Research Fellow
Centre for Health Economics

Closing date: 05 June 2017
Interview date: To Be Confirmed
Vacancy reference: 5701
INTRODUCTION

The Centre for Health Economics (CHE) continues to develop its research in economic evaluation and health technology assessment (HTA). We are expanding and complementing our existing research strengths in this field through the development of a portfolio of high quality and rigorous methods and applied research of national and international policy relevance.

CHE wishes to appoint two research fellows, with strong quantitative skills, to work within the Programme for Economic Evaluation and Health Technology Assessment (TEEHTA). One will be appointed at Grade 6, the other at Grade 6 or 7. The researcher will work across a number of programmes and projects. These include technology assessment reviews (TARs) for the National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE), funded by the National Institute for Health Research (NIHR); short- and long-term projects for the Department of Health Policy Research Programme as part of the Policy Research Unit in Economic Evaluation of Health & Care Interventions (EEPRU); applied projects relating to the evaluation of medical technologies (both national and international), public health interventions and social care; and a strong emphasis on methods research for high policy impact.
Main purpose of the role

- To conduct research under the supervision of senior colleagues and to contribute to the production of research
- To communicate the results of research to different groups through written reports and papers, presentations at conferences and other forums, and at workshops and other meetings
- To assist in the identification and development of potential areas of research and the development of proposals for independent or collaborative research projects

Key responsibilities

(Role holders will be required to undertake some or all of the duties below)

To conduct individual and collaborative research projects, duties to include:

- Reviews and critique of relevant literature relating to areas including research methods, applied economic evaluation and clinical evidence
- Analysis and interpretation of research data
- Use of appropriate research techniques and methods, including decision analysis and statistical analysis using individual participant data and aggregate data
- Other forms of quantitative analysis including evidence synthesis
- Writing up of research results and dissemination through publications, seminar and conference presentations and public engagement and outreach activities
- Contributing to the identification of possible new areas of research

To develop and initiate collaborative working internally and externally, duties to include:

- The building of contacts and participation in networks, within CHE, the University and externally
- Collaboration with colleagues on joint projects as required
- Participation in and identification of external networks in order to share information and to identify potential opportunities for collaboration and possible sources of funding
- Attendance at and contribution to relevant meetings

In addition at Grade 7:

- Supervise the research activities of less experienced colleagues, providing expert advice and guidance
- To participate actively in the planning and management of research projects more generally (e.g. communication with relevant stakeholders)
- Develop research proposals to funding organisations in conjunction with senior colleagues
- To lead on or contribute to the leadership of the production of research outputs and research outcomes
- To attend departmental meetings as required and undertake appropriate managerial and administrative tasks in connection with the research activity
# PERSON SPECIFICATION

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<tr>
<th>Qualifications</th>
<th>Grade 6</th>
<th>Grade 7</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Master’s degree in economics or health economics, or another quantitative subject such as operations research</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<td>PhD in relevant quantitative area or equivalent experience</td>
<td>Desirable</td>
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<tr>
<th>Knowledge</th>
<th>Grade 6</th>
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<tr>
<td>Knowledge and understanding of economic evaluation and health technology assessment</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<td>Knowledge of a range of research techniques and methods used in health economics and outcomes research</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<tr>
<th>Skills, abilities and competencies</th>
<th>Grade 6</th>
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<tr>
<td>Evidence of strong quantitative skills</td>
<td>Essential</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<tr>
<td>Skills in use of spreadsheets and statistical software packages such as Excel, Stata, WinBUGS, R</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<td>Ability to engage effectively with a wide ranging audience, both orally and in writing</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<td>Ability to write-up research work for publication in high quality journals and to engage in public dissemination</td>
<td>Desirable</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<td>Ability to develop research objectives, projects and proposals for own and joint research, with supervision if required</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<td>Competency to conduct individual and collaborative research projects</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<td>Ability to make presentations at academic conferences and other events</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<td>Ability to identify sources of funding and to contribute to the process of securing funds, with collaborators if required</td>
<td>Desirable</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<td>Ability to work as part of a team and also to work independently using own initiative</td>
<td>Essential</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<td>Ability to supervise less experienced research colleagues</td>
<td>Desirable</td>
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## PERSON SPECIFICATION

