The Trans Learning Partnership (TLP) is currently recruiting for an Academic Advisor. This role consists of providing academic and research expertise to the Steering Group of the Trans Learning Partnership and supporting TLP staff as we carry out our research programme.

Compensation is **£3,783.14** for a year’s involvement. We may continue the position beyond this time.

**What is the Trans Learning Partnership?**

The TLP is a collaboration between Gendered Intelligence, LGBT Foundation, Mermaids and Spectra which collects and analyses data about trans experiences and applies findings to improve services and policymaking for trans people and their families. Additionally, the TLP conducts and produces its own research and publications.

The TLP has robust governance structures in place that ensures trans-designed and trans-led research remains at the heart of our work. Our Steering Group meets quarterly and contains:

* Four representatives from our partner organisations (Gendered Intelligence, LGBT Foundation, Mermaids and Spectra)
* Five community representatives, ensuring a diversity of trans lived experience on the board. At least one of these seats is reserved for a trans person of colour.
* An academic partner representative, who assists us with ethical reviews, research design, and publication strategy. **(This is the role you are applying for)**

**The Trans Learning Partnership is currently working on the following areas:**

I. Shaping and implementing a comprehensive research programme centred on the use of community participatory action research (CPAR) research methods. The overarching aims of this work are to enhance needs identification and service provision for trans communities within the partnership, and to collect and analyse data about trans experiences and apply findings to improve services and policymaking for trans people and their families. To date, our research (funded by Trust for London, Esmee Fairbairn and with ethical approval from the University of Glasgow) has focussed on two areas

1. A project focussed on trans communities’ experiences of employment and housing, as well as other assets available to them. In conjunction with the research partner/academic institution and through mutually agreed future research and analysis, we will use this data to continue to improve outcomes for trans communities. Work in this area also includes an openly-accessible trans-designed research portal for relevant literature.
2. Our work with Trans People of Colour (TPOC) via our Levelling The Field (LTF) project focuses on participatory research with TPOC communities where community members are encouraged to define the issues affecting their communities, and to lead on conceptualising community-relevant solutions to those issues. The objectives of the project are to increase representation of TPOC experiences in research, produce easily accessible data that can help inform policies that affect trans people of colour.

II. Creating a common monitoring, verification and evaluation (MVE) framework for the partnership. In this area, we have carried out a data mapping exercise with our partner organisations in order to establish current practice in data collection and management, which has aided in the identification of shared and complementary outcomes for trans communities across the partnership. We are now implementing a corresponding evaluation framework for the partners through use of harmonised data collection practice in specific areas. Findings from this stage will inform the development of an online submission and reporting portal – an M & E streamlining tool for the partner organisations.

III. The partnership platform – networking/ inter-agency collaboration.

IV. Our Policy work focuses on healthcare (adult and children’s access, and mental health support) and protecting our community (resisting rollbacks of rights, supporting our most vulnerable, and surviving until the tide changes). We do this through a mix of proactive, reactive, and informative work. We also respond to other urgent or high-impact policy proposals and engagements where necessary.

V. As well as research, our work with Trans People of Colour (TPOC) via our Levelling The Field (LTF) project also carries out partnership-wide inclusion work within TLP organisations via structural inclusion reviews, employee surveys and interviews, participation in interview panels of TLP organisations, and through contributing to EDI strategic planning of individual TLP organisations. The objectives of the project are to conduct structural inclusion work to advance inclusion, upskilling and service delivery in TLP workplaces.

**About our team:**

Our staff team is made up of trans people with intersections of marginalised racial experience, neurodivergence, disability and histories of migration. The team has familiarity with academic research, policy work, and community development work and each member brings their own expertise, perspective and lived experience to the TLP.

**Role Description:**

* Be part of the TLP Steering Group and advise from your area of expertise
* Provide academic/research oversight of the work of the TLP as requested
* Attend 4 virtual steering group meetings per year, with the potential for a further in person meeting.
* Acting as liaison with your institution to obtain ethical approval for TLP research
* Provide feedback on TLP research protocols
* Support development of the TLP research agenda (which is informed by our community consultation and CPAR activity)
* Identification of opportunities to upskill community participants in research methods.
* Identification of appropriate stakeholders and areas for future collaboration and research
* Promotion and visibility of our research through relevant means such as publications, conferences, etc.

**Person Specification:**

* Commitment to the vision and values of the TLP
* Academic and research experience relevant to the TLPs research areas and methodologies
* Confident advising on design of multi-method research projects
* Proven track record of securing research funding (especially MRC funding)
* Relevant publication and research history. *(We aren’t prescriptive about discipline–we’re much more interested in learning how you’d link your work to ours)*
* An understanding of the importance of letting trans people be the experts
* Aware of power and privilege and the dynamics of oppression, including between researchers and those who are being researched.
* History of progressive forms of LGBTQIA+ research.

**We especially welcome applications from trans people of colour, trans women and transfeminine people.**