

Research and Impact Manager - Centre for Governance and Scrutiny (CfGS)

Job Description – General objectives

The Research and Impact Manager will lead and develop our participatory action research, design and deliver our qualitative and quantitative research consultancy work, applying ethical, impactful research practices. You will be crucial in building an evaluation framework to evidence the impact of our projects against our Theory of Change and play a key role in advancing our research agenda, leveraging our rich data to drive societal good.

Salary: £45,000 -£55,000 depending on experience, with 30 days annual leave (plus public holidays).

Contract: Full-Time. Home Working, although there will be a requirement to travel for some meetings. We realise you may have commitments outside of work and will consider flexible working applications - please highlight what you are looking for when you make your application.

Location: We are a geographically diverse team, but are currently overrepresented in the south of England and therefore particularly welcome of applications from individuals who live near the North West or North East of England.

Main Duties and Responsibilities:

- Design and implement qualitative and quantitative research methodologies and evaluation frameworks to guide and deliver CfGS projects and initiatives.
- Lead the creation of evidence-led learning and insights for stakeholders in local and national government. Producing insightful, action-oriented research that contributes to national debates on governance and public scrutiny.
- Develop and manage a comprehensive repository of materials and best practices in governance and scrutiny.
- Foster a culture of continuous learning, reflection, and adaptation within CfGS and partner organisations.
- Managing relationships with partners, suppliers and internal colleagues as needed to ensure we meet our research objectives. Making suggestions for more efficient approaches or ways of working.
- Collaborate with external partners, including academic institutions, to ensure a holistic, innovative approach to research and impact assessment.
- Guide CfGS in adopting and implementing research methods that prioritize ethical considerations and equitable power distribution.

- Identify emerging research areas and opportunities for growth, including evolving our research services.
- Lead on, and contribute to, the design of research and impact business development opportunities and proposals.
- Represent CfGS externally.

Person specification:

- Advanced degree in a relevant field, such as Social Sciences, Public Administration, Governance.
- Excellent research skills with expertise in quantitative and qualitative research methodologies and research management, preferably in governance, public policy.
- Strong analytical skills with a proven track record in qualitative and quantitative methods.
- Excellent communication and interpersonal skills, with extensive experience in delivering research findings to a range of audiences and in a diversity of formats.
- Proven experience in working with diverse stakeholders, including local authorities and public sector bodies.
- Demonstrated ability to design and execute both large-scale research projects and small-scale participatory action research.
- Knowledge of ethical research practices, safeguarding and power dynamics in the research process.
- Familiarity with the challenges faced by local governments, particularly in policy development.
- A track record in developing successful research proposals and business development activities.