



Job Description

Job title	Research Associate
Department/School	Tobacco Control Research Group, Health
Job family	Education and Research
Grade	7
Reporting to	Research Topic Lead
Responsible for	No staff management responsibilities
Location	University of Bath premises

Background and context

UNIVERSITY OF BATH

The University of Bath is one of the UK's leading universities with an international reputation for research and teaching at the highest academic standards. It has a distinctive approach that emphasises the education of professional practitioners and the promotion of original inquiry and innovation in partnership with business, the professions, public services and the voluntary sector.

The University of Bath ranks highly in the league tables of UK universities published by a number of national newspapers, including the *Times*, *Independent* and *Guardian*.

The University's buildings are set in an attractive campus about a mile from the centre of Bath. It is a friendly campus with strong student services and good social opportunities. Its sports facilities are first-class, its Sports Training Village, used more than half a million times a year by Olympic athletes and the public alike, was completed in 2004 at a cost of £35 million.

Bath, a World Heritage City, is a spectacularly beautiful city which stands on the River Avon among the hills of England's West Country. It is renowned for its striking architecture and Roman Baths and is surrounded by beautiful countryside.

TOBACCO CONTROL RESEARCH AT THE UNIVERSITY OF BATH

The [Tobacco Control Research Group](#), one of the University of Bath's leading research groups, is a multi-disciplinary group directed by Professor Gilmore. Globally recognised for its research on the tobacco industry, it is a dynamic, multidisciplinary, award-winning research group.

Senior and early career staff alike have received awards for their research and its impacts on policy including from WHO and the Public Health Advocacy Institute. The group is committed to ensuring its work is relevant to policy and practice and

has secured impacts from national to global level. It is part of the UK Centre for Tobacco and Alcohol Studies (UKCTAS), one of five UK Centres for Public Health Excellence, funded by the UK Clinical Research Collaboration (See <https://ukctas.net/> for further details) thus making the group part of a wider and thriving research community.

In 2012, the TCRG established an innovative knowledge exchange platform, www.TobaccoTactics.org which now attracts up to 60,000 page hits per day with users drawn from across the world including politicians, civil servants, journalists and activists.

THE STOP PROJECT

Stop Tobacco Organisations & Products (STOP) is an innovative \$15m project funded by [Bloomberg Philanthropies](#), aimed at developing a tobacco industry watchdog to deliver policy change. It is a partnership between the Tobacco Control Research Group at the University of Bath, the Global Center for Good Governance in Tobacco Control, Thailand, the International Union Against Tuberculosis and Lung Disease, Paris, and Vital Strategies, New York.

As such it brings together the global leaders in tobacco industry monitoring and research, advocacy, accountability and communication. This unique combination will help ensure our research is widely and effectively communicated and maximally impactful.

We will be leading the tobacco industry monitoring and research arm of the work. With a focus on low and middle income countries, we will be extending the scale, geographic reach and responsiveness of our current research.

Within the University of Bath, the STOP team will be based within the Tobacco Control Research Group and include staff from different faculties, departments and research centres including:

THE DEPARTMENT FOR HEALTH

The [Department for Health](#), part of the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, incorporates two main groups, both encompassing teaching and research activities: lifelong health and wellbeing, and sport, health and exercise science. Research takes place across a number of themes including: a fair and vibrant society, improving human function and lifelong health and wellbeing. The department also provides [research support and capacity building](#) to the local healthcare community.

THE SCHOOL OF MANAGEMENT

The University of Bath School of Management is one of the UK's leading business schools. It has an outstanding reputation for both research and teaching, and has five-year EQUIS accreditation from the European Foundation for Management Development, which is only achieved by around 1% of business schools worldwide. The School of Management is home to the [Centre for Governance, Regulation and Industrial Strategy](#) (CGR&IS), and the [Centre for Business Organisations & Society](#) (CBOS) that collaborate with the Tobacco Control Research group in the area of tobacco companies and tobacco regulation.

SOCIAL AND POLICY SCIENCES

With a reputation for cutting-edge research and innovative teaching, the Department of Social and Policy Sciences at the University of Bath focuses on international development, social policy and sociology. It is home to the [Centre for](#)

[Development Studies](#), an interdisciplinary collaborative research centre critically engaging with international development policy and practice.

Job purpose

A Research Associate post is available providing research support to this STOP project. We are seeking a highly motivated and high performing researcher to join the project team within the thriving Tobacco Control Research Group. You will be joining a rapidly growing, friendly, and dynamic team of multidisciplinary researchers and academics working at the cutting edge of public health research.