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<th>Experience</th>
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<tr>
<td>Experience in decision analytic modelling</td>
<td>Desirable</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<td>Experience of working with individual patient level data sets</td>
<td>Desirable</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<td>Experience in applying econometric techniques to data</td>
<td>Desirable</td>
<td>Desirable</td>
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<tr>
<td>Experience in health economics and outcomes research</td>
<td>Essential</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<td>Experience in developing and applying quantitative evidence synthesis methods such as network meta-analysis</td>
<td>Desirable</td>
<td>Desirable</td>
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<tr>
<td>Experience of carrying out both independent and collaborative research</td>
<td>Essential</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<td>Experience of writing up research work for publication</td>
<td>Desirable</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<td>Experience of publishing in peer reviewed journals or other outlets</td>
<td>Desirable</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<td>Experience in project management</td>
<td>Desirable</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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## Personal attributes

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<tr>
<td>Interest in and enthusiasm for economic evaluation</td>
<td>Essential</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<td>Attention to detail and commitment to high quality research</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<td>Willingness to work proactively with colleagues in other work areas/institutions</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<td>Ability to plan and prioritise own work in order to meet deadlines, including using initiative to plan research programmes</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<td>Commitment to personal development and updating of knowledge and skills</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<td>Ability to write clearly</td>
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THE DEPARTMENT

The Centre for Health Economics (CHE) was established at the University of York in 1983, and was one of the world’s first research institutes dedicated to the study of the economics of health and health care. It rapidly established a leading international reputation, and is now one of the world’s largest health economics research centres. In a ranking of the top 100 institutions in health economics in the world, the University of York is ranked 7th and is the highest ranking European institution.

We have a 30-year track record in delivering high quality policy-relevant research which makes a difference to society nationally and internationally. We maintain high scientific standards and place a premium on the rigour and quality of our work. Our mission is to be a globally recognised research centre, committed to the development and application of the discipline of economics in order to promote health and wellbeing through the effective, efficient and equitable use of scarce resources.

Research:

The defining characteristics of CHE’s research are:

Methods rigour: CHE’s research is distinguished by a major focus on the development and application of advanced methods and analytical techniques to address important and complex questions.

Policy focus: We aim to inform and influence health policy and practice, nationally and internationally.

Engagement: We work alongside decision-makers, practitioners and academic colleagues to prioritise, design and deliver timely research which is communicated effectively to relevant users in accessible formats, including a range of teaching and training activities.

Excellence: We have a long track record of producing high quality research, spanning over 30 years, within a leading UK institution and in one of the world’s top 100 universities.

The core research themes covered by CHE are:

- Economic evaluation of health technologies
- Econometric methods
- Equity in health and health care
- Health and social care
- Health policy
- Public health
- Global health

Further details of the projects and topics within the core themes can be found on our website:

http://www.york.ac.uk/che/research/
Economic evaluation and health technology assessment

The research fellows will work in CHE’s Programme for Economic Evaluation and Health Technology Assessment (TEEHTA), which is the largest programme of work in the Centre comprising of applied projects relating to the evaluation of medical technologies (national and international). The research fellows will work across a number of programmes and projects:

Technology Assessment Reviews for the National Institute for Health and Care Excellence

Funded by the NIHR and undertaken in collaboration with the Centre for Reviews and Dissemination (CRD) at York, this is a programme of work to undertake a series of technology assessment reviews each year for the National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE). This includes critical reviews of manufacturer submissions under the Single Technology Appraisal process; review, synthesis and modelling under the Diagnostic Assessment Programme; and a range of other health technology assessment work not directly related to NICE’s decision-making. The programme requires researchers to have a high level of technical skills, together with an ability to use these skills appropriately to address the decision problems being addressed. It is also important for researchers to be able to communicate accurately and clearly with decision makers (e.g. NICE appraisal committees). CHE puts considerable focus on using applied research such as the TAR programme to inform and illustrate the development of methods research.

