

Lecturer in Sociology x2

SCHOOL OF SOCIAL SCIENCE

Closing date: 4 October 2021

Interview date: TBC

Reference number: SOC065A



Version: Jul21

INTRODUCTION

The University of Aberdeen is seeking applications for **two** full-time (1.0 fte) lecturers in the Department of Sociology. A 'lecturer' post in the Scottish University system is comparable to a tenure track Assistant Professor post in the North American system.

The Department of Sociology is one of the UK's leading Departments and is currently ranked 10th in the UK by the Guardian University Guide and 16th by the Complete University Guide. It provides a lively and collegiate atmosphere, with a strong emphasis on research led teaching. The University of Aberdeen – one of the UK's six ancient universities – is consistently ranked in the top 200 globally and is currently ranked in the top 180 in the Times Higher Education World University Rankings (2021). Both the Department and the University provide excellent support for scholarship and research activity. Research active staff enjoy a protected 40/40/20 (teaching, research, administration) split, and we have an established mentorship programme for new staff members and support for early career researchers.

These posts will start as soon as January 2022. The successful candidates will hold a PhD in Sociology or a closely related discipline, have experience of teaching in higher education and have the capacity to contribute to courses at both undergraduate and postgraduate level. It is expected that the candidates will exhibit the capacity for major contributions to scholarship, to the development and teaching of research methods or sociological theory and exhibit a strong potential to acquire future grant income.

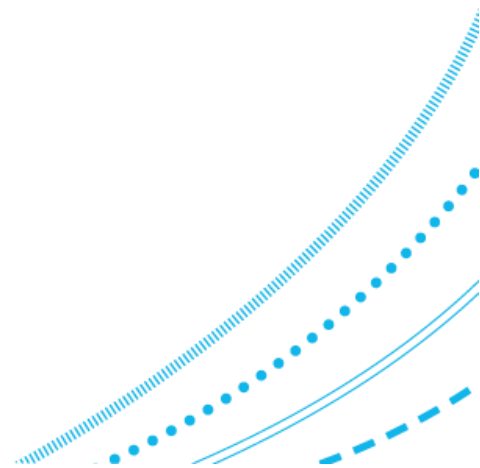
Finally, it is important to emphasise that this is an **open call**. While areas of particular interest for the posts include race, gender, social movements, social media, inequality, climate change, and sustainability, we are hoping above all to identify candidates who can work closely with the existing staff to develop our department, conduct impact-oriented and collaborative research, and expand our postgraduate programmes for an increasingly diverse and international student population.

JOB DESCRIPTION

MAIN PURPOSE OF THE ROLE:

The successful applicant will be required:

- To undertake independent and collaborative research, including impact-oriented research
- To publish works of sociology in leading academic journals and with leading publishers
- To acquire, whether independently or collaboratively, research funds
- To undertake teaching in Sociology at undergraduate and postgraduate levels
- To supervise undergraduate and postgraduate taught dissertations
- To contribute to the academic administration of the School of Social Science
- To contribute to regularly occurring events which are important to the successful running of the School



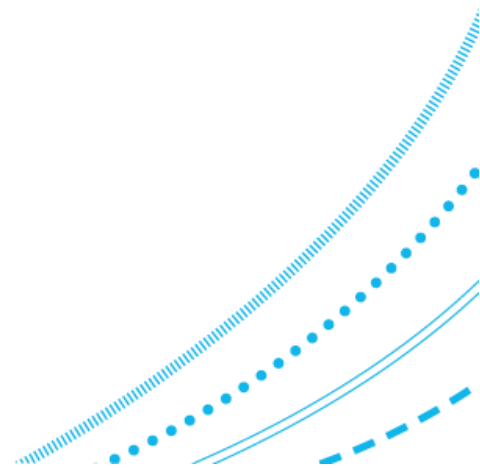
KEY RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Deliver lectures, tutorials and seminars to undergraduate and postgraduate students
- Coordinate, teach and assess Sociology core courses
- Develop novel lectures and courses where appropriate and necessary
- Individually supervise undergraduate and postgraduate research and engagement activities
- Mentor students (in the capacity of personal tutor) and teaching assistants
- Conduct independent, collaborative and impactful research, including grant acquisition and publication
- Establish and maintain links with other Departments and Schools
- Engage with the community, industry, and third sector in teaching and impact-oriented research
- Develop inclusive pedagogical and innovative assessment methods
- Participate in the administrative tasks of the Department and School as necessary
- Participate in the development and delivery of the School's strategic objectives
- Maintain and expand knowledge and experience through continuous professional development

CANDIDATE BACKGROUND

The successful candidate should hold a PhD in Sociology or a closely related discipline. They will exhibit the capacity for major contributions to scholarship, to the development and teaching of research methods or sociological theory and have the potential to acquire future grant income.

