



Commercial & Operations Analytical Lead

University Research & Enterprise

Job Reference: REQ0002182



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Salary:	£36,000 - £40,000 dependent on skills and experience
Contract:	Fixed term 30 months
Location:	Wetherby
Department:	Funding Support Team
Responsible to:	Funding Support Manager
Working Pattern:	Full time

Purpose of role

We are looking for a motivated and curious individual to lead an exciting Knowledge Transfer Partnership (KTP) project in collaboration with Arville Textiles Ltd, an innovative, forward-thinking industry-leading specialist manufacturer of advanced textile solutions, known for their agility, expertise and customer-centric approach.

This 30-month project offers a unique opportunity to work closely with Arville, based in their Headquarters in Wetherby, and a supportive, cross-disciplinary academic team from Leeds Beckett. Together, you will embed a Commercial and Operational Transformation Strategy, connecting commercial insight with operational priorities, helping Arville make better, faster decisions that support margin-led, sustainable growth.

About the Role

The successful candidate must be able to work across functions, build trust, challenge constructively and translate complex data into practical action within a live manufacturing business. We encourage applications from a self-starter with an inquisitive mindset, excellent project management and interpersonal skills, who comes with a strong background in business analytics, process improvement or digital marketing. Building connections amongst a dynamic team at Arville will set the project for success, so evidencing a proactive, agile approach with a willingness to learn is important for the project delivery.

[About Arville Textiles Ltd](#)

Established in 1951 as a family-owned business, Arville has built a world-wide reputation in their advanced technical textiles sector for expertise, experience and quality. They work in partnership with large multinationals and significant specialist companies across global OEM supply chains, including defence, aerospace and automotive sectors.

Purpose of Role (continued)

Arville adhere to four guiding principles reflecting their culture and philosophy:

- Craft and Technical Excellence: Arville are weavers, engineers and problem-solvers.
- Generations and Community: Arville represent a multi-generational workforce with a strong community ethos
- Integrity Across Borders: Arville are a trusted international brand.
- Responsible Transformation: Their 75-year heritage is the foundation of continually evolving technology and transformation.

About the KTP Programme

This role is part of a government-funded Knowledge Transfer Partnership (KTP), designed to bring together businesses and universities to deliver innovation. It offers an excellent opportunity to build your experience, develop professionally, and contribute to meaningful change in an industry setting.

Key Responsibilities

- Analysis of Arville's market intelligence and commercial insights to drive business growth via customer, brand and product strategies.
- Implement data-driven decision-making frameworks, KPIs and business intelligence dashboards.
- Drive operational improvement through data analysis, enhancing efficiency, inventory management and production performance via clear presentation of data.
- Deliver a structured organisational change initiative to embed new processes, behaviours and ways of working. Build trust and foster engagement through effective stakeholder communication.
- Manage the successful delivery of a strategic innovation project, monitoring progress, adapting approaches and ensuring key objectives are achieved within challenging timelines.
- Collaborate across business functions to align priorities and implement sustainable improvements without disrupting day-to-day operations.
- Apply analytical and problem-solving skills to identify opportunities and deliver evidence-based recommendations.
- Support long-term capability building by embedding continuous improvement and a data-driven culture.

Support and Development

- Work closely with a multidisciplinary academic team from Leeds Beckett University to develop technical, analytical, and organisational change expertise.
- Benefit from a structured management development programme and a £5,000 personal development budget.
- Gain experience delivering high-impact innovation and business transformation within a manufacturing environment.

This is underpinned throughout the project by:

- Creation of a collaborative project team to identify, build and engage internal and external stakeholder networks.
- Embed tools, techniques and operational models that are sustainable beyond the life of the project.
- Work closely with, and regularly brief, the senior management team regarding project progress and delivery.

Purpose of Role (continued)

- As part of the KTP project be responsible for steering monthly formal project team meetings, progressing outcomes, presenting progress and future deliverables at quarterly steering group meetings to the university, company, and funder.

Our Commitment to Inclusion

We are committed to creating an inclusive environment where everyone feels supported and valued. We encourage applications from people of all backgrounds, experiences, and perspectives. If you're excited about this role but don't meet every requirement, we would still love to hear from you.

You will be based primarily at Arville Textiles premises located in Wetherby North Yorkshire. However, you may spend time at Leeds Beckett University, as well as occasionally be required to travel to off-site locations.

