**Job Title: Economist**

**Requisition ID: 47343**

**Job Family: Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning Team**

**Location: TWICKENHAM – W London**

**Status: Active
Salary: £58,500 to £68,500**

[Economist (47343) (sabacloud.com)](https://lgcgroup-jobs.sabacloud.com/Saba/Web_spf/EU2PRD0129/jobs-careers/career/jobdetail/jobrq000000000046383)

 **Job Description:**

 *About NIHR*

The National Institute for Health and Social Care Research (NIHR), part hosted by LGC's Grant Management Group (www.lgcgroup.com), manages a number of research programmes on behalf of the Department of Health and Social Care. LGC awards more than £550 million of health and social care research funding per year. NIHR’s mission is to improve the health and wealth of the nation through research.

*NIHR and Impact*

NIHR is committed to maximising the impact of research, with ‘*Impact*’ being one of five NIHR operating principles in NIHR’s ‘[Best Research for Best Health: The Next Chapter](https://www.nihr.ac.uk/documents/best-research-for-best-health-the-next-chapter/27778)’ strategic document. NIHR’s Impact vision includes developing a cross-NIHR Outcomes Framework (NOF) that is well-evidenced and other strategic evaluation activity that together are used by senior leaders to drive decision making and to assess progress against our collective objectives. Some of these objectives are specifically related to economics.

**Role Overview**

This is a fantastic opportunity to join the Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning Team, reporting to the Head of this team. You will help drive the delivery of strategic ambitions with respect to evidencing and communicating the impact of our investment in health and social care research. You will be the first economist in this team, so will have the opportunity to use your expertise to innovate with new methodologies. You will help make NIHR a sector leader at using economics to inform research funding.

You will be pivotal in helping the NIHR to generate economic evidence. You will undertake or commission economic evaluations of NIHR’s portfolio, quantifying impact and value for money. You will engage with internal and external stakeholders to communicate insights from

economic evidence. You will be an expert within the organisation, helping to set the agenda for effective use of economic theories and models to inform multi-million pound funding decisions. This role would suit someone who has a good understanding of the use of economics to inform decision making. The ideal candidate would have experience in health and research funding or a strong track record in economics more broadly and an eagerness to learn about this sector.

The role is a hybrid role based partly in an LGC office (office location Twickenham or central London depending on the candidate’s preference).

**Job Purpose**

You will apply your knowledge and experience of economic theories and models to develop systematic approaches to assess impact and value for money that can be used on different areas of NIHR spend. You will support delivery of economic indicators from the NIHR Outcomes Framework (NOF). You will also commission strategic economic evaluations.

This role will involve networking with other economists and related professionals in HMT, DHSC, academia, and other research funders. This networking will allow you to build on best practice to answer challenging questions about the costs, benefits and impact of research. Other key aspects include working with the analytics colleagues to utilise digital tools and data platforms for developing data to answer questions about economic impact and value for money.

You will need to have excellent interpersonal skills to establish effective relationships with NIHR colleagues and key internal and external stakeholders across the NIHR research ecosystem. With stakeholders you will proactively identify and summarise evidence of NIHR’s economic impact to support the Comprehensive Spending Review exercise and other ad-hoc requests.

**Key Responsibilities**

* Commission or carry out economic evaluations of NIHR’s research funding, using methods like cost benefit analysis
* Provide on-going guidance and advice to NIHR staff on how to use economics to evaluate research effectively
* Develop analysis and identify datasets to evidence the economic indicators within the NOF
* Lead on operationalising the economic indicators within the NOF into business as usual activity and provide proactive insights for senior management
* Create evidence products based on academic literature about the costs and benefits of different research activity, outputs and outcomes
* Advise on using economics to evaluate the potential value of new medical and digital technologies for the NHS. For instance, supporting the design of evaluation plans or advising on the use of economics as part of the NICE Meta Tool
* Work with others to support NIHR’s Comprehensive Spending Review process
* Where data is not available in a form that is useful for economic evaluations, work with teams to propose changes to data collection
* Engage and collaborate regularly with a diverse range of internal and external stakeholders, including organising and leading meetings, representing the NIHR perspective, and supporting funding initiatives at external meetings

**Required Criteria**

* Degree in Economics, a closely-related discipline (e.g. Economics combined with another discipline, Business Economics, or Accounting and Finance) or equivalent experience
* Experience commissioning or undertaking economic evaluation (cost benefit analysis and related methodologies) for the UK Government, in particular experience applying HM Treasury’s Greenbook
* Excellent analytical skills with demonstrable experience in economic modelling (statistical or modelling for economic evaluation) using Microsoft Excel, R or Python
* Demonstrated experience of applying economics creatively to new areas and a willingness to learn sub-disciplines of economics
* Excellent networking and relationship building skills - ability to develop and maintain effective working relationships with NIHR staff and external stakeholders
* Excellent written and oral communication skills, evidenced by high-level reporting and presentation abilities
* Excellent organisational skills, including effective prioritisation and the ability to achieve targets to deadlines
* Highly motivated self-starter – ability to work independently and effectively in a team environment, collaborate both internally and externally and provide guidance to managers and staff
* Excellent attention to detail

 **Desirable Criteria**

* Postgraduate degree in economics or health economics
* Experience of working on economic evaluations in health and (or) social care
* Experience analysing the labour market, in particular factors affecting labour productivity
* Demonstrable knowledge of research impact and an understanding of the routes to achieving it
* Experience analysing research funding
* Understanding of the role of government research funding within the broader context of industrial policy

**Salary and Benefits**

* Up to £68,500 PA
* Yearly bonus
* Group Pension Plan
* Private Health Care
* Hybrid working, 6 days a month in office

Interested in confidentially learning more about this exciting new position with the UK's largest and most prestigious funder of research, please contact me or submit a cover letter and CV carl.sanassy@nihr.ac.uk