

## Job Description

Post Title and Post Number	NIHR Clinical Lecturer in Public Health in NIHR priority theme of Prevention and Public Health
Organisation Advertising Description	Dept of Applied Health Sciences (AHS), College of Medicine and Health
Post Number	
Full Time/Part Time	Full Time
Duration of post	Maximum of 4 years or obtaining CCT, whichever is sooner.  There will be 50% time protected for research throughout the programme.
Post is open to:	Internal and External Candidates
Grade/Level	Clinical.  Must hold a current NTN (ST3 or above).  Must have a higher research degree (PhD, MD or equivalent); all candidates must have submitted their final thesis to be eligible to apply and must have been fully awarded their higher degree in order to be able to take up the post by 1 Sept 2026.
Salary	
Terms and Conditions	Clinical

### Description of research component of programme:

This Academic Clinical Lecturer offers an exciting opportunity for a Public Health trainee with an interest in an academic research career to work in a multidisciplinary team comprising clinicians, epidemiologists, data scientists, statisticians, clinical trialists, health economists, and social scientists.

Birmingham has one of the largest concentrations of academic public health consultants in the country, with 12 consultants leading research across diverse and impactful areas. Public Health is embedded within the Department of Applied Health Sciences, offering a dynamic environment for applied and translational research spanning the following areas:

- Health promotion and prevention (e.g. public mental health; maternal, child and adolescent health; obesity prevention; smoking cessation).

- Wider health determinants (e.g. housing; transport; education; poverty reduction).
- Primary care and chronic disease management (multimorbidity; early diagnosis and management of respiratory diseases; ageing).
- Health informatics and digital health (innovation in population-level interventions).
- Global health (improving access to safe, affordable cancer and surgical care; improving emergency systems; response to natural disasters, infectious diseases).
- Surgery (surgery policy and commissioning; green surgery).
- Place-based health (climate change; air quality; school and workplace-based interventions; emergency preparedness).

The University of Birmingham is part of several nationally funded research units that have strong public health themes. These units offer rich opportunities for training, academic engagement and collaboration. They units span prevention, health protection, and the wider determinants of health:

NIHR School for Public Health REsearch (PHRESH), with opportunities for working across all NIHR Schools (School for Primary Care Research and School for Social Care Research), including their prevention, dementia and mental health research programmes.

- Maternity inequalities consortium.
- Sandwell Health Determinants Research Collaboration (HDRC).
- Health Protection Research Unit in Emergency Preparedness and Resilience (HPRU-EPR).
- Health Protection Research Unit (HPRU) in Public Health Genomics.
- NIHR Healthy Weight Policy Research Unit (HWPRU).
- PHRESH Public Health Intervention Responsive Studies Team (PHIRST).
- NIHR Public Health Review Team.
- NIHR Research Support Service Specialist Centre for Public Health, Midlands Satellite.

### **Research opportunities**

The post-holder will have the opportunity to work across a wide range of research projects relating to prevention and public health.

#### *Surgical system leadership*

This programme of work focusses on informing NHS and DHSC policy development around the future of surgical care delivery. For example, it explores (1) the safety, cost-effectiveness, productivity and training impacts of the expansion of robotic-assisted surgery across the NHS; (2) the impact of elective surgery hubs in delivering safer care closer to the community and reducing waiting lists; (3) the potential for

multi-cancer detection tests to diagnose cancers earlier. Methodologies include evidence synthesis, prospective cohort studies, RCTs, economic and carbon modelling. Lead academic contact: Dr Nepogodiev ([d.nepogodiev@bham.ac.uk](mailto:d.nepogodiev@bham.ac.uk)).

#### *Surgical system preparedness*

Building on our global leadership of the surgical response to COVID-19, the aim of this programme is to establish an evidence-based national framework for surgical system resilience, and to embed sustainable research and policy capacity in surgical preparedness. The programme will consider threats including infectious disease, extreme weather events, cyber-attacks, energy outages, and large-scale conflict. This work is delivered in collaboration with UKHSA (through the HPRU-EPR) and the Royal Centre for Defence Medicine. Lead academic contact: Dr Dmitri Nepogodiev ([d.nepogodiev@bham.ac.uk](mailto:d.nepogodiev@bham.ac.uk)).

