

**Faculty of Business, Law and Social Sciences**

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| **Proposed Title:** Developing and documenting data integration for a West Midland super-partnership: Supporting the development of Primary Care Networks |
| **School:** Social Sciences (Department of Psychology) |
| **Proposed Supervisory Team:** Dr Angela Hewett, Dr Emma Bridger, Dr Kyle Brown, Dr Jeff Woods |
| **Abstract:**  Within the broader context of changing demographic health needs and stretched NHS services, primary care networks (PCNs) were established in 2019 to build on current primary care services situated within GP practices and enable them to integrate with community, mental health, social care, pharmacy, hospital and voluntary services. In order to deliver greater provision of proactive, personalised and coordinated health and social care, a key requirement of PCNs is the ability to collate and integrate key data from across their network. These data are varied and may range from local demographic and service usage patterns to mortality and morbidity patterns. Joining up different kinds of data across PCNs is vital for understanding the specific demographic, social and health needs of the local population but is challenged by the mixed and multilevel nature of data which may be located at practice-level, neighbourhood-level and/or council-level. This project will facilitate and document the integration of relevant data according to the needs of a West Midlands super-partnership supporting 9 PCNs. This will involve developing the data infrastructure that will meet this PCN’s needs as well as a set of recommendations on how to better enable data integration of this kind for PCNs locally and regionally. |
| **Research Environment:**  This project will be one of three flagship PhD studentships of the recently launched *Birmingham Data Lab*, part of Birmingham City University’s School of Social Sciences. The Data Lab was established in 2019 to examine the important social issues facing Birmingham using large data sets, investigating questions which are relevant to the public and private sector during the next decade of dramatic structural and social change. The Data Lab employs in-house research and large data set skills within the School of Social Sciences to target the research questions of most concern and highest priority for local communities and stakeholders. |
| **Applicant Requirements:**  **Essential:**  BSc in Public Health, Health Informatics, Psychology, Behavioural Science (Hons) Degree (2:1)  Advanced level quantitative statistical analysis  Computer proficiency (Microsoft office, SPSS)  Good communication skills  Good writing ability  PG Cert or willingness to gain  Effective oral and written communication skills  Ability to work as a member of a team with shared goals  Interpersonal skills: ability to relate to others with tact and diplomacy  **Desirable:**  First Class BSc Psychology (Hons) degree  MSc in Public Health, Health Informatics, Health Psychology, Psychological Research Methods, Behavioural Science (or similar)  Experience of conducting experiments or randomised controlled trials  Experience of writing up for publication  Postgraduate/advanced level quantitative statistical analysis  Experience of using R and/or coding  Experience of and or active interest in using public health surveillance data  Experience of and or active interest in health systems planning  Experience of and interest in local and national health policy (i.e. experience of local authority Health and Wellbeing boards) |
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