Working Environment

The role requires regular visits to our manufacturing facility. This environment includes elevated noise levels, airborne dust, and changing lighting conditions typical of an industrial production setting. We are committed to considering reasonable adjustments throughout the recruitment process and, where practicable, within the workplace environment.

Opportunities to work flexibly will be by discussion with the Company and the University.

Terms & Conditions of Service are as determined by the Vice-Chancellor for Support Staff (within a framework set by the Board of Governors) and will have regard to any national recommendations arising from negotiations between the Universities and Colleges Employers Association (UCEA), and the recognised trade unions in so far as these are adopted by the Board / Vice-Chancellor. Salary is in the range: £36,000 - £40,000 per annum dependent on experience and skills.

Package also includes:

- Personal development budget £5,000.
- Management training programme including two four-day residential modules.

Standard working hours are 8.30am – 5pm

Annual leave entitlement is 25 days plus Bank Holidays (4 mandated days' annual leave over the Christmas period).

We will be holding an online information session where we will provide information about the role, the project, the company partner and about KTP. You will also be able to ask questions about the position. If you want to join that session an Eventbrite link is here [Arville Information Session](#)

Using Artificial Intelligence (AI)

Whilst using AI in our work has many benefits, we would encourage you to write your application without AI input. This will give us a much better insight into your experience and let your own strengths shine through in the application process. We value the uniqueness of every colleague and believe it makes our university a better place to work.

Person Specification & Performance Attributes

Person Specification Criteria	Essential	Desirable
1. A Bachelor's degree (2.1 or higher) in at least one of the following areas: Business Analytics; Engineering Management; Operations Management; Strategic Digital Marketing. Preference will be given to a candidate who also has a higher-level professional or academic qualification in a related area: e.g., MBA; Certification in Business Analytics; Engineering Management; Data Analysis; Data Science. Reference to how an academic or professional qualification exhibits crossover skill for this role.	✓	
2. Evidence of experience in business transformation, process mapping (management or production), change management (including HR). Ideally the evidence should come from the candidates own industrial experience, but evidence from academic study or volunteering is also acceptable. In all cases candidates should use this evidence base to demonstrate experience in at least one of the following areas A. Experience of process optimisations or process improvement using data analytics within a manufacturing or logistics context. Evidence of the use of end-to-end process mapping tools (e.g. VSM) within the process change is essential. B. Experience of business process analysis, using data modelling of business assets and processes to drive change and achieve strategic goals. Evidence of the use of digital capabilities to model and map the impact of the process change is essential. C. Experience of change management, leading or supporting change a significant business or process changes in an organisation, with evidence of engaging stakeholders at different levels.	✓	
3. Digital Marketing Experience: Practical experience of applying digital and strategic marketing to real business challenges ideally in industrial or manufacturing setting covering the following areas: ➤ Commercial and market intelligence: using relevant data (e.g., CRM data) to segment and prioritise customers, researching markets and competitors, and turning insights into targeting or sales pipeline recommendations ➤ Product positioning and pricing strategy: analysing product performance to inform value propositions, positioning, or new product and market opportunities. ➤ Branding and event marketing: auditing how a brand (ideally B2B) is presented across multiple online and offline touchpoints; developing a communications, PR, or trade show plan. ➤ Digital marketing analytics: setting marketing KPIs and measuring performance and ROI using relevant digital marketing tools. Ability to present results clearly in reports or dashboards.	✓	

4. Evidence of strong analytical / data skills with applied experience of analytical frameworks, software options, and capabilities (e.g., data integration, CRM and marketing, automation software, and the ability to evaluate options against business needs). Experience of MS Power BI or Fabric is highly desired, especially in the context of ERP and CRM systems.	✓	
Performance Attributes		
PLANNING & ORGANISATION 5. Self-motivated with evidence of the ability to lead and deliver a multi-faceted project delivering against KPIs and tight deadlines whilst maintaining excellent attention to detail. Ability to work autonomously, reporting into academic teams from Leeds Beckett while working in the company on a day-to-day basis.		
TEAMWORK 6. A proven ability to establish effective working relationships with a range of internal and external stakeholders, and an ability to influence, encourage and inspire teams at all levels of an organisation. A pragmatic, adaptable personality who can operate and leverage new ideas in a busy manufacturing business. The ability to collaborate and share information, and to encourage collaboration in others is essential.		
COMMUNICATION 7. Excellent people-oriented communication and well-developed interpersonal skills including the ability to explain complex information in an accessible and engaging way. To communicate data frameworks across Arville stakeholders from warehouse operatives to senior management. • Confidence to challenge existing practices while respecting operational expertise. • Ability to embed new frameworks within established operational practices. • Excellent interpersonal and influencing skills.		
LEARNING & DEVELOPMENT 8. Commitment to self-development, a reflective practitioner and responsive to feedback. Leadership potential should be demonstrated.		



