

JOB DESCRIPTION – HEAD OF LABOUR MARKET ECONOMICS

Location:	Leicester or London
Line Manager:	Deputy Director
Salary:	£40,000 – £50,000 per annum, depending on experience and location
Duration:	Permanent
Working hours:	Full time – 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, they will help us deliver impact, and they will lead our internal team of economic researchers.

This is an important role within our wider R&D team, which 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 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.
- Act as an economic policy spokesperson for L&W, regularly producing articles/blogs and speaking at events; and working with the communications team to influence media and policy debates.
- Raise the profile of L&W, and build and maintain a personal profile, strengthening L&W's profile as a recognised and respected thought leader in labour market policy.
- Lead the design and delivery of research projects focused on the labour market and employment and skills policy.
- Take a lead in ensuring that L&W consistently produces high quality economic research and analysis – proactively provide advice, support and guidance to colleagues, and ensuring that robust findings and recommendations are presented with clarity and precision.
- Support income generation, generating project ideas and leading the development of both proactive and funding proposals. Provide input into project proposals with a significant economics or analytical component.
- Develop and maintain effective relationships and networks with key stakeholders involved in relevant policy, delivery and research – including national and local government, trusts and foundations, service providers, and other research centres and thinktanks.
- Lead the ongoing development of L&Ws economic analysis capabilities, particularly in relation to the quantitative analysis of labour market programmes, understanding of relevant data sources and

undertaking new and creative analyses of a range of data to develop our understanding of the labour market and the future of work.

- Line manage economic researchers. Support the development and training of economic researchers and the wider R&D team.
- Contribute to a positive, open and collaborative approach, operating in line with Learning and Work Institute's core values and Staff Charter.
- Demonstrate a commitment to equality of opportunity.
- Travel and occasional overnight stays will be required.

PERSON SPECIFICATION

	Essential/ Desirable
A 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
Demonstrated expertise in statistical methods, including advanced techniques and proficiency in statistical software packages e.g. R, STATA, SPSS, Excel	E
Experience of designing complex quantitative analysis projects; of designing and analysing experimental or quasi-experimental evaluation projects	E
Well-developed skills in designing and analysing value for money and/or economic evaluation, including cost-benefit analysis	E
Experience of working with large administrative and survey data sets in the areas of employment and skills	E
Experience of conducting and utilising multivariate econometric analysis, including logistic regression and modelling	D
Excellent written and spoken communication skills and the ability to communicate complex ideas clearly and compellingly to non-technical audiences	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 projects in a fast-moving environment to meet funders' requirements	E
Strong people management skills with experience in supporting professional and personal development.	E

Learning and Work Institute 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.