They will have experience of teaching in higher education and have the capacity to contribute to courses at both undergraduate and postgraduate level. They should have experience of undertaking tutorials and lecturing at various levels of undergraduate and postgraduate study. They should be self-motivated, flexible and have an ability to engage the interest and enthusiasm of students, inspiring them to learn. There should be a clear demonstration of an academic career trajectory and a willingness to make a full contribution to the School's activities.



TERMS OF APPOINTMENT

Salary will be at the appropriate point on the Grade 7, £42,149 - £50,296 per annum and negotiable with placement according to qualifications and experience.

Any appointment will be made subject to satisfactory references and probation period

For further information on various staff benefits and policies please visit www.abdn.ac.uk/staffnet/working-here

This role is based in the UK and as such the successful candidate will be required to live and work in the UK.

The candidate appointed to this post may be eligible for homeworking on an occasional or regular basis. For more information please refer to our [Homeworking Policy](#).

Should you require a visa to undertake employment in the UK you will be required to fulfil the minimum points criteria to be granted a Certificate of Sponsorship under the requirements of the Skilled Worker visa. At the time an offer of appointment is made, you will be asked to demonstrate that you fulfil the criteria in respect of qualification and competency in English. For research and academic posts, we will consider eligibility under the Global Talent visa. Please do not hesitate to contact Heather Clark, HR Adviser (e-mail: h.m.clark@abdn.ac.uk) for further information.

AT A GLANCE

SALARY:

Grade 7

£42,149- £50,296 per annum

HOURS OF WORK:

