

Vacancy:	Senior Practice and Research Lead
Organisation:	New Local
Contract:	Full-time, permanent
Salary:	£35,000 - £50,000
Location:	New Local operates a 'work anywhere' policy but provides office space in the UK for those who require it. Applicants must have the right to work in the UK. Some UK travel is required for this role – see below.

The cause

New Local is a think tank and network working to energise local government, improve public services and empower communities.

At the heart of our work is 'community power' - the belief that people should be given the means to transform the places they live and the services they use. We believe this is key to reducing the burden on our public services, and to create a better society for all.

We publish research on some of today's most pressing issues - like housing, welfare and economic equality - informed by our network of 50-plus local authorities. We also work directly with public and voluntary sector bodies to help them hand more power and resource over to communities.

The role

Over the last year, we've seen our community power message really begin to take hold. At the same time, we're developing as an organisation. We're looking to further increase our impact by expanding our work with partners who are looking to turn the principle of community power into reality. We're now looking for a Senior Practice and Research Lead with great skills in quantitative analysis to join our brilliant team and help us do just this. This is an exciting opportunity to be involved in two core functions of our work, which are increasingly closely linked: our research builds on the insight of our partners putting community power into practice, and our practice work builds on the research we lead across the country.

Our current portfolio sees us work across the UK and therefore requires regular travel as a core responsibility. We expect the need to travel approx. 2-3 times per month to locations across the UK, which may involve the possibility of overnight stays and weekend work.

Your job will include:

- **Delivering impact:** supporting the delivery of practice work, in particular designing and delivering deliberative workshops and producing compelling outputs to achieve impact.
- **Deploying strong data analysis skills,** with the ability to work across projects and different types of datasets.
- **Partnership working:** building and maintaining strong relationships with practice partners and working collaboratively to co-design solutions with professionals and communities.
- **Business development:** contributing to revenue generation through following up leads, writing proposals and devising project budgets.
- **Project management:** managing projects to ensure practice work is delivered within budget and to agreed timelines, and to a high quality.
- **And more...** As part of a small, friendly and informal organisation you'll have the opportunity to participate in other activities and support the wider development and delivery of New Local's vision and strategy.

The candidate

We are seeking a self-motivated and ambitious individual to join our successful team. Candidates may have direct working experience in this area, but we are also open to alternative career trajectories which can demonstrate the right skills and competencies as highlighted in the job description. This role is for you if you're an impact-driven individual who thrives in multi-faceted environments and projects. You will have the ability to design and deliver, end-to-end, practice focused interventions for our partners as well as confidently deploy your research skills to support the development of more traditional thought leadership work and discrete project tasks that seek to demonstrate the impact community power can have on organisations and society. We welcome applications from any background, and areas of particular interest include (but aren't limited to): think-tanks, consultancies, broad public sector (local and national); VCSE; the NHS; and other council services. We do not have set ideas about what background you will be from or the specific experience you will bring and would look for our candidate to be:

- **A warm connector**, someone who is able to build strong, supportive relationships with individuals and teams inside and outside the organisation.
- **An excellent communicator**, who can write and speak clearly about the organisation, the work they are delivering, and the project tasks they are undertaking.
- **A keen planner**, whose project management skills and attention-to-detail are able to keep projects timely and impactful.
- **Action-oriented**, someone who is able to draw out the learning and implications of project findings and use this to shape practical recommendations for change.
- **Entrepreneurial**, someone who likes new opportunities and is comfortable supporting business development.
- **Someone who is able to prioritise**, who is comfortable working across a variety of projects and to different deadlines.
- **Driven by achieving positive change**, both through our practice work and New Local's broader political and societal goals.
- **A collaborative and supportive colleague**, able to work in a highly creative environment that encourages excellence from all members of the team.

The organisation

New Local was founded in 1996. There is currently a team of 15 staff at New Local. New Local operates a 'work anywhere' policy but provides office space in the UK for those who require it.

The Senior Practice and Research Lead role will sit in the Practice and Research team. You will work alongside a small (but mighty) multi-disciplinary team of six and collaborate closely with other teams. The postholder will report to the Head of Programme Development.

We make every effort to live up to our four core values of being purposeful (i.e. focused on community power), adventurous, supportive towards colleagues and partners, and delivering excellence.

In addition to the advertised salary, we offer:

- A minimum of 27 days' holiday a year and ten days holiday over Christmas/New Year
- Flexible working arrangements
- Regular training opportunities
- A number of other benefits listed in the job description.

Wellbeing: New Local is committed to staff wellbeing. Working long and late hours is actively discouraged and all staff at New Local are committed to creating a pleasant, friendly and supportive environment in which to work.

Diversity: New Local is committed to being an equal opportunities employer. We don't just 'value diversity', we think it is central to what makes for a high impact, successful organisation. We positively encourage everyone to apply. In order to monitor equal opportunities, we ask that the

Equal Opportunities Monitoring Form below is completed (this is entirely at the applicant's discretion). The collecting of this data is part of our diversity strategy, to understand how we can improve equal opportunities for external applicants to New Local. All information gathered will be anonymised and then destroyed after 6 months, after which only aggregate data will be held. Information collected for monitoring purposes will be treated as confidential and will not be used for any other purpose.

- Equal Opportunities Monitoring Form

How to apply

Please email to recruitment@newlocal.org.uk your:

- Cover letter (demonstrating, with examples, how you meet the criteria above and where you heard about this role)
- CV
- Completed Equal Opportunities Monitoring Form (if you wish) N.B. all equal opportunities forms will be separated from the application.

If you require any help applying for this role or taking part in the recruitment process, then do not hesitate to contact Katy Evans, our Operations Manager, at recruitment@newlocal.org.uk.

If you would like to discuss the role beforehand, please also get in touch by emailing recruitment@newlocal.org.uk

Recruitment timeline

Post advertised	Monday 21 October 2024
Deadline for applications	Monday 18 November 2024 at 9am
Candidates contacted for interview by	Monday 25 November 2024
Interviews 1 st round, via Zoom	Wednesday 27 November 2024
Written exercise	Monday 2 December 2024
Interviews 2 nd round, via Zoom	Monday 9 December 2024
Start date	To be agreed, at earliest convenience

If you are unable to attend interview(s) on this / these date(s), please let us know when you apply.

Probation and Notice: This role is subject to a six-month probationary period and a three-month notice period.

Data Protection: New Local will process and store your personal information (this means any information that identifies or could identify you) for the purposes of recruitment, for a period of up to six months after the closing date, after which it will be securely disposed. For more information, please refer to our **Job Applicant Privacy Notice**.