Economic Evaluation of Health and Care Interventions Policy Research Unit (EEPRU) for Department of Health

The Department of Health’s Policy Research Unit in Economic Evaluation of Health and Care Interventions is a 7-year programme of work that started in January 2011. Funded by the NIHR Policy Research Programme, EEPRU is a collaboration between the School of Health and Related Research, University of Sheffield and the Centre for Health Economics, University of York. Co-directed by Professor Mark Sculpher (CHE, University of York) and Professor Allan Wailoo (University of Sheffield), the aim of the unit is to assist policy makers in organisations such as the Department of Health and NHS England to improve the allocation of resources in health and social care. The Unit provides a fast and responsive programme of work to meet the Department’s shorter-term requirements; a broad programme of applied work to meet their longer-term needs; and methods development to meet the challenges of conducting economic evaluation in this area. See http://www.eepru.org.uk/ for further details.

Collaboration in Leadership for Applied Health Research and Care (CLAHRC)

Funded by NIHR over the next five years, CLARHC comprises a number of “themes”. The Centre for Health Economics, in collaboration with University of Sheffield, contributes to the Health Economics and Outcome Measurement (HEOM) theme. The CLARHC HEOM theme comprises a programme of work which aims to build collaborations with other CLARHC themes and NHS partners and enhance their capacity in health economics. It will also generate rigorous economic evidence for decision making. It generates rigorous economic evidence for decision-making including the use of economic models.

Economic evaluation to support policy in low- and middle-income countries

CHE has a rapidly developing research theme relating to global health. TEEHTA undertakes a range of projects in policy-relevant evaluation and methods development. This includes being a key partner in the HIV Modelling Consortium which, funded by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, aims to help improve scientific support for decision making by co-coordinating a wide range of research activities in mathematically modelling the HIV epidemic. A range of other projects relating to the evaluation of interventions in TB, HIV and leishmaniasis, as well as methods work in areas such as cost-effectiveness ‘thresholds’ in low and middle income settings.

Other programmes, project work and activities

TEEHTA is part of the NICE Decision Support Unit, a collaborative group providing analytic advice and support to NICE which also involves colleagues at the Universities of Sheffield and Leicester. See http://www.nicedsu.org.uk/ for further details.

TEEHTA contributes to York’s involvement in a programme of work on Research Design and Support (RDS) funded by the NIHR. The overarching aim the RDS is to increase the volume and quality of successful grant applications for NIHR funding. The NIHR RDS for Yorkshire & the Humber has its main bases at the Universities of Sheffield, Leeds and York. See http://www.rds-yh.nihr.ac.uk/.

There are a large number of individually-funded research projects both methodological and health economics contributions to applied projects. These are funded by organisations such as the NIHR, various charities, the European Commission and the Health Foundation.

Staff at CHE publish in the leading international journals in their field, and the two leading health economics journals are edited from York.
The world leading research undertaken by the Centre for Health Economics has been recognised by the University of York's ranking as equal 7th in the country for Public Health, Health Services and Primary Care in the national assessment of the quality and impact of research in the 2014 Research Excellence Framework (REF). CHE was part of the submission made jointly with the Department of Health Sciences, the Centre for Reviews and Dissemination and the Hull-York Medical School. The results, published on 18 December 2014, showed that 83% of the research submitted was rated as world leading or internationally excellent. The impact of our research on society and citizens was also rated equal 7th; and we were ranked equal first for research environment, one that is conducive to producing research of world-leading quality, in terms of vitality and sustainability. The University of York as a whole performed well in the latest REF, being ranked 14th overall and 10th for the impact of its research.