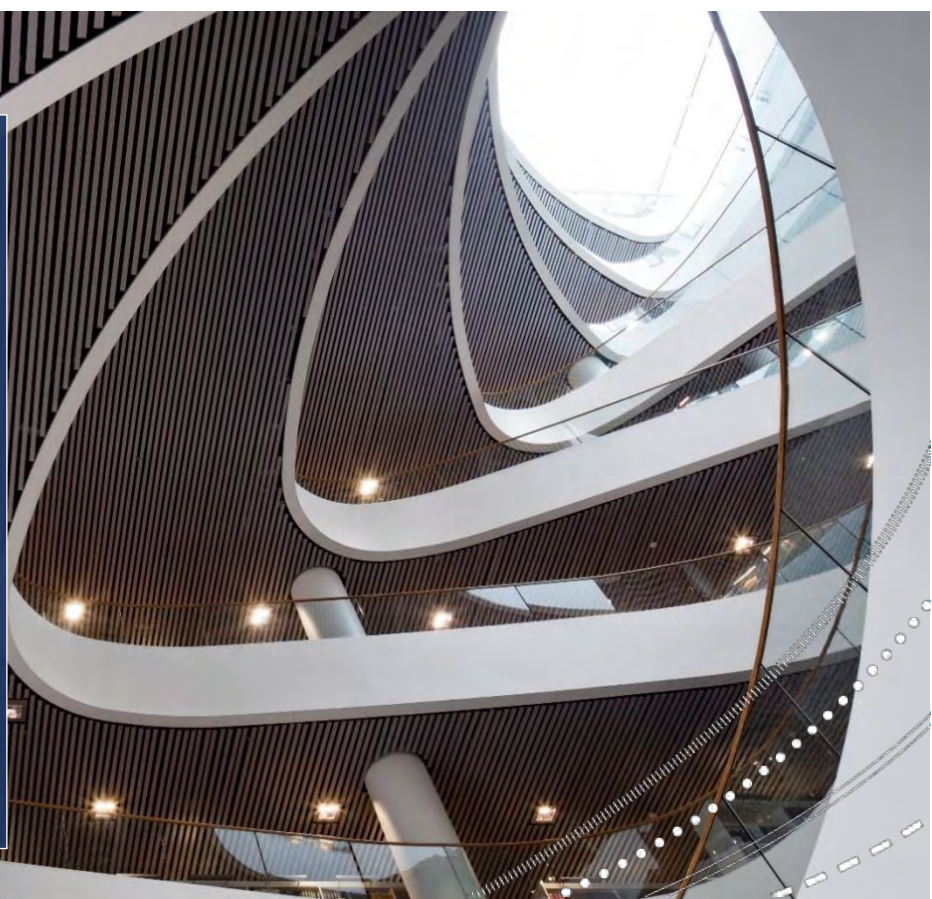
Full Time

CONTRACT TYPE:

Substantive

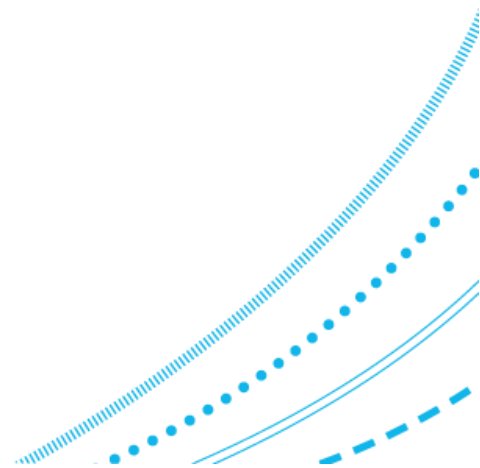
LOCATION:

Aberdeen



PERSON SPECIFICATION

	ESSENTIAL	DESIRABLE
Education/Qualifications Academic, technical and professional education and training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>PhD degree in Sociology or closely related discipline</i> • <i>Experience of undertaking lectures and tutorials at various levels of undergraduate and postgraduate study</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Associate Fellowship of the HEA or equivalent, or plans to gain in near future</i> • <i>Experience of blended and/or online teaching, organisation and delivery</i>
Work and Other relevant experience (including training) e.g. Specialist knowledge, levels of experience, supervisory experience, research	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Capacity for scholarly contributions to leading international sociology journals</i> • <i>Potential for future grant acquisition</i> • <i>Commitment to high quality teaching and learning</i> • <i>Excellent organisation and communication skills, empathy, self-motivation and ability to work both as part of a team and individually</i> • <i>Knowledge of Sociology</i> • <i>Excellent IT skills</i> • <i>Ability to act as mentor to teaching assistants</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Research into race, gender, social movements, social media, inequality, climate change, or sustainability</i> • <i>Potential for impact-oriented research</i> • <i>Experience of undergraduate and postgraduate supervision</i> • <i>Experience of software packages and IT systems for teaching, learning and assessment (e.g. Blackboard)</i>
Personal qualities and abilities e.g. initiative, leadership, ability to work on own or with others, communication skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Fluency in both spoken and written English</i> • <i>Ability to teach in close collaboration with colleagues</i> • <i>Excellent oral and written communication skills</i> • <i>A proven track record of ability to manage time and to work to strict deadlines</i> • <i>Commitment to participate in relevant evening and weekend events, such as Open Days or Widening Participation courses</i> 	
Other e.g. special circumstances (if any) appropriate to the role such as unsocial hours, travelling, Gaelic language requirements etc.		



UNIVERSITY OF ABERDEEN

open to all and dedicated to the pursuit of truth in the service of others

The University of Aberdeen is a broad based, research intensive University, and we put students at the centre of everything we do. Outstanding in a wide range of discipline areas, Aberdeen is credited for its international reach and commercialisation of research ideas into spin out companies. The University has over 16,000 matriculated students and 3,600 staff representing 130 nationalities. We encourage bold thinking, creativity and innovation, and we nurture ambition with many opportunities for professional and personal development in an inclusive learning environment which challenges and inspires.



