

Job Description: Research Assistant

Faculty:	Faculty of Medicine, Health and Life Science
Department/Subject:	Psychology
Salary:	Grade 7: £34,132 to £38,249 per annum pro rata together with USS pension benefits
Hours of work:	14 hours per week (0.4FTE)
Number of positions:	1
Contract:	Fixed term 01st September 2026 to 31st December 2028
Location:	This position will be based at the Singleton Campus

Main Purpose of Post	<p>The Research Assistant will support the delivery of a multi-disciplinary, Arts and Humanities Research Council-funded project examining the psychological and behavioural dimensions of biophilic retrofitting and urban climate adaptation. Working within the School of Psychology, the post-holder will contribute to the design, implementation, and dissemination of research exploring how integrating nature into built environments can support sustainable behaviour and wellbeing.</p> <p>The role involves supporting mixed-methods research activities, including preparing materials, collecting and analysing data, and contributing to academic and stakeholder-facing outputs. The post-holder will work collaboratively with colleagues across disciplines (e.g., design, law, ecology, and the humanities) and engage with external partners, including community organisations and industry stakeholders. A significant part of the role will involve liaising with key partners and residents of the building, data collection and data analysis through a mixed method lens.</p> <p>The post-holder will be an active member of the Sustainable Wellbeing Research Group, contributing to a supportive and interdisciplinary research environment while developing their own research skills. The role offers an opportunity to contribute to impactful, real-world research addressing urban sustainability, climate adaptation, and human wellbeing.</p>
Main Duties	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Support the design and delivery of psychology-led research on biophilic urban adaptation, including co-producing tools and methods with community partners. 2. Coordinate and contribute to collaborative activities, including team meetings, joint dissemination, and cross-project learning initiatives. 3. Facilitate stakeholder and community engagement activities (e.g., workshops, interviews, co-design sessions), ensuring inclusion, accessibility, and the integration of psychological insights. 4. Proactively contribute to and undertake research activities, including gathering, preparing, and analysing data, generating ideas, and presenting findings. 5. Prepare reports and research papers for both internal use and publication. 6. Work independently, using initiative to address challenges while seeking guidance when appropriate. 7. Build and maintain positive and professional relationships with collaborators within the Faculty, across the University, and with external partners. 8. Keep up to date with developments in the field and their wider implications for the discipline and potential applications. 9. Contribute, where appropriate, as a representative or member of relevant committees. 10. Engage in continuous professional development, identifying training needs in line with the Vitae Researcher Development Framework and participating in relevant activities (e.g., probation, PDR). 11. Maintain and develop links with professional bodies and related organisations.



	<p>12. Adhere to best-practice protocols for the management and retention of research records, in line with University and Research Council guidance, including the timely handover of project records with the Principal Investigator.</p>
General Duties	<p>13. Promote equality, diversity, and inclusion in all aspects of work, and maintain positive and respectful working relationships.</p> <p>14. Undertake all duties in accordance with University policies on health, safety, and sustainability, minimising risks and environmental impact.</p> <p>15. Ensure that risk management is embedded in all activities and decision-making, in line with the University's Risk Management Policy.</p> <p>16. Undertake any other duties as required by the Principal Investigator and Co-Lead for the psychology workstream.</p>
Person Specification	<p>Essential criteria:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. A good quality undergraduate degree (First or 2.i) in psychology, sociology or a closely related scientific field.2. Experience of, or demonstrable interest in, one or more of the following areas: environmental or climate psychology; behaviour change in real-world contexts; place-based community development or community-led research; co-production or participatory research methods.3. A demonstrable ability to conduct research in line with the objectives of the project.4. An understanding of climate adaptation, urban sustainability, or biophilic design from a psychological, behavioural, or community perspective.5. Demonstrable experience of data analysis for research purposes including relevant software (e.g., ATLAS.ti, NVivo, JASP, SPSS, R).6. Familiarity with mixed-methods approaches to analysing and integrating qualitative and quantitative data, including relevant software (e.g., MAXQDA).7. Evidence of planning and organisational skills to support the delivery of a complex, multi-partner research project.8. Strong interpersonal and communication skills, with the ability to work collaboratively in interdisciplinary and cross-sector teams.9. Experience of, or willingness to support, engagement activities with community partners (e.g., workshops, interviews, or co-design sessions).10. Evidence of the ability to contribute to the writing and publication of research papers, particularly in peer-reviewed journals.11. A commitment to continuous professional development, including openness to learning from different academic disciplines and perspectives.12. The ability to manage time effectively and work independently, while contributing constructively to a wider research group or team environment. <p>Desirable Criteria</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">13. A postgraduate research-focused qualification (e.g., MSc or PhD) in psychology or a related field.14. Experience of contributing to interdisciplinary research projects or working across academic and non-academic sectors (e.g., with community organisations, policymakers, or design professionals).15. Experience of organising or facilitating community engagement activities, workshops, or public involvement in research.



	<p>16. Evidence of contributing to funding applications, impact activities, or research dissemination beyond academic publications (e.g., blogs, reports, briefings).</p> <p>17. A demonstrated commitment to open science, inclusive research practices, or responsible innovation.</p>
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	<p>Informal enquiries: Andrew Kemp (a.h.kemp@swansea.ac.uk)</p>

