



## **Hywel Dda Reader/Chair of Rural Health and Community Wellbeing**

### **Competitive Salary**

Aberystwyth University, the University of Wales Trinity Saint David and Hywel Dda Health Board have come together to create a unique exciting new opportunity in the field of rural health, the first Hywel Dda Reader/Chair of Rural Health and Community Wellbeing. The Chair will be a senior academic with a strong international reputation for research in rural wellbeing or health economics who wants to exert influence over policy development in a strategic way.

S/he will be responsible for leading research and policy development for Aberystwyth University, University of Wales Trinity Saint David and Hywel Dda Health Board in relation to the following key areas:

- Community cohesion and engagement
- Role of health and wellbeing in rural regeneration
- Improved access to services in a rural area;
- Service integration and workforce development models;

The Chair of Rural Health and Community Wellbeing will work closely with Hywel Dda Health Board and be expected to provide strong leadership, conduct research, review research evidence to advise the Hywel Dda Health Board on policy matters, obtaining research grants and funding and creating a self-sustaining research infrastructure.

Candidates should possess a doctorate in a social science, behavioural science or related discipline and relevant professional qualification. With an international reputation at the forefront of research in their field, the Chair will be expected to make a significant contribution to the Research Excellence Framework (REF). Candidates should be able to show that they have made a demonstrable contribution to major health and social care policy and practice and/or policy changes through the application of research and have been successful in obtaining external research funding.

For an informal discussion in relation to the post please contact any of the below:

- Professor Martin Jones, Pro Vice-Chancellor, Aberystwyth University on 01970622010
- Dr Jane Davidson, Director for Sustainable Practice, Innovation and Resource Effectiveness, University of Wales Trinity Saint David, 01267676765
- Sarah Veck, Director of Strategic Partnerships, HywelDda Health Board - 01267239637

**Ref: HY.12.01**

**Closing Date: 18 December 2012**

## **FURTHER PARTICULARS:**

The Post holder (Chair) will be a senior academic with a track record of published, peer reviewed research in the field of rural wellbeing and/or health economics. They will have demonstrable experience of post - doctoral activities and will be responsible for leading research and policy development for the partner universities and Hywel Dda Health Board in relation to four key areas:

- Community cohesion and engagement
- Role of health and wellbeing in rural regeneration.
- Improved access to services in a rural area;
- Service integration and workforce development/models;

The post holder will be employed jointly by Aberystwyth University and University of Wales Trinity Saint David. In Aberystwyth, the post will be located within the Institute of Human Sciences (Psychology and Sport and Exercise Science), . The Institute of Human Sciences has research expertise in physical activity in ageing, chronic conditions management and mixed methods research, and has well established collaborations with health care providers and other HEI throughout the UK. . In The University of Wales Trinity Saint David, the post will be located in Lampeter with full access to all other departments and campuses. The post holder will also work in close partnership, through protocol arrangements, with Hywel Dda Health Board. Success in the four key areas will be achieved through strong leadership and by conducting research, reviewing research evidence to advise the Hywel Dda Health Board in policy matters and by winning research grants and funding, to create a self-sustaining, supporting research infrastructure for the post.

## **SPECIFIC DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

### RESEARCH

- Conduct personal, original research in their field of expertise and make a significant contribution to REF submissions;
- Commission original research around the four key areas;
- Conduct and lead reviews of research evidence and translate these into policy and service advice to the Hywel Dda Health Board.

The areas of research should include some of the following and would involve developing research, benchmarking, identifying or creating tools (including evaluation tools) and models and developing policy and advice relating to:

#### 1. Community cohesion and engagement

- Models of self-care and community development to support health outcomes;
- Evaluation tools to demonstrate third sector impact on health/individual outcomes;
- The wider role of the HywelDdaHealth Board in supporting communities.

#### 2. Role of health and wellbeing in rural regeneration

- Self-care and promoting health independence;
- Community resilience and the development of a healthy rural community;
- Social marketing and social benefit;
- Private and third sector involvement in planning and delivery of services;

#### 3. Improved access to services in a rural area

- Community care closer to home and the virtual ward;
- Development of expert patients;
- Development of integrated transport systems;

- Co-location of services across sectors (maximizing benefits and minimising costs);
- Telehealth and telemedicine and improving communications technology for contact with patients and staff;
- Models of diagnostics and screening closer to the point of care delivery and maximizing their benefits;
- Ensuring cost effectiveness and delivering all aspects of care as close to home as possible.