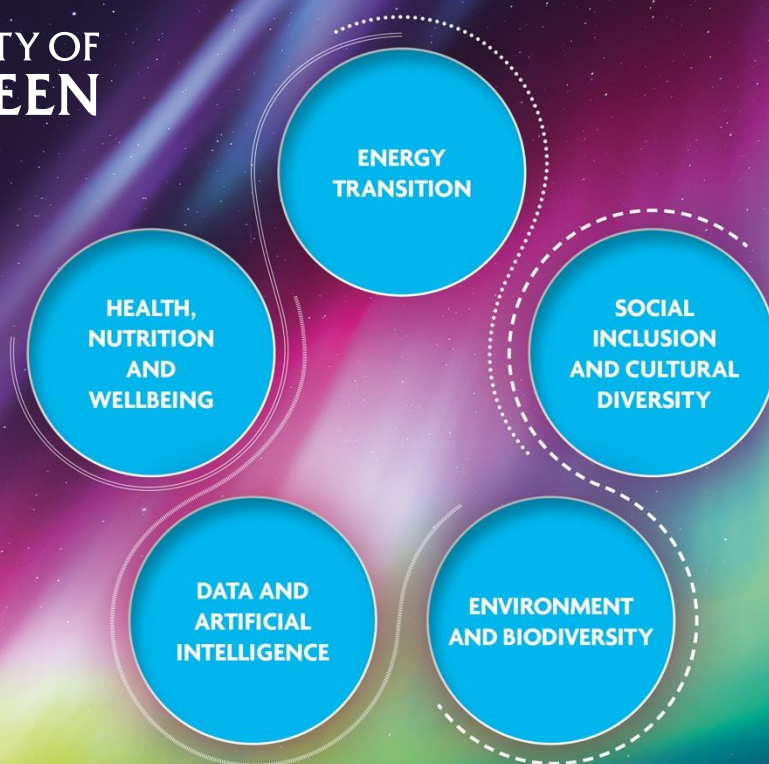
CURRENT CONTEXT

The University continues to build on its achievements. Underpinning our high performance and significant growth is a £100m investment in Aberdeen's estate which will include the completion of a new Science Teaching Hub, the regeneration of the historic King's Quarter and a new Business School building. The University has also invested in 50 new academic posts and in 2020 launched five interdisciplinary, cross-institution Research Centres that will catalyse world-leading research in our areas of strength. Our five Interdisciplinary Challenges are: Energy Transition; Social Inclusion and Cultural Diversity; Environment and Biodiversity; Data and Artificial Intelligence; and Health, Nutrition and Wellbeing.

ABERDEEN 2040

On our 525th anniversary as a University we launched [Aberdeen 2040](#), our strategic vision for the next 20 years. Four strategic themes will shape our learning and discovery, underlined by 20 commitments we have made against each theme:

- **Inclusive**
We welcome students, staff and partners from all backgrounds, organisations and communities. We value diversity.
- **Interdisciplinary**
We innovate in education and research by generating, sharing and applying new kinds of knowledge. We learn together.
- **International**
We connect with others and extend our networks and partnerships around the world. We think across borders.
- **Sustainable**
We understand and nurture our environment, and take care of our resources, including our people and finances. We work responsibly.



OUR EDUCATION

Recognised as the Scottish University of the Year in the Times and Sunday Times Good University Guide 2019, we remain true to our roots as an ancient Scottish university, combining breadth and depth in our degree programmes and drawing strength from the quality of our research. Our flexible curriculum encourages students to grow as independent learners and therefore to thrive as graduates in the diverse workplaces of the future. Our education is open to all and we are setting ambitious targets to further widen access.

OUR RESEARCH

Researchers at the University of Aberdeen have been at the forefront of innovation and excellence throughout the centuries, generating insights in medicine, science, engineering, law, social sciences, arts and humanities. This research has contributed to five Nobel prizes as well as other awards such as the Queen's Anniversary prize. Our research is intellectually rigorous working within our established areas of excellence as well as new methods of enquiry. We will continue to generate new knowledge addressing economic and societal issues with ambition and imagination, ensuring that it is globally excellent and locally relevant.

INTERNATIONAL

Aberdeen is increasing its international presence, positioning the University as a global organisation and building on established global partnerships in e.g. Qatar, China, North America, Europe. We feature in the top 50 institutions worldwide for international students¹ and have been named 32nd in the world for International Outlook². The University of Aberdeen is proud to be the first UK University to operate on a dedicated campus in Qatar. Phase 1 of this partnership with AFG College has successfully recruited over 600 students. Phase 2 will see the creation of a substantially larger campus, with capacity for at least 5,000 students and research activity. For further information on our Qatar campus visit www.abdn.ac.uk/qatar.

