

JOB DESCRIPTION

Role title:	Co-Director Designate of National Institute for Health and Care Research (NIHR) Applied Health and Care Research Collaboration (ARC) ¹
Role accountable to: ²	ARC Director UHS CEO ³ Head of School of Health Sciences, the hosting School ARC Partnership Board ⁴
Post reporting regularly to:	ARC Director UHSFT Director of R&D UoS Deputy Head of School Research Health Sciences Managing Director Wessex Health Partners
Posts responsible for:	Academic and research staff in their role(s) delivering ARC activities

¹ Co-Director in the event an application is successful 2026-2031, with possible continuation to 2033 subject to funding.

² Line management arrangements for the substantive post within which this role sits will remain unchanged.

³ Or delegate.

⁴ Post will be responsible to the Partnership Board, who act on behalf of our Member Organisations.

Job purpose	
<p>Working together with the ARC Director and ARC Chief Operating Officer, take responsibility for delivery of specific ARC strategic objectives. In particular, the postholder will be responsible for creating an environment to develop and conduct high quality, generalisable applied health, public health and social care research that responds to and meets the priority research needs of the health and care system and the population.</p> <p>To lead bid preparations, including decisions about Themes and appointment of Theme Leads and other infrastructure leadership positions. To demonstrate a significant national and/or international reputation for leadership of research and innovation, adoption and scale up of research findings into policy and professional practice, characterised by a sustained and continuing track record of academic excellence. They will be recognised as eminent leaders in their field and possess demonstrable skills and experience in leading research teams across organisational boundaries.</p> <p>Contribute to activities and initiatives to further the national and international reputation of the NIHR designated Applied Health and Care Research Collaboration, through the accountabilities detailed below.</p>	
Key accountabilities/primary responsibilities	20% Time
Provide local, national and international leadership in the delivery of specific areas of focus (to be negotiated) across the NIHR ARC (UHS) portfolio, developing further the international reputation in Applied Health Research.	
Develop strong strategic relationships and alliances with internal and external partners (co-funders), for mutual benefit in the delivery of the ARC Wessex contract and wider research and innovation agenda.	
Lead the delivery of world class research through high quality outputs and impact.	
Working together with the ARC Director be accountable to UHS and UoS as hosts and the ARC Partnership Board for the overall leadership, management and performance of the ARC strategy and objectives.	
Provide effective academic leadership of ARC related research, undertaking management, research and educational activities, and make a significant contribution to the overall success of the UHS/UoS clinical research partnership and Wessex Health Partners	
Working closely with the ARC Chief Operating Officer and ARC Director lead a high-quality application for the new NIHR open competition for infrastructure in applied health and care to designate and fund NIHR Applied Research Collaborations (ARCs) in England.	

Internal and external relationships
<p>Maintenance of strong relationship with University Hospital Southampton NHS Foundation Trust as host for ARC contract.</p> <p>Maintenance of strong relationships across ARC member universities and participating faculties to maintain cohesiveness and encourage cross-university working and collaboration in the ARC.</p> <p>Maintenance of productive relationships with NIHR ARC Wessex member organisations, senior leaders of Wessex Health Partners and Hampshire and Isle of Wight and Dorset Integrated Care Systems.</p> <p>Maintenance of strong relationships with the senior leadership teams of other regional and national based NIHR infrastructure and wider research and innovation ecosystem.</p>

PERSON SPECIFICATION

Criteria	Essential	Desirable	How to be assessed
Qualifications, knowledge and experience	<p>PhD or equivalent professional qualifications and experience in applied health public health /social care research.</p> <p>Detailed knowledge of applied health research.</p> <p>A significant national and international reputation in applied health, public health/social care research.</p> <p>A sustained record of excellence in teaching and learning activities in applied health services research.</p> <p>A sustained record of excellence in research activities as indicated through high impact publications and citations in applied health research.</p>	<p>Membership of national or international advisory bodies learned societies</p> <p>Experience of and engagement with NIHR and Department of Health & Social Care at a national level</p> <p>Involvement in national and international academies of science and organisations in scientific areas of relevance to the ARC portfolio.</p> <p>NIHR Senior Investigator (or equivalent).</p>	
Planning and organising	<p>Proven ability to champion and oversee key contributions to applied health and care research & translation and implementation in health and care settings</p> <p>Proven ability to lead research activities, grants and/or contracts of national and international importance.</p> <p>Proven leadership ability in University, NHS and other settings</p>	<p>Qualification in leadership or attendance at recognised leadership programmes (e.g. those provided by NIHR).</p>	
Problem solving and initiative	<p>Proven ability to implement successful change management initiatives and formulate strategic plans that reflect and support the priority needs of the ARC, NIHR, NHS, University, UHS/UoS clinical research partnership and other stakeholders.</p>		
Management and teamwork	<p>Proven ability to oversee people and resource management processes in order to deliver key research and implementation activities.</p> <p>Proven ability to make a sustained contribution to academic leadership at a senior level</p> <p>Proven ability to demonstrate leadership abilities in multiple settings and to raise performance standards through own work areas.</p> <p>Proven ability to recognise and deal with obstacles and difficulties so that teams can deliver.</p>		

Communicating and influencing	<p>Proven ability to establish and build major relationships with stakeholders.</p> <p>Proven ability to act as the main figurehead for key activities, developing important national contacts.</p> <p>Able to contribute to the development of the ARC and UHS/UoS partnerships profile in the UK.</p> <p>Proven ability to use influence to develop positions or strategies.</p>		
Other skills and behaviours	<p>Compliance with relevant Health & Safety issues</p> <p>Positive attitude to colleagues and the wider applied health, public health/social care researchers.</p>		

JOB HAZARD ANALYSIS

Is this an office-based post?

<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	If this post is an office-based job with routine office hazards (eg: use of VDU), no further information needs to be supplied. Do not complete the section below.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	If this post is not office-based or has some hazards other than routine office (eg: more than use of VDU) please complete the analysis below. Hiring managers are asked to complete this section as accurately as possible to ensure the safety of the post-holder.

- HR will send a full PEHQ to all applicants for this position. Please note, if full health clearance is required for a role, this will apply to all individuals, including existing members of staff.

ENVIRONMENTAL EXPOSURES	Occasionally (<30% of time)	Frequently (30-60% of time)	Constantly (> 60% of time)
Outside work			
Extremes of temperature (eg: fridge/ furnace)			
## Potential for exposure to body fluids			
## Noise (greater than 80 dba - 8 hrs twa)			
## Exposure to hazardous substances (eg: solvents, liquids, dust, fumes, biohazards). Specify below:			
Frequent hand washing			
Ionising radiation			
EQUIPMENT/TOOLS/MACHINES USED			
## Food handling			
## Driving university vehicles(eg: car/van/LGV/PCV)			
## Use of latex gloves (prohibited unless specific clinical necessity)			
## Vibrating tools (eg: strimmers, hammer drill, lawnmowers)			
PHYSICAL ABILITIES			
Load manual handling			
Repetitive crouching/kneeling/stooping			
Repetitive pulling/pushing			
Repetitive lifting			
Standing for prolonged periods			
Repetitive climbing (ie: steps, stools, ladders, stairs)			
Fine motor grips (eg: pipetting)			
Gross motor grips			
Repetitive reaching below shoulder height			
Repetitive reaching at shoulder height			
Repetitive reaching above shoulder height			
PSYCHOSOCIAL ISSUES			
Face to face contact with public	X		
Lone working	X		
## Shift work/night work/on call duties			