



Gambling Harms Research UK



Swansea University
Prifysgol Abertawe

Job Description: Gambling Harms Research UK - Research Officer

| | |
|-----------------------------|--|
| Faculty: | Medicine, Health and Life Science |
| Department/Subject: | Gambling Harms Research UK Evidence Centre |
| Salary: | Grade 8: £39,355 to £45,413 per annum together with USS pension benefits |
| Hours of work: | 35 hrs a week (1.0 FTE) |
| Number of positions: | 1 |
| Contract: | This is a fixed term position until March 31 st 2031. |
| Location: | This position will be based at the Singleton Campus. |

Main Purpose of Post

Swansea University is seeking to appoint a talented and highly motivated Research Officer to join the £10 million Gambling Harms Research UK Evidence Centre and the Gambling Research, Education and Treatment (GREAT) Centre. The Gambling Harms Research UK Evidence Centre is a collaboration between the Universities of Glasgow, Swansea, Sheffield, and King's College London, funded as part of the UKRI Research Programme in Gambling. This exciting new role offers the opportunity to contribute to nationally significant research addressing one of the UK's most urgent and complex public health challenges.

The Gambling Harms Research UK Evidence Centre will oversee and support a wider consortium of Gambling Harms Research and Innovation Partnerships and sits at the heart of a £50 million research investment by UKRI into gambling harms. The Centre will co-ordinate the activities of GHRIPs, synthesize existing evidence, commission major new research projects focused on the social, economic, structural, and health-related drivers of gambling-related harm and build long-term research capacity through training, fellowships, secondments, event hosting and skills development.

This is a senior research role with significant scope to influence the strategic and research direction of an exciting national research centre which will address gambling harms by building a coordinated, independent, and evidence-led national research and policy infrastructure. You will work alongside internationally recognised researchers, engage directly with policymakers and practitioners, and produce research with real world impact.

The post holder will work closely with Professor Simon Dymond to develop and deliver on the Gambling Harms Research UK Evidence Centre's strategic research objectives. Your focus will be on developing and implementing an internationally competitive programme of research on gambling and gambling harms. Specific area of research focus is open and to be agreed, but it is expected that the postholder will possess a strong grasp of quantitative methods, including management of large datasets, and an understanding of translational and behavioural approaches to gambling and gambling harms research.



Your work will be supported by the wider Gambling Harms Research UK infrastructure. You will be line managed by Professor Simon Dymond and supported by other members of the Gambling Harms Research UK Executive Management Team and Directors of the GREAT Centre.

You will be responsible for liaising with GREAT Centre colleagues, applying for approvals regarding project-specific data and output requests, developing and designing research studies, recruiting participants and undertaking data collection, carrying out data analysis, liaising with stakeholders from across the UKRI Research Programme in Gambling, presenting findings at international conferences, and drafting findings for publication.

Working on one's own initiative and contributing to Gambling Harms Research UK Evidence Centre activities specifically and at the GREAT Centre generally, your main duties will include but not be limited to:

1. Applying for approvals and overseeing all internal governance processes for an independent research programme on gambling and gambling harms.
2. Designing and implementing research studies, including collaborative projects with the Gambling Harms Research UK and GREAT Centre stakeholders.
3. Data coding, extracting and collecting data of interest, and conducting and reporting all relevant statistical analyses.
4. Preparing and submitting manuscripts for publication and presentations for dissemination at international conferences and other knowledge sharing events.
5. Availing of early career development opportunities such as undertaking locum teaching support sessions, research project supervision of students, and providing pastoral support.
6. Pro-actively contribute to and conduct research, including gather, prepare and analyse data and present results, exhibiting a degree of independence in terms of specifying the focus and direction of that research.
7. Prepare reports and papers describing the results of the research, both confidential and for publication. The appointee is expected to be actively engaged in the writing and publishing of research papers, particularly those intended for publication in refereed (e.g. international) journals or comparable as a normal part of their role.
8. Contribute to specific content on the undergraduate and postgraduate psychology curriculum, delivering lectures and seminars, and undertake all relevant assessment.
9. Contribute to the supervision of undergraduate project students on topics related to gambling harms and undertake all relevant assessment.
10. Be self-motivated, apply and use their initiative, aiming to determine suitable ways to tackle challenges related to research on gambling harms and seeking guidance when needed.
11. Use creativity to analyse and interpret research data and draw conclusions on the outcomes.
12. Interact positively and professionally with other collaborators and partners within GHR-UK, the Faculty, elsewhere in the University and beyond.