IMPACT

Our dedication to building a sustainable future is reflected in the Times Higher Education Impact Rankings 2021 where we were ranked in the top 60 Universities worldwide for positive impact on society.

In 2020 the University signed the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals accord, solidifying our commitment to developing the world in a sustainable way. In 2021 we were listed in the global Top 50 for 6 of these goals and in the UK Top 20 for all 17³.

¹ Times Higher Education World University Rankings 2021

² QS World University Rankings 2021

³ Times Higher Education Impact Rankings 2021



ABERDEEN AND ABERDEENSHIRE

Scotland's third largest city, Aberdeen sits on the coast between the mountains of Aberdeenshire and the stunning North Sea coastline. The Aberdeen City region is a can-do place that is actively investing, at scale, in its future.

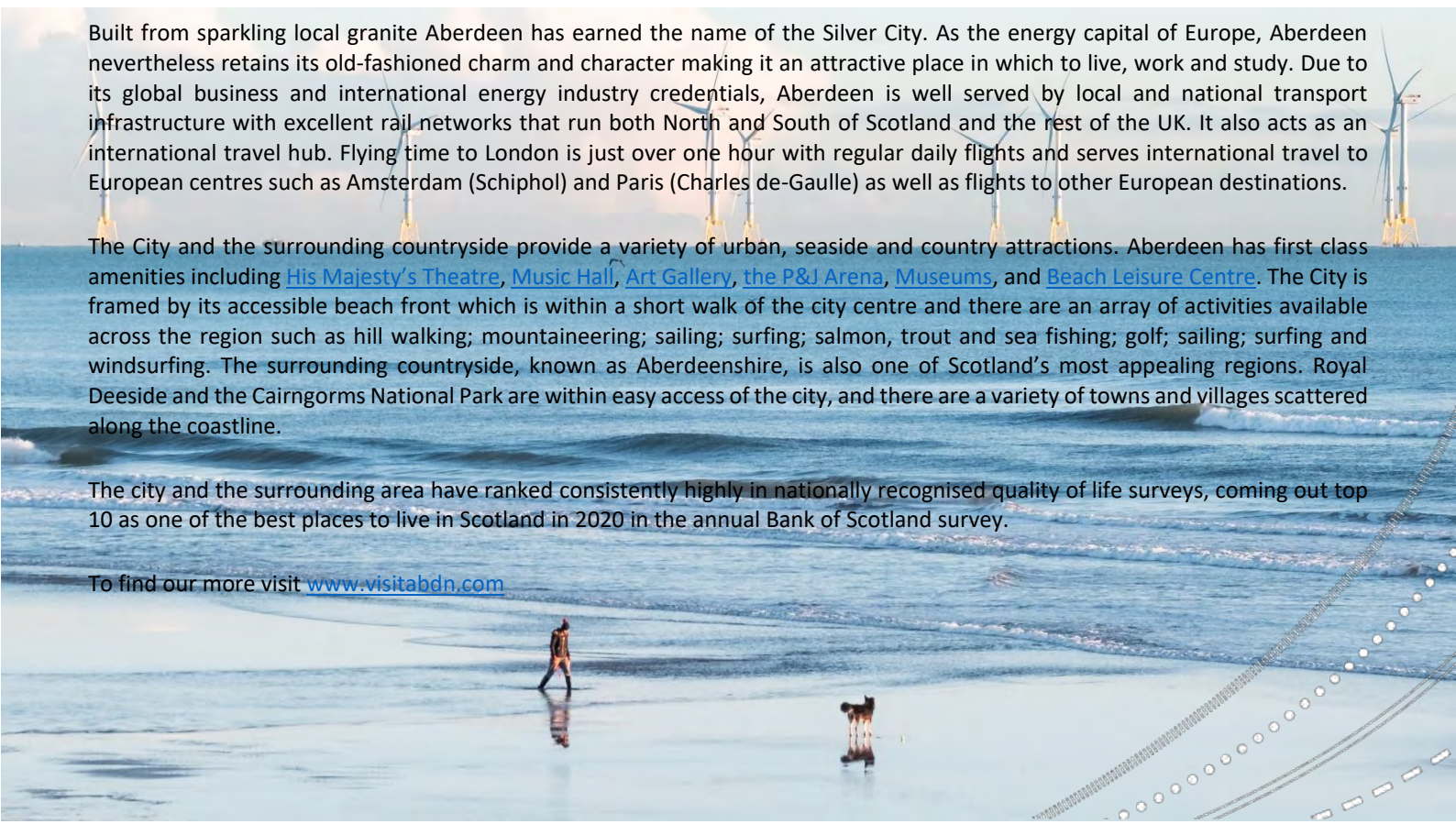
Renowned as a Global Energy Hub, Aberdeen is a vibrant, entrepreneurial region, home to a unique mix of business opportunities and specialist skills across various sectors including energy, technology, life sciences and food & drink. More than 20% of Scotland's top businesses are located in this region which is taking great strides to ensure that it continues to compete on a world stage. Investments of more than £10 billion of public and private infrastructure is due to be delivered before 2030, marking an exciting time to be part of a genuine world-class location.