#### *Climate adaptation and health*

Working with researchers in Public Health, Civil Engineering and Geography Earth and Environmental Sciences to understand the implications of climate adaptation pathways to reduce risks of flooding and extreme heat on vulnerable groups. This project could include exploration of stakeholder and community perspectives on feasibility and acceptability of adaptation pathways, or quantitative assessment of health co-benefits to inform Rapid Adaptation Pathways in the West Midlands. This work would support the WM-Adapt study funded by the Natural Environment Research Council. Lead academic contact: Dr Suzanne Bartington ([s.bartington@bham.ac.uk](mailto:s.bartington@bham.ac.uk)).

#### *Evaluation of Net-Zero neighbourhoods*

Working with local authority partners to explore impacts of place-based neighbourhood level interventions intended to reduce greenhouse gas emissions through transport, housing and energy efficiency measures in the West Midlands. Research could include exploration of community perspectives or assessment of health and quality of life outcomes. This project would support the Wellcome Trust funded WM-Net Zero Study and MRC-NIHR INHABIT study. Contact: Dr Suzanne Bartington [s.bartington@bham.ac.uk](mailto:s.bartington@bham.ac.uk)

#### *Evaluation of local authority programmes*

Within the NIHR PHIRST group, there are opportunities to contribute to evaluation of the impacts of local authority initiatives on health. This will range opportunities to be involved from protocol development, through to dissemination. Recent examples include programmes to assess the impact of the national supervised toothbrushing programme, initiatives to reduce gambling harms, programmes to support physical activity and wellbeing in vulnerable populations and the re-integration of prison leavers within the community. Lead academic: Professor Peymane Adab ([p.adab@bham.ac.uk](mailto:p.adab@bham.ac.uk)) and Professor Miranda Pallan ([m.j.pallan@bham.ac.uk](mailto:m.j.pallan@bham.ac.uk)).

#### *Food and nutrition in children and adolescents*

Working with the public health nutrition group, exploring aspects of child and adolescent nutrition, including provision of school food and school food

environments, and food insecurity in children, families and young people. There are existing datasets and projects that could be utilised and built on to explore determinants of nutrition in young people and potential consequences. Lead academics: Professor Miranda Pallan ([m.j.pallan@bham.ac.uk](mailto:m.j.pallan@bham.ac.uk)).

#### *Smartphones and social media*

Working with the Public Health and Women's Health team to explore the relationships between smartphone and social media use, with social, physical and mental health and wellbeing in adolescents. This could include exploration of which adolescents are most vulnerable to the impact of smartphones and social media, and what factors mediate relationships to health outcomes. Lead academic: Professor Miranda Pallan ([m.j.pallan@bham.ac.uk](mailto:m.j.pallan@bham.ac.uk)).

#### *NIHR School for Public Health funded research*

We are involved in a range of studies, including projects related to evaluation of school food policies, food insecurity, transport policies impacting health, use of digital media in public involvement activities, EDI in public health and the development of qualitative research methods in public health research. Additional projects are likely to be starting in the coming year. Opportunities for discrete projects within these activities can be discussed with the team. Lead academic: Professor Peymane Adab ([p.adab@bham.ac.uk](mailto:p.adab@bham.ac.uk)).

#### *Lived experience recovery organisations*

This NIHR-funded evaluation focusses on evaluating LEROs for people recovering from drug and alcohol problems. It is just starting and there are opportunities to work with a strong team to shape the research. Lead academic: Dr Amanda Farley ([a.c.farley@bham.ac.uk](mailto:a.c.farley@bham.ac.uk)).

#### *Work and health*

This project will investigate the relationship between work and health, focusing on trajectories from employment through sickness absence to long-term economic inactivity. Using linked electronic primary care records, the study will characterise patterns of morbidity, certification, service use and prescribing associated with different employment outcomes. The project will generate new evidence on how health and healthcare interactions shape labour market exit, with implications for patients, employers and public services. Findings will inform policy-relevant strategies to support retention in work, aligning with current NIHR priorities on work, health and productivity. Lead academic: Professor Tom Marshall ([t.p.marshall@bham.ac.uk](mailto:t.p.marshall@bham.ac.uk)).

#### *Secondary prevention in people living with chronic disease.*

This project will examine how the quality of primary care delivery can be improved to optimise secondary prevention for people living with chronic disease. Primary care is the setting in which most long-term condition management occurs, yet increasing workload pressures threaten quality, continuity and sustainability. Building on existing research into continuity of care in general practice, the project will use routinely collected primary care data, alongside qualitative work with patients and

professionals, to identify practice-level features associated with higher quality preventive care. Findings will inform the development and evaluation of scalable, resilient models of primary care delivery that support both patient outcomes and workforce sustainability. Lead academic: Professor Tom Marshall ([t.p.marshall@bham.ac.uk](mailto:t.p.marshall@bham.ac.uk)).

