



## JOB DESCRIPTION

<b>Job Title:</b>	Postdoctoral Research Fellow
<b>Department /Unit:</b>	Department of Law and Criminology, School of Law and Social Sciences
<b>Job Type:</b>	Full Time, Fixed Term (17 months)
<b>Grade:</b>	7
<b>Accountable to:</b>	Professor of Criminological Psychology
<b>Accountable for:</b>	

### Job Purpose

For more than two decades, HM Inspectorate of Prisons for England and Wales (HMI Prisons) has conducted detailed, confidential surveys of prisoners and other detainees as an integral part of its inspections. This has generated a unique database of historic survey data from at least 100,000 respondents, with more than 10 million analysable responses. These have been collected from prisons, young offender institutions, secure training centres, immigration detention facilities and military detention establishments. Surveys cover a wide range of topics - from views on the quality and quantity of food to concerns about safety – and provide an invaluable insight into the experiences and perceptions of treatment and conditions for prisoners and detainees since 2000.

HMI Prisons has always published findings, with its reports, drawn from its analysis of survey material, but has not made the full raw data more widely available for further research purposes. Now, however, with the support of HMI Prisons, a research team from the Department of Law and Criminology at Royal Holloway University of London has been awarded a grant from the ESRC's Secondary Data Analysis Initiative to study this raw data for the first time and to prepare data for the use of other academic researchers. The multi-disciplinary research team is led by Professor Rosie Meek from the Department of Law and Criminology and includes Professor Nick Hardwick (a former Chief Inspector of Prisons), Dr Melissa Henderson (Law and Criminology), Professor Arnaud Chevalier from the Department of Economics, and Professor Kathy Rastle from the Department of Psychology. Postdoctoral researchers Dr Anthony Quinn and Dr Janet Bowstead will also contribute to the project and will be joined by the successful candidate.

This project follows our initial work in this area which is partly summarised in the following recent publications:

- Quinn, A, Denney, D, Hardwick, N, Jalil, R & Meek, R (2020). 'The feasibility and challenge of using administrative data: a case study of historical prisoner surveys', *International Journal of Social Research Methodology*, pp. 1-

8. <https://doi.org/10.1080/13645579.2020.1853877>

- Quinn, A, Shaw, C, Hardwick, N, Meek, R, Moore, C, Ranns, H & Sahni, S (2020). 'Prisoner interpretations and expectations for the ethical governance of HMIP survey data', *Criminal Justice Ethics*, vol. 39, no. 3, pp. 163-182. <https://doi.org/10.1080/0731129X.2020.1859298>
- Quinn, A, Hardwick, N & Meek, R (2021). 'With Age Comes Respect? And for Whom Exactly? A Quantitative Examination of White and BAME Prisoner Experiences of Respect Elicited through HM Inspectorate of Prisons Survey Responses', *The Howard Journal of Crime & Justice*. <https://doi.org/10.1111/hojo.12413>

#### **Key responsibilities and outcomes:**

1. Responsibility for day-to-day delivery of the research grant, including - but not limited to – all stages of data administration (including the creation of metadata), analysis, write-up and reporting, as well as preparing data and accompanying guides for submission to data archives.
2. Responsibility for exploring ethical issues (in particular concerning consent, identification of respondents and prisons), ensuring compliance with GDPR and seeking necessary ethical approvals where required.
3. Engaging with research partners, stakeholders and academic and non-academic networks where appropriate.
4. Managing own workload and liaising with the project team and advisory board.
5. Present ongoing work at regular team meetings and prepare the agenda/minutes for each team meeting.
6. Contribute to the preparation and authorship of publications and other outputs.
7. Lead preparations for regular external events and dissemination activities.

#### **Other duties:**

- To observe and comply with all College and HMIP policies and regulations.
- To contribute to public dissemination of the research and project outcomes, including through the college web site and social media outlets.
- Any other duties as required by the line manager that are commensurate with the grade.