH on appropriate external bodies.
- Take part in relevant internal boards, committees and working groups at College or University level as required.
- Liaise with subject librarians, central timetabling and other services to ensure resources available are appropriately deployed.

Team Working

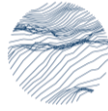
- Make significant contribution to the development of LIRCH and its internal processes and culture.
- Act as a responsible team member.
- May be expected to supervise the work of others and/or participate in peer observation of teaching.

Citizenship

- Contribute to the wider mission and reputation of the University with active involvement in activities contributing to general university life e.g. open days, student activities, alumni events, mentoring, personal tutoring and engagement with student support and delivery of outreach activities e.g. school visits, local community activities.
- Active participation in committees/groups contributing to university life e.g. health and safety, equality diversity and inclusivity, sustainability and working groups.
- Engage in appropriate training programmes in the University, actively follow and promote University policies and participation in the staff appraisal scheme and yearly Individual Research Plan (IRP).



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- Contribution to the future development of the University and support the University's wider social, cultural and economic development of our region, our 'civic' mission with engagement and/or leadership of external partnerships contributing to the civic mission of the University. Participation in external activities such as volunteering, school governor, cultural activities, community activities.

In addition to the above, undertake such duties as may reasonably be requested and that are commensurate with the nature and grade of the post.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Scope and dimensions of the role

This role is primarily research focused however there will be opportunities to engage in teaching and scholarship across the wider University and as the post graduate education programme within the Institute develops.

Key working relationships/networks

Internal	External
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pro Vice Chancellor & Head of College • Dean of Research • Institute Director • Other Professorial staff in the Institute and College • LIRCH Senior Development Manager • LIRCH Project Manager • LIRCH Policy, Impact and Engagement Officer • Other LIRCH Operational Team • Other academics inside and outside the Institute and College • Researchers and research students • College / Institute, administrative and technical staff • Professional services staff 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Affected rural and coastal communities • External agencies • Funding bodies e.g. Research Councils • Professional & Regulatory Bodies, Educational establishments and organisations e.g. other universities • Professors, Associate Professors, Senior Research Fellows and other researchers elsewhere • Research / Project collaborators and partners • Overseas partner institutions • Accrediting bodies

UNIVERSITY OF LINCOLN PERSON SPECIFICATION

JOB TITLE	Senior Research Associate in Rural and Coastal Health	JOB NUMBER	CHS268
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Selection Criteria	Essential (E) or Desirable (D)	Where Evidenced Application (A) Interview (I) Presentation (P) References (R)
Qualifications:		
Relevant honours degree or equivalent	E	A
PhD in relevant discipline or equivalent demonstrated research record (normally by publication but where appropriate through professional achievement)	E	A
HE teaching qualification (HE PGCE or HEA fellowship) OR a commitment to complete one	E	A
Experience:		
Relevant teaching in Higher Education OR relevant professional experience	E	A
Development and innovation of teaching and learning methods	D	A/I
Interdisciplinary work relevant to the Department	D	A/I
Extensive experience of relevant research methods	E	A/I
Significant track-record of authorship of research outputs of international standing, sufficient to produce strong return to REF exercise	E	A/I
Several years experience of research in specific project area	E	A/I
Contribution to research grant development	D	A/I
Experience of research impact generation	E	A/I
Skills and Knowledge:		
Ability to develop, lead and manage programme of research in the subject area	E	A/I
Excellent written communication, including the ability to write research outputs and grant applications	E	A/I
Ability to prioritise own workload and work to specified deadlines under pressure	E	A/I
Ability to enthuse and influence others, and to work collaboratively	E	A/I
Depth and breadth of subject understanding	E	A/I
Evidence of continuing professional development	E	I
Knowledge of Higher Education	D	A/I
Ability to teach and assess across the range of taught levels offered	E	A/I
Ability to contribute to curriculum development	E	A/I

Ability to support students in their study through academic counselling	E	A/I
Ability to supervise research students	E	A/I
Ability to work on own initiative	E	A/I
Excellent written and verbal communication skills	E	A/I
Good organisational and time management skills	E	I
Competencies and Personal Attributes:		
Enthusiasm and commitment	E	I
Team working	E	I
Flexibility and adaptability	E	I

Essential Requirements are those, without which, a candidate would not be able to do the job. **Desirable Requirements** are those which would be useful for the post holder to possess and will be considered when more than one applicant meets the essential requirements.

Author	LS, JMB	PBP	LW
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