

Job Description – Head of labour market economics

**Line Manager:** Deputy Director

**Salary:** £40,000 - £50,000 pa, depending on experience and location

**Location:** Leicester / London / Flexible

**Contract:** Full-time role / Flexibility or part-time considered

# Main Purpose

The Head of Labour Market Economics will help lead the development of L&W’s economic thinking. They will shape and promote our thinking on economic and labour market policy, help us deliver impact, and lead our internal team of economic researchers.

The role will involve shaping L&W policy positions, generating project ideas and leading funding proposals, designing and developing quantitative research projects, leading the development of economic modelling and analysis capabilities, building relationships with key stakeholders, and ensuring that our work makes an impact on policy and practice.

The ideal candidate will be able to demonstrate: a strong understanding labour market economics, a track record of leading research and policy development, advanced analytical skills, strong relationships with a range of partners, and a commitment to improving policy and practice in relation to employment and skills.

# Duties and Responsibilities

* Help lead the development of economic thinking within L&W, providing internal and external expertise on economic and labour market policy, and contributing to our evaluation of employment programmes.
* Raise the profile of L&W, and build and maintain a personal profile, strengthening L&W’s position as a recognised and respected thought leader in labour market policy.
* Develop L&Ws economic analysis capabilities, particularly in relation to the evaluation and quantitative analysis of labour market programmes, and the use of a range of relevant data sources and creative analysis to understand the labour market and the future of work.
* Proactively provide advice, support and guidance to colleagues, and ensuring that robust findings and recommendations are presented with clarity and precision.
* Support income generation, by generating project ideas, leading the development of proactive proposals and responses to tenders, and providing input into project proposals with a significant economics or analytical component.
* Develop and maintain effective relationships and networks with key stakeholders including national and local government, trusts and foundations, and other research centres and thinktanks.
* Manage our team of economic researchers. Support the development and training of the wider R&D team.
* Demonstrate a commitment to equality of opportunity and a positive, open and collaborative approach in line with L&W’s core values and Staff Charter.

# Person Specification

|  | **Essential/ Desirable** |
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| Degree or equivalent level qualification in economics, statistics, research or social science degree with significant statistics element, or equivalent experience. | E |
| Strong understanding of labour market economics and labour market policy. | E |
| Experience of designing and analysing quantitative research projects, and experimental or quasi-experimental evaluation projects. | E |
| Experience of working with large administrative and survey data sets in the areas of employment and skills. | E |
| Well-developed skills in designing and analysing value for money and/or economic evaluation e.g. cost-benefit analysis. | D |
| Experience of conducting econometric analysis, including multiple linear regression and modelling. | D |
| Excellent written and spoken communication skills, with proven ability to communicate complex ideas clearly and compellingly. | E |
| Excellent networking skills with experience of building strong relationships with a wide range of stakeholders. | E |
| Demonstrable skills in generating project ideas and writing proposals, with a proven track record of securing funding. | D |
| Proven track record in designing and delivering high quality analytical projects in a fast-moving environment to meet funders’ requirements | E |
| Strong people management skills with experience in supporting professional and personal development. | E |

L&W works across the UK. Our work in Wales is led by a Cardiff based team, but all staff are required to follow the guidance set out in our Welsh language scheme when working in Wales.   