### **Teaching opportunities**

All research staff are expected to contribute to teaching and education activities. The post-holder will have the opportunity to contribute to both undergraduate and postgraduate teaching and supervision, especially on the Master's in Public Health. This could include the delivery of lectures, small group teaching sessions, project and dissertation supervision, and co-leadership of modules.

### **Academic career development**

The post-holder will be supported to plan ahead to post-CCT transition. This could include applying for external fellowships (e.g. NIHR Postdoctoral Award) and external research grants as lead applicant. Throughout the Academic Clinical Lectureship, the post-holder will have the opportunity to contribute to research, education, and management activities that build experience that will support credible applications for fellowships and post-CCT opportunities. Since 2020, three individuals have completed public health ACL posts at the University of Birmingham, and all are now appointed at associate or full professor level at the university.

### **Clinical training**

The clinical training will be facilitated as part of the West Midlands Public Health Training Scheme. We anticipate that post-holders will split their working roles 50:50 between the University and a clinical training role. We anticipate that post-holders will have completed the MRPH exams. As such, their training locations will be determined by their outstanding training competency needs and career aspirations.

Potential clinical training placements could include: local authority (e.g. Birmingham City Council or Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council), NHS (e.g. Birmingham Women's & Children's Hospitals), UKHSA West Midlands, DHSC West Midlands.

### **Academic Lead for the Public Health ACL programme**

Informal queries are welcome; in the first instance please contact the Public health ICAT Lead, Dr Dmitri Nepogodiev ([d.nepogodiev@bham.ac.uk](mailto:d.nepogodiev@bham.ac.uk)). An academic supervisor will be identified following appointment matching research interests.

### **Deanery Programme Training Director details**

For clinical service aspects of the post, enquiries can be made the public health training programme directors: Angela Cartwright ([angela.cartwright8@nhs.net](mailto:angela.cartwright8@nhs.net)) and Irfan Ghani ([irfan.ghani2@nhs.net](mailto:irfan.ghani2@nhs.net)).

### **Academic Lead (University) for the IAT Programme**

Professor Kristien Boelaert ([k.boelaert@bham.ac.uk](mailto:k.boelaert@bham.ac.uk)).

## Appendix 1: NIHR CL Supplementary Person Specification

This person specification should be used in conjunction with a person specification for assessment of clinical competences.

	ESSENTIAL	DESIRABLE
<b>ELIGIBILITY</b>	<p>Evidence of achievement of Foundation competences or equivalent.</p> <p>Candidate must be at ST3 or above.</p> <p><b>Must hold a higher degree</b> (MD, PhD or equivalent) in a <b>relevant</b> subject area*.</p> <p>Evidence of good progress in clinical training and that completion of specialty training* may be accommodated either during or after the 4 year period of the NIHR CL award</p>	<p>Evidence of commitment to GMC specialty.</p> <p>Intercalated honours degree and/or additional qualifications e.g. MSc etc.</p>
<b>KNOWLEDGE &amp; ACHIEVEMENTS</b>	<p>Demonstration of acquisition of the level of knowledge and skills necessary for the achievement of Foundation and clinical (matched to the entry level) competencies or equivalent.</p> <p>Demonstration of the potential for scientific independence and the ability to lead a research team.</p> <p>Potential to become a leader in chosen field.</p>	<p>Knowledge of the centre hosting the research and how this is best placed to support the research, education and training needs.</p> <p>Prizes or distinctions.</p> <p>Presentation of work at a national or international meeting.</p> <p>Significant publications in peer reviewed journals.</p>
<b>EDUCATIONAL &amp; PERSONAL ASPECTS</b>	<p>Demonstration of understanding, and commitment to, an academic career.</p> <p>Indication of medium and long-term career goals.</p> <p>Demonstration of educational reasons for applying for the Clinical Lectureship Programme.</p>	
<b>PROFESSIONAL SKILLS</b>	<p>Evidence of team working skills.</p> <p>Evidence of leadership potential.</p>	

\* All candidates should have submitted their final thesis to be eligible to apply and must have been fully awarded their higher degree in order to be able to take up the post (prior to 01 Sep 2026).