The University of York offers scope for many fruitful collaborations and CHE has strong links, via joint interests, research projects and appointments, with several departments including the Department of Economics and Related Studies, the Department of Health Sciences, the Centre for Reviews and Dissemination, the Hull-York Medical School, the Department of Biology and the Social Policy Research Unit.

Our impact:

CHE’s researchers play a leading role in many national and international societies and make high-profile presentations at scientific meetings across the world. CHE has a very strong policy impact both nationally and internationally. Within the UK, examples include work at the most senior level with policy formulation in the Department of Health and its devolved equivalents, HM Treasury, the National Institute for Health and Care Excellence, the Office for National Statistics, Cabinet Office and Home Office.

Internationally, its researchers have worked at a senior level with many national ministries and health care agencies, in countries in every continent, and with international organisations including the World Health Organisation, the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund, the European Commission and the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development.

In 2007, the University of York was awarded the Queen’s Anniversary Prize for Higher and Further Education, in recognition of the contribution health economics research has made to the way society thinks about health and health care over the last 25 years.

Teaching and training:

CHE attracts over 300 people a year from all over the world to be trained in the methods developed by our researchers. The York Summer Workshops in Health Economic Evaluation has been running for over 20 years and comprises three residential workshops aimed at decision-makers and academics: https://www.york.ac.uk/che/courses/york-summer-workshops/.

We run a further four courses focusing on methods and applied research methods: https://www.york.ac.uk/che/courses/.

There are currently 10 PhD students based at CHE, supervised by our staff and registered either in the Department of Economics and Related Studies or in the Department of Health Sciences. We run an active visitor programme, hosting around 20 visitors each year from all over the world and offering the Alan Williams Fellowship programme to support visits from early and mid-career researchers.

CHE is part of the Research Centre for Social Sciences: http://www.york.ac.uk/social-science/, a £2m investment for research training at disciplinary and interdisciplinary levels, offering dedicated facilities for research and provision for workshops, visitors, and conferences. It is the home of the ESRC Doctoral Training Centre which houses around 70 PhD students as well as associated research groups. CHE has access to excellent research infrastructure, including lecture theatres, seminar rooms, and focus group rooms with audio-visual recording facilities. High quality computing facilities dedicated to the social sciences are available for computationally intensive analysis and a computing lab is available for training and related events.

Athena SWAN:

At CHE we strive to provide a supportive and family friendly work environment and to offer equal opportunities to all staff members. We have an Athena SWAN bronze award which recognises our commitment to good practice in recruiting, retaining and supporting the careers of women. We will continue to build on this success by further improving our processes and ensure fair, flexible, accessible and transparent working conditions for all members of staff.

See: http://www.york.ac.uk/che/athena-swan/#tab-1

Further information about the department is available at: http://www.york.ac.uk/che/ including newsletters (https://www.york.ac.uk/che/publications/newsletters/) and annual reports (https://www.york.ac.uk/che/publications/annual-reports/).

THE UNIVERSITY

Founded on principles of excellence, equality and opportunity for all, the University of York opened in 1963 with just 230 students. In 2016 it is the centre for almost 16,000 students across more than 30 academic departments and research centres. In over 50 years we have become one of the world’s leading universities and a member of the prestigious Russell Group.

The University has consistently been recognised as one of the leading Higher Education Institutes and is one of just six post-war universities which appear in the world top 100 (2013-14) and 15th in the Times & Sunday Times league table (2016). The University of York has won six Times Higher Education (THE) Awards and five Queen's Anniversary Prizes.

We are proud of our association with Athena SWAN, holding ten awards in support of women in science, with gold awards for Chemistry and Biology as well as a University-wide bronze award.

