

Camden Council Policy Placement

Role description

UCL is pleased to be working with Camden Council to offer this opportunity to experience working within local government in the home borough of UCL.

Camden Council are looking for an enthusiastic and engaged researcher to support the Strategy and Change function. The policy fellow will work on a range of short-term projects in the strategic priority areas of reducing social isolation, improving health outcomes, increasing community participation and the pilot of our new neighbourhood approach to the delivery of health and care services. In addition, they will be required to support Strategy and Change in overseeing five [Community Challenges](#) which have been identified as areas where we can test out collaborative ways of working and use data and technology to get under the skin of these issues. The Policy Fellow will work with officers in Strategy and Change to ensure these cross-organisational challenges are progressing and are being monitored effectively, ensuring the Leader is kept up to date with developments. This may involve contributing to and attending relevant workshops, writing update reports for senior leaders and managing relationships with external stakeholders who can help Camden tackle these challenges.

These projects will enable the Council to deliver the strategic priorities laid out in the recently published Camden 2025 vision. Camden 2025 sets out a clear idea for the borough's future, where the council, residents, and partners in Camden contribute to achieving a safe, fair, creative and active community.

The focus of this role is purposefully flexible to ensure the secondee can contribute to live priorities through projects that may include contributing to the delivery of a pilot project with residents to support them in improving their health outcomes or working to develop innovative approaches to increase resident participation across the borough.

About you

A Policy Fellow would need to be able to analyse quantitative and qualitative data and present complex information in a clear and accessible manner to a range of audiences. Although not essential, it would be advantageous for the Policy Fellow to have research skills in community engagement and consultation techniques. They should be comfortable working in different environments and with different teams across the Council and be confident engaging with senior leaders. The Policy Fellow will also need excellent written and verbal communication skills and be able to adapt quickly to changing priorities.

About us

Camden has a proud, rebellious spirit that throughout its history has seen communities come together to tackle problems, and to bring about real social change. Our new vision for the borough Camden 2025 seeks to harness this energy and enable social action to achieve a safe, fair, creative and active community. The Policy Fellow would sit within the Council's Strategy and Change service and support the team to drive the priorities of Camden 2025 across the organisation and the borough more widely.

In addition to this work, the Council is also currently engaged in delivering the next Mid-Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) savings programme with a current forecast of a budget deficit of £23m in 2019/20, rising to £40m by 2021/22. This will be a key focus for the organisation and Strategy and Change in particular moving forward.

Funding

UCL has funding available through the HEIF Knowledge Exchange Fund to support research staff and students who would be interested in undertaking a placement. Funding to cover the candidates salary (with on costs but excluding departmental overheads) is available up to a threshold of £15,000 and subject to eligibility and certain conditions. Funding is not available for expenses associated with delivery of the project placement which will be met by the government host department. Placement funding is not confirmed in advance and must be applied for through a competitive process once the candidate for the placement has been chosen. For more information on placement funding please contact Katherine Welch.

Location

The placement will be hosted at the Camden Council offices at St Pancras Square.

Duration

The placement is for 3 months with a possible extension to 6 months, starting as soon as possible. Camden Council are happy to discuss full time or part time working arrangements.

Eligibility

Policy placements are open to registered UCL staff and PhD students in the CRS portion of their programme. Candidates must be in a position to return to UCL for a period of six months following the placement to be eligible to apply. To discuss your eligibility to apply please contact Katherine Welch

To apply

Please email Katherine Welch with a cover letter explaining your suitability for the placement (max 1 page) and short CV.