



THE LONDON SCHOOL
OF ECONOMICS AND
POLITICAL SCIENCE ■

Job Description

This form summarises the purpose of the job and lists its key tasks. It is not a definitive list of all the tasks to be undertaken as those can be varied from time to time at the discretion of the School, in consultation with the postholder.

Job title: Research Fellow - Policy (Technology, Data and City Government Innovation) - 0.5 FTE

Department/Centre: LSE Cities

Accountable to: Professor Alexander Evans

Job Summary

The Technology, Data and City Government Innovation research studio investigates the conditions under which European city governments can transition to AI-first, data-driven digital public institutions: organisations capable of creating value not merely through more efficient processing of existing tasks, but through fundamentally new configurations of human expertise, agentic systems and urban data infrastructure.

The post holder will work on the studio's core research programme, conducting qualitative and quantitative research independently and in collaboration with colleagues across LSE Cities and affiliated departments. They will develop and deliver long-term research on existing and evolving urban digital infrastructure, variation across policy domains, and the organisation and governance of these capabilities. This will include developing baseline reference data and comparative case studies and contributing to a wider research programme on agentic city government. The post holder will apply appropriate methodologies to complex ideas, concepts and theories and will contribute creative, rigorous approaches to research challenges.

The role will involve leading a small project team or assisting in the running of a larger research group, including managing research assistants and supporting their development. The post holder will develop a body of high-quality publications in peer-reviewed outlets; initiate and sustain links with external bodies to foster collaboration and influence decision-making; present research at national and international conferences; and organise conferences, seminars and workshops. They will coordinate with colleagues to disseminate findings and help ensure that research outputs inform policy debates and decisions, while playing a constructive role in the life of LSE Cities.

The post holder will join a friendly, engaged and supportive academic team, with opportunities to travel, develop or deepen practitioner and academic networks, and work at the forefront of insight and expertise on city adoption of technology, data and AI.

The role is available from late 2026 at 0.5 FTE until 30 June 2027, with a strong likelihood of extension beyond this date.

Duties and Responsibilities

Range of Research Activities and Responsibilities

- Developing a coherent programme(s) of research.
- Demonstrating the ability to analyse and research complex ideas, concepts or theories and applying appropriate methodologies.
- Formulating peer reviewed research grant applications.



- Leading a small project team or assisting in the running of a large research group.
- Developing a body of high-quality publications in peer reviewed outlets.
- Acting as a reviewer for academic journals and research grant applications.
- Initiating and sustaining links with external bodies to foster collaboration and influence decision-making.
- Presenting research at national and international conferences.
- Organising conferences, seminars and workshops.
- Developing creative approaches to research challenges.
- Acting as a point of reference for others and contributing to the development of new knowledge and understanding within the field.
- Developing a national/international reputation for research in their area of expertise.

Activities relating to administration and management and/or School service may include:

- Playing a constructive role in the life of the Centre/Institute/Department.
- Training and managing the work of research assistants.
- Supervising Masters students.

All of the above subject to the contractual obligations imposed by the external funding agency and with the agreement of the grant-holder, Principal Investigator and/or Centre Director.

Flexibility

To deliver services effectively, a degree of flexibility may be required in the duties performed in order to meet the exigencies of service. Job roles may also naturally develop over time and ongoing substantial changes to a role will be discussed between line managers and their staff, with job descriptions updated as and when appropriate.

Free Speech

[The Code of Practice on Free Speech](#) outlines the responsibilities of LSE to protect and promote freedom of speech and academic freedom within the law for students, faculty, staff, and visiting speakers. It applies to all activities on LSE premises and those conducted in the name of the School or LSE Students' Union at any location. The Code confirms that LSE does not take formal positions on political or international issues but provides a platform for critical debate within the law, taking account of the various legislative requirements and the context provided by policies and procedures. Procedures are set out in the Code on how events must be arranged and conducted.

Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI)

LSE is committed to building a diverse, equitable and inclusive university. All staff are expected to contribute to a working, teaching and research environment in which people are treated with dignity and respect, and to comply with LSE's duties to prevent unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation on the grounds protected by the Equality Act 2010. LSE is also committed to advancing equality of opportunity in relation to social and economic background. These expectations do not require staff or applicants to endorse any particular political, philosophical or contested viewpoint, and are subject to LSE's statutory duties and commitment to protect freedom of speech and academic freedom within the law, which includes the right of academic staff to question and test received wisdom, and to put forward unpopular or controversial opinions.

Ethics Code

Posts (and post holders) are assumed to have a responsibility to act in accordance with the School's Ethics Code and to promote the principles and values that the Code enshrines. The Ethics Code clearly states that the whole LSE community, including all staff, students, and governors of LSE, are expected to act in accordance with the principles which are set out in the Code. As such you are required to read and familiarise yourself with it. The School's Effective Behaviours Framework is designed to support this Code. It sets out examples for the six behaviours that all staff are expected to demonstrate, these can be found on the following link: [click here](#)



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Environmental Sustainability

The post holder is required to minimise environmental impact in the performance of the role, and actively contribute to the delivery of the LSE Environmental Policy.