Terms of Appointment

Pension

You will automatically be enrolled to become a member of the West Yorkshire Pension Fund (WYPF)

Annual leave

Annual leave entitlement is 25 days plus Bank Holidays.

Pre-employment checks

We have a legal responsibility to ensure that you have the right to work in the UK before you can start working for us.

If you do not have the right to work in the UK already, any offer of employment we make to you will be conditional upon you gaining it.

Probationary Period

Appointment to this position may be subject to a probationary period of up to 6 months, in line with our probationary policy.

A copy of our probationary policy is available on our website or on request from Human Resources.

References

Offers of employment will be subject to the receipt of satisfactory references.

Salary

On appointment staff will normally be placed on the first point of the substantive grade for the post. Appointment above this will only be on an exceptional basis and subject to approval in line with our University's Pay Policy.

Pre-employment Health Assessment

Our University aims to ensure that all employees are placed in a job that is compatible with their health and physical abilities. In accordance with the Equality Act, questions relating to health are asked following an offer of appointment. All offers of appointment are subject to pre-employment health assessment.

Qualifications

In accordance with our pre-employment processes, it is University policy to verify qualifications for successful candidates. We will need evidence of those qualifications required by the employee specification and claimed on the application form.

Equal Opportunities

We are committed to providing a non-discriminatory and harassment-free working environment for our employees. All our employees are expected to have due regard for those policies when carrying out their duties.

Safety, Health & Wellbeing

You will maintain a positive attitude to Safety, Health and Wellbeing in carrying out personal responsibilities and co-operate with policy/local rules/codes of practice.

Information if you have a disability

The University welcomes applications from individuals with disabilities. We are committed to ensuring fair treatment throughout the recruitment process. We will make adjustments to enable applicants to compete to the best of their ability wherever it is reasonable to do so and, if successful, to assist them during their employment.

We encourage you to declare any disability that you may have, and any reasonable adjustments that you may require, in the section provided for this purpose in the application form. This will enable us to accommodate your needs throughout the process as required. However, applicants and employees may declare a disability at any time. If you prefer to discuss any special arrangements connected with a disability, please contact us.

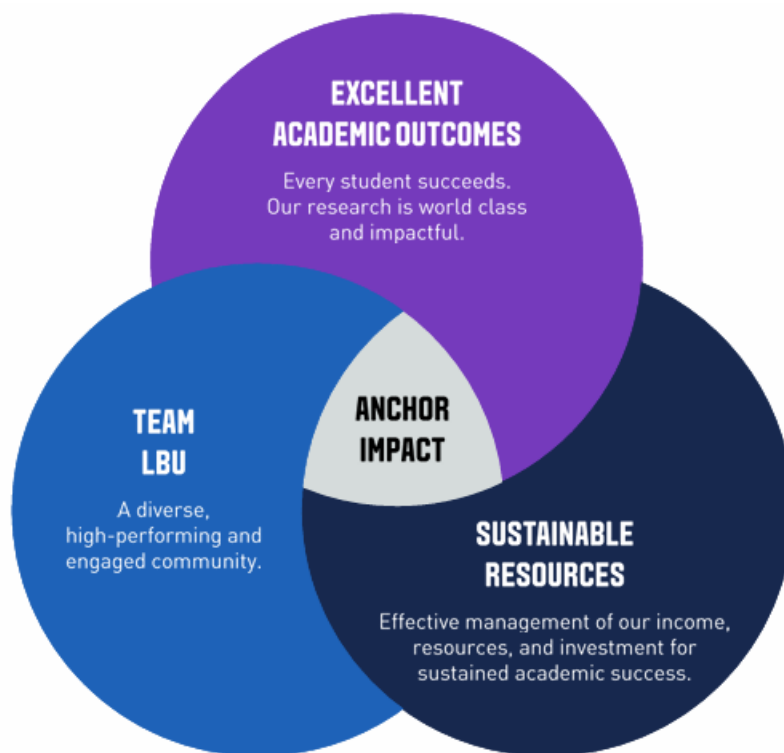
Hybrid working

Working in a hybrid way, where colleagues spend some of their working hours or days on campus, and some of their time working from home is well established at Leeds Beckett. Some roles remain fully campus based. Working arrangements are dependent on the job role, team and University requirements and will be discussed with candidates at or after the interview.

