



Whiteley Longitudinal Study: preliminary work

Research Assistant Job Description

Location:	Whiteley Village, Walton-on-Thames, Surrey
Salary:	£28,000 - £30,000 pa
Hours:	Full time or part-time
Contract type:	Fixed-term contract (3 months if full-time)
Closing date:	5pm on Friday 7 th June 2019

Applicants are invited for the position for Research Assistant for a fixed period to work on the early stages of an ambitious longitudinal study that will focus on aspects related to well-being in older age, specifically for a low socioeconomic group.

Background

The post-holder will be based at Whiteley Village in Walton-on-Thames, Surrey, and will be specifically under The Whiteley Foundation for Ageing Well, a new research foundation looking into well-being in older age. Academic support will be provided by Swansea University. Whiteley Village is a retirement community that provides housing and care for the elderly of limited means and is managed by Whiteley Homes Trust (registered charity 1103056).

The Whiteley Longitudinal Study is in the early stages of being designed, and it is hoped that this post will enable us to begin data collection by the end of 2019. The intention of the study is to build a data set that in decades to come will provide researchers with valuable opportunities to investigate well-being, specifically in relation to a low socioeconomic group.

Tasks

The specific tasks we require input on are:

1. To understand the interests in the longitudinal study from the perspective of The Foundation, academically, and as a Whiteley Village resident or member of staff
2. To help to form the main topic areas to be covered, and suggest appropriate scales for measurement, considering issues such as relevance, time for completion, and comparability to other data sets
3. Review literature on other longitudinal studies
4. Review the data already held at Whiteley Village from over 100 years of provision of housing and care, and understand the data already collected from residents at application
5. Consider novel data collection tools, such as by using tablets, apps etc.
6. Consider the ethical implications of the study, including privacy and data security



Requirements

Essential requirements:

1. BSc or MSc in social science
2. Competence in quantitative research data collection and analysis methods
3. Have an interest in working with older people
4. Have an interest in longitudinal studies
5. Have good interpersonal skills, especially for communicating with an older population

Desirable requirements:

1. Have experience of longitudinal research methods
2. Have experience of research into well-being in older age
3. Have transportation

Applications and enquiries

Informal enquiries to Dr Alison Armstrong, Project Director for the Whiteley Foundation for Ageing Well, alison.armstrong@whiteleyvillage.org.uk, 01932 503909

To apply, send your CV and a covering letter (maximum 2 sides of A4) explaining your interest in this role to alison.armstrong@whiteleyvillage.org.uk, with the title of the email as "WLS application [your name]"

Interviews will take place at Whiteley Village in July, with the post to ideally start during the summer 2019.

The Whiteley Foundation for Ageing Well
Walton-on-Thames
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