| | |
|------------------------------------|---|
| | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 13. Contribute pro-actively to the development of external funding applications to support their own work and that of Gambling Harms Research UK. 14. Contribute to Faculty organisational matters to help it run smoothly and to help raise its external research profile. 15. Keep informed of developments in the field of gambling harms research in both technical and specific terms and the wider subject areas and the implication for commercial applications and the knowledge economy or academia. 16. When requested act as a representative or member of committees, using the opportunity to extend their own professional experience. 17. Demonstrate and evidence own professional development, identifying development needs with reference to Vitae Researcher Development Framework particularly regarding probation, performance reviews, and participation in training events. 18. Maintain and enhance links with professional institutions and other related bodies. 19. Observe best-practice protocols in maintenance and retention of research records as indicated by HEI and UKRI records management guidance. This includes ensuring project log-book records are deposited with the University/Principal Investigator on completion of the work |
| <p>General Duties</p> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 20. To promote equality and diversity in working practices and maintain positive working relationships. 21. To conduct the job role and all activities in accordance with safety, health and sustainability policies and management systems, to reduce risks and impacts arising from the work activity. 22. To ensure that risk management is an integral part of any decision-making process, by ensuring compliance with the University’s Risk Management Policy. 23. Any other duties as agreed by the Faculty / Directorate / Service Area. <p>The general duties described as part of this role are intended to support the research aims of Gambling Harms Research UK and to co-facilitate the teaching responsibilities of a staff member to undertake research and research management duties associated with UKRI funding. This arrangement supports the University’s legitimate objective of enabling staff to fulfil externally funded research commitments, while ensuring continuity of teaching, administrative, and related duties.</p> |
| <p>Person Specification</p> | <p>Essential criteria:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A PhD or equivalent degree in psychology, psychiatry, epidemiology, computer science, or data science. 2. Evidence of active engagement, personal role, and contribution to writing and publishing research papers, particularly for refereed journals, in gambling harms research or related areas. 3. Ability to demonstrate significant independence of focus and direction in research – determining 'what, why, when and with whom' to progress work. 4. Demonstrable experience in quantitative analysis of large datasets and programming/scripting software to run behavioural science/translational research experiments and secondary analysis. 5. Demonstrable track record of submitting research funding applications. 6. Demonstrable track record of delivering presentations at international conferences. |



| | |
|-------------------------------|---|
| | <ol style="list-style-type: none">7. Experience in the reporting of research outputs and statistics both to an internal and external audience8. A keen awareness and understanding of the UK gambling harms research funding, regulatory, and policy landscape.9. A commitment to continuous professional development. <p>Desirable Criteria</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">10. Demonstrable experience managing large datasets, writing queries in a programming language, with data held on a relational database, via Structured Query Language (SQL).11. Experience of preparing and submitting internal review materials.12. Experience of obtaining research funding.13. Awareness of the ethical issues involved in large-scale, quantitative-based research studies. |
| Welsh Language Level | <p>Level 1 – ‘a little’ - pronounce Welsh words. Able to answer the phone in Welsh (good morning / afternoon). Able to use very basic every-day words and phrases (thank you, please etc.). Level 1 can be reached by completing a one-hour training course.</p> <p>For more information about the Welsh Language Levels please refer to the Welsh Language Skills Assessment web page, which is available here.</p> |
| Additional Information | Informal enquiries: Professor Simon Dymond, s.o.dymond@swansea.ac.uk |