Of 154 universities that took part in the Research Excellence Framework (REF) in 2014, The University of York ranked 14th overall and 10th on the impact of our research. The University is consistently in the top ten UK research universities and attracts over £60m a year of funding from research alone.

Our vision is to make the University of York a world leader in the creation of knowledge through fundamental and applied research, the sharing of knowledge by teaching students from varied backgrounds and the application of knowledge for the health, prosperity and well-being of people and society.
Attractive workplace

Centred around the picturesque village of Heslington on the edge of the city of York, our colleges are set in an attractive landscaped campus. With a compact and easy to get around design, York enjoys a safe, friendly atmosphere. The campus offers a wealth of facilities, which includes bars, shops, theatres and concert halls all within easy walking distance.

The University has undergone an unprecedented period of expansion and renewal. Since 2000 we have invested in twenty new buildings on the original campus and have completed the first and second phases of a £750m campus expansion. Our investment in new colleges, teaching and learning space, laboratories, research facilities and a new sports village mean there has never been a better time to join us.

During this period of change we've worked hard to retain our friendly, informal and collegiate atmosphere, which is important to our core values of inclusivity and interdisciplinarity.

We have a thriving international community and are committed to providing all staff moving to York with as much support as possible through our Relocation Package and Welcome Officers.

The University aims to offer a nurturing and supportive environment as an employer. Flexible working hours, nursery facilities, childcare vouchers, cycle to work scheme, generous holidays and an attractive pension scheme all make the University of York one of the region’s leading employers.

For further information please visit Rewards Extra.
THE CITY AND THE REGION

The City of York

Internationally acclaimed for its rich heritage and historic architecture, York's bustling streets are filled with visitors from all over the world. Within its medieval walls you will find the iconic gothic Minster, Clifford's Tower and the Shambles - just a few of the many attractions.

But York isn't just a great place to visit - it's also a great place to live and work. While nourishing a vibrant cosmopolitan atmosphere, York still maintains the friendly sense of community unique to a small city.

Visit [www.visityork.org](http://www.visityork.org) for more information on the city of York

Shopping, culture and entertainment

York boasts specialist and unique boutiques but also all the high street stores on its busy shopping streets. Alongside them you will find cinemas, theatres, an opera house, art galleries, a vast range of restaurants, live music venues and clubs. York is particularly renowned for its multitude of pubs and bars, from the modern to the medieval.

Housing and schools

Whether you choose to live close to the city, in one of the surrounding villages or further afield, you will find a wide range of housing within comfortable distance of York and the University. For families, the area has a range of excellent schools both in the state and independent sector.

Great location

York is one of Britain's best-connected cities. Halfway between London and Edinburgh on the East Coast mainline, on intercity trains you can reach London King's Cross in less than two hours and Edinburgh in two and a half hours. York is also well served by road links, and it is easily accessible from the A1, M1 and the M62.

For those travelling from overseas, Manchester Airport is two hours away and Heathrow Airport just three and a half. Flights from nearby Leeds Bradford Airport provide easy access to mainland Europe. By Eurostar from London St Pancras, Paris is just over six hours away.

Yorkshire

The Lonely Planet guide recently declared Yorkshire the third best region in the world to visit. There is something to cater to every taste, whether it be the rugged landscapes of the Moors or the Dales, the picturesque seaside towns of Scarborough and Robin Hoods Bay, the gothic architecture of Whitby or the vibrancy of cosmopolitan Leeds.
Apply online

- Go to https://jobs.york.ac.uk
- Find this job using reference 5701
- Complete the online application form

You will need to submit your completed application by midnight (GMT) on 05 June 2017

What will I need?

You will need to upload:

- your CV
- a letter describing how you meet the requirements of the job

You will also need details of 2 referees.

Help and assistance

Direct any informal queries to mark.sculpher@york.ac.uk or trish.smith@york.ac.uk

If you have any questions about your application, contact the HR Services team:

recruitment@york.ac.uk
+44 (0)1904 324835