#### 4. Service integration and workforce development

From the above consider:-

- Cross sector roles for both support workers and registered staff;
- Key skill sets and roles;
- Integration of roles across professions;
- Integrating mental and physical health teams;
- Education and training models, liaising closely with Welsh Deanery, higher and further education leads in all sectors;
- The integration of training issues into the Rural Well-Being Forum.

#### POLICY DEVELOPMENT

**In relation to the four key areas outlined above, the postholder will be required to use their research to contribute towards policy development in the following ways::**

- **Develop and manage a Rural Well-Being Forum of academics, researchers and key agencies**
- **Review government policy in relation to any impact on Welsh Health Services and Hywel Dda Health Board and local rural wellbeing issues;**
- **Review the impact of Welsh Government strategy, policy and guidance and develop advice and local policy for a rural environment;**
- **Provide strategic leadership for this agenda;**

#### COMMUNICATION

- **Publish research publications in peer reviewed journals;**
- **Report progress directly to the CEO, Hywel Dda Health Board, through agreed, regular updates;**
- **Develop and consolidate the Hywel Dda Health Board and its partner universities' international links;**

#### MANAGEMENT OF RESOURCES

##### 1. Finance

- **Identify and attract sufficient external grant and research funding to put the Rural Well-Being Forum on an independent, self- sustaining footing;**
- **Manage such research funding and carry delegated responsibility for its disposition;**

##### 2. Personal and People Development and People Management

- **Contribute to and lead research projects including the supervision of research projects in the four areas specified in the main purpose of the job. Supervision of postgraduate students;**
- **Supervise staff including Performance Development Reviews as appropriate**

##### 3. Information Processing

- **Produce international research in peer reviewed journals;**
- **Provide research led policy advice for the Hywel Dda Health Board and universities.**

#### 4. General

- Annual meetings and reviews will be conducted jointly with managers at Aberystwyth University and the University of Wales Trinity Saint David and the CEO or representative of Hywel Dda Health Board;

### **PERSON SPECIFICATION FOR HYWEL DDA CHAIR OF RURAL HEALTH AND COMMUNITY WELLBEING**

#### **Qualifications**

- Higher degree level in social science, economics, behavioural science or related discipline;
- Relevant professional qualification.

#### **Experience/Knowledge**

- Experience of post doctoral research activity with an international reputation that is at the forefront of research and which will make a significant contribution to the Research Excellence Framework (REF);
- Demonstrable contribution to major practice or policy changes through the application of research;
- Demonstrable experience of implementing health and social care policy and practice;
- Experience of effective strategic leadership which led to significant change;
- Experience of working in a change management environment which led to significant and successful change;
- Effective research resource management and planning;
- Success in attracting and obtaining external research funding;
- Successful record of research degree supervision;
- Experience of reporting at Board and Governmental level on major policy initiatives;
- Management of budgets.

#### **Skills**

- Skilled in the critical analysis of health and social care policy;
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills;
- Evidence of leading and managing teams of academic and research staff to achieve desired outcomes;
- Highly developed personal and professional self- awareness;

- Evidence of successful collaborative working with a range of partners that led to successful outcomes and achievements;
- Experience of developing an effective research infrastructure.

### **Special Requirements**

- All staff who are members of a regulatory body must comply with standards of professional practice/conduct. It is the postholder's responsibility to ensure they are both familiar with and adhere to these requirements;
- Ability to travel locally, nationally and internationally;
- Ability to work flexibility across multiple sites.

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For information and application forms please go to [www.aber.ac.uk/en/hr/jobs/vacancies-external/](http://www.aber.ac.uk/en/hr/jobs/vacancies-external/)

Completed Applications Forms should be signed and returned to the **Human Resources Recruitment Team** by e-mail, fax or post. Email address: [vacancies@aber.ac.uk](mailto:vacancies@aber.ac.uk) / Tel: 01970 628555 / Fax: 01970 622975

NOTE: Please put the post reference on the front of your envelope and on your application form.

We are a Bilingual Institution which operates a Welsh Language scheme and is committed to Equal Opportunities.

APPOINTMENTS ARE NORMALLY MADE WITHIN 4-8 WEEKS OF THE CLOSING DATE. IF WE HAVE NOT BEEN IN TOUCH WITHIN THIS TIMESCALE YOU MAY ASSUME THAT YOUR APPLICATION IS NOT BEING FURTHER CONSIDERED AND NO OTHER COMMUNICATION WILL BE SENT.