The role holder will be expected to work flexibly, undertaking research in the area of tobacco supply chains and profitability.

The role will therefore be varied, providing many opportunities for skills growth and training. However, a core element of the role will include researching, developing and maintaining a database to enable the compiling and sharing of data on the economic arguments made by the tobacco industry in LMICs. You will also take the lead in developing evidence-based materials to counter such arguments. The role holder will also be expected to provide research to support the rapid response team to help them to provide quick turnaround, high impact, research pieces focusing on related 'hot topics' as they arise;

This post would suit someone with a background in public health, economics, development studies, politics or sociology.

We are particularly keen to recruit those with skills in one or more of the following:

- Social network analysis
- Process tracing
- Documentary analysis
- Content analysis
- Discourse analysis
- Policy analysis

The role holder will also be expected to:

- contribute to specialist training in tobacco industry monitoring and research including a week-long in person CPD course and online training;
- provide technical support to in-country partners and visiting fellows;
- contribute to the supervision of students working on placements within the research team and to the supervision of PhD students as appropriate.

The role holder must be an excellent communicator, able to work flexibly, have a strong team work ethic, and be able to work under pressure in a fast-paced dynamic environment.

Special conditions

No previous work for or with the tobacco industry and organisations or individuals financially linked to the tobacco industry. To avoid potential conflicts of interests and to ensure compliance with Article 5.3 of the FCTC, applicants are therefore

asked to declare any current or previous occupational activity with any tobacco company or those receiving financial contributions from the industry, whether gainful or not.

Main duties and responsibilities	
	Responsible to the Topic Lead for (as appropriate to discipline):
1	Conduct individual and/or collaborative research projects. Contribute to the design and execution of the project e.g. timetabling and meeting project milestones; participating in regular discussions with collaborative partners. Generate, collect and analyse existing data related to the project using qualitative and/or quantitative techniques
2	Develop evidence based materials to counter economic arguments made by the tobacco industry in LMICs
3	An output of this research will include developing and maintaining a database to enable the compiling and sharing of data on the economic arguments made by the tobacco industry in LMICs. You will work with our STOP partners to make this database public via the STOP website (www.exposetobacco.org) where it will be used by advocates, policy-makers, etc. for their work in countering the tobacco industry tactics.
4	Contribute to a specialist teaching and training (in person and online) in tobacco industry monitoring and research and provide technical support to in-country partners and visiting fellows
5	Writing up results of research and contributing to the publication of results in high-quality peer-reviewed academic literature
6	Disseminating results of research project as appropriate to the discipline through activities such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • overseas research visits • conference presentations • public engagement activities
7	On occasion, provide research support to the rapid response team as and when required as well as providing general research support to the wider team.
8	Participate regularly in group meetings and prepare and deliver presentations to research team, internal and external stakeholders or funders.
9	Assist with supervising postgraduate and undergraduate student projects.
10	Continually update knowledge and understanding in field or specialism to inform research activity.
11	Contribute to the development of research objectives and proposals for own or joint research projects, with assistance of a mentor, if required

12	Disseminate knowledge of research advances to inform departmental teaching
13	You will from time to time be required to undertake other duties of a similar nature as reasonably required by your line manager. You are required to follow all University policies and procedures at all times and take account of University guidance.

Person Specification

Criteria	Essential	Desirable
Qualifications		
A PhD in a subject relevant to the research activity, or equivalent significant relevant experience and professional qualification	√	
Experience/Knowledge		
Post-doctoral experience		√
Relevant work experience in a related area to the project		√
Demonstrated depth and breadth of specialist knowledge of subject matter to effectively contribute to the research programme	√	
Demonstrated awareness of latest developments in the field of research	√	
Demonstrate potential to publish in high quality, peer reviewed journals	√	
Expertise and knowledge of the tobacco industry.		√
Multilingual		√
Skills		
Ability to prepare research proposals, to conduct individual research work and to disseminate results		√
Ability to organise and prioritise own workload to meet required deadlines	√	
Ability to write research reports and to effectively disseminate outcomes	√	
Excellent verbal, interpersonal and written communication skills	√	
Highly competent in IT packages as appropriate to discipline/area of research	√	
Ability to work flexibly, with a strong team work ethic	√	
Ability to work to strict deadlines and under pressure, in a fast-paced, dynamic environment	√	

Attributes		
Commitment to working within professional and ethical codes of conduct	√	
Innovation and developing creative solutions	√	
Self-confidence when communicating with a wide range of stakeholders	√	
Commitment to safe working practices	√	
Ability to work independently	√	
Commitment to excellence in research	√	
Ability to be an effective team worker	√	