Built from sparkling local granite Aberdeen has earned the name of the Silver City. As the energy capital of Europe, Aberdeen nevertheless retains its old-fashioned charm and character making it an attractive place in which to live, work and study. Due to its global business and international energy industry credentials, Aberdeen is well served by local and national transport infrastructure with excellent rail networks that run both North and South of Scotland and the rest of the UK. It also acts as an international travel hub. Flying time to London is just over one hour with regular daily flights and serves international travel to European centres such as Amsterdam (Schiphol) and Paris (Charles de-Gaulle) as well as flights to other European destinations.

The City and the surrounding countryside provide a variety of urban, seaside and country attractions. Aberdeen has first class amenities including [His Majesty's Theatre](#), [Music Hall](#), [Art Gallery](#), [the P&J Arena](#), [Museums](#), and [Beach Leisure Centre](#). The City is framed by its accessible beach front which is within a short walk of the city centre and there are an array of activities available across the region such as hill walking; mountaineering; sailing; surfing; salmon, trout and sea fishing; golf; sailing; surfing and windsurfing. The surrounding countryside, known as Aberdeenshire, is also one of Scotland's most appealing regions. Royal Deeside and the Cairngorms National Park are within easy access of the city, and there are a variety of towns and villages scattered along the coastline.

The city and the surrounding area have ranked consistently highly in nationally recognised quality of life surveys, coming out top 10 as one of the best places to live in Scotland in 2020 in the annual Bank of Scotland survey.

To find out more visit www.visitabdn.com



EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY

The University values a diverse working environment and recognises the benefits this can bring. The University is keen to receive applications from individuals from across all of the equality protected characteristics (age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, sexual orientation).

The University supports opportunities for flexible working for a range of reasons and has policies in place to facilitate this. The policies can be found at <https://www.abdn.ac.uk/staffnet/working-here/flexible-working--5607.php>.

The University's commitment to gender equality has been recognised through the achievement of an Athena SWAN Bronze award at an institutional level and across all its subject areas. The University is also a Stonewall Diversity Champion to further LGBT+ equality.

The University is signed up to Advance HE's Race Equality Charter, affirming the University's commitment to the charter's aim of improving the representation, progression and success of minority ethnic staff and students within higher education.

Candidates who are British Sign Language (BSL) users can contact us directly by using [contact SCOTLAND-BSL](#).

The University is delighted to be accredited as a [Disability Confident](#) employer and strives to ensure that disabled staff and students have the opportunity to work and study in an inclusive, accessible and supportive environment.

www.abdn.ac.uk/staffnet/governance/equality-and-diversity-277

HOW TO APPLY

Online application forms are available at www.abdn.ac.uk/jobs

The closing date for receipt of applications is **4 October 2021**

Should you wish to make an informal enquiry please contact:

Professor Mervyn Bain
Mervyn.bain@abdn.ac.uk

Please do not send application forms or CVs to Professor Bain.

Please quote reference number SOC065A on all correspondence