Our Strategy



STRATEGIC PLAN 2026–2031



PURPOSE

We make a positive and decisive difference to people, organisations and communities through excellent education, research, and service.

ANCHOR IMPACT

As a Leeds Anchor with global reach, we work in partnership to drive inclusive, sustainable, social, economic, and cultural benefit for the diverse communities we serve.

OUR VALUES

Inclusive. Teamwork. Integrity.
Pragmatism. Ambition. Purposeful.

You can read more about our strategy [here](#).



Working at Leeds Beckett University

Our Vision

Our students are a diverse community with different needs and aspirations. Teaching excellence is at the heart of our culture and academic practise, focussing on the provision of an outstanding education and experience for our students.

We are proud of our polytechnic roots, and proud to have built on our heritage as a vital source of professional, vocational and applied learning, underpinning the social, economic and cultural life of our city and region.

We are a community of around 23,000 students from over 140 countries and 2,800 staff. Our history dates back to the founding of Leeds Mechanics Institute in 1824.



Working with Us

What can you expect from a career with Leeds Beckett University.

We offer membership of a Local Government Pension scheme, Teachers Pension Scheme and USS scheme, dependant on your role and circumstances. More detail of the schemes is available on their website pages and will be provided during the offer process.

Occupational Maternity/Adoption and Shared Parental Leave is available to our colleagues (subject to meeting the conditions).

Onsite Gym Facilities – with memberships for our colleagues, that let you take part in activities at the Carnegie Sports Centre, Headingley Campus and City Campus Gym. They offer traditional gyms, fitness classes and swimming.

If you travel to work by car, we have car parking available at our Headingley campus and free transport, during term time, for travel between campus.

And in addition, to the above, we offer a range of Benefits and

Discounts through our partners, as part of our overall benefits package.

Your development and growth

Whatever you do at Leeds Beckett and whatever you aspire to, we are committed to supporting you to develop your skills and build your career. We pride ourselves on providing interesting opportunities to equip all colleagues to thrive and fulfil their potential and have a range of development opportunities to stretch and support throughout the different stages of any career.



Our Wellbeing Commitment

We know that working and studying in a mentally healthy community supports us all to attain good wellbeing, feel happier, have clarity of purpose, and meet our goals and at Leeds Beckett University we are working to achieve this through a whole university approach. We have recently been awarded the University Mental Health Charter, putting wellbeing at the heart of everything we do.

Together, we actively encourage healthy behaviours to improve wellbeing. You can find out more about how we support colleague's physical, mental and financial health and wellbeing on our [website](#).

Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion

Equality, Diversity and Inclusion is integral to our culture and at the core of how we work with all members of our community.

Leeds Beckett University is proud to be a [Stonewall Diversity Champion](#) and a [Disability Confident Employer](#). The University holds an Athena Swan Bronze Award for gender equality and is working towards a Bronze Award with Advance HE's Race Equality Charter.

Join Our Community

We actively encourage all our colleagues to explore what is happening across the university community and to come along to our events and support your colleagues and students.

Working on a Campus keeps all of us connected with the wider university and the amazing teaching that is delivered every day. We have state of the art buildings on our city campus, whilst Headingley is more traditional with lovely green spaces and sport facilities that we can all enjoy.

Our Campus locations offer a range of facilities including Beckett Food and you can get your hands on a reward card to enjoy loyalty rewards and access exclusive offers.

Welcome to Leeds

Leeds is a vibrant, modern city with a rich industrial past and on the doorstep of natural beauty. It is the cultural, financial, and commercial heart of West Yorkshire and has one of the most diverse economies of all the UK's employment centres. Leeds is, and always will be, open for business and talent.

Please read our application guide to ensure that you have the best chance for success. You can find the guide [here](#).

Thank you for your interest in working with us at Leeds Beckett University.