

RESEARCH ANALYST/LEAD

Closing Date: 9am, January 27th 2025



**The Food
Foundation**



ABOUT US

We believe everyone in the UK deserves access to an affordable healthy diet. We have various projects to reach different groups to improve children's diets, increase vegetable consumption, influence food policy and inspire change in food and retail businesses & how investment works. We are a small charity that has grown thanks to our success in responding to government announcements, quickly gathering interest and advocating in dynamic ways to create change in the food system.

- Our small enthusiastic and dedicated team makes us agile
- Our search for evidence-based solutions makes us impactful
- Our skill in shaping powerful coalitions and harnessing citizens' voices makes us collaborative.
- Our drive to identify new opportunities for action, and test new levers for change makes us innovative.

LOCATION

Most of our staff work hybrid and some work remotely, but some roles are full time office based. We have an office in the heart of vibrant Brixton. We share our office space with many other small charities, with communal lunches. There are resident dogs and social events for staff in London.





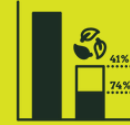
Improving children's diets



Increasing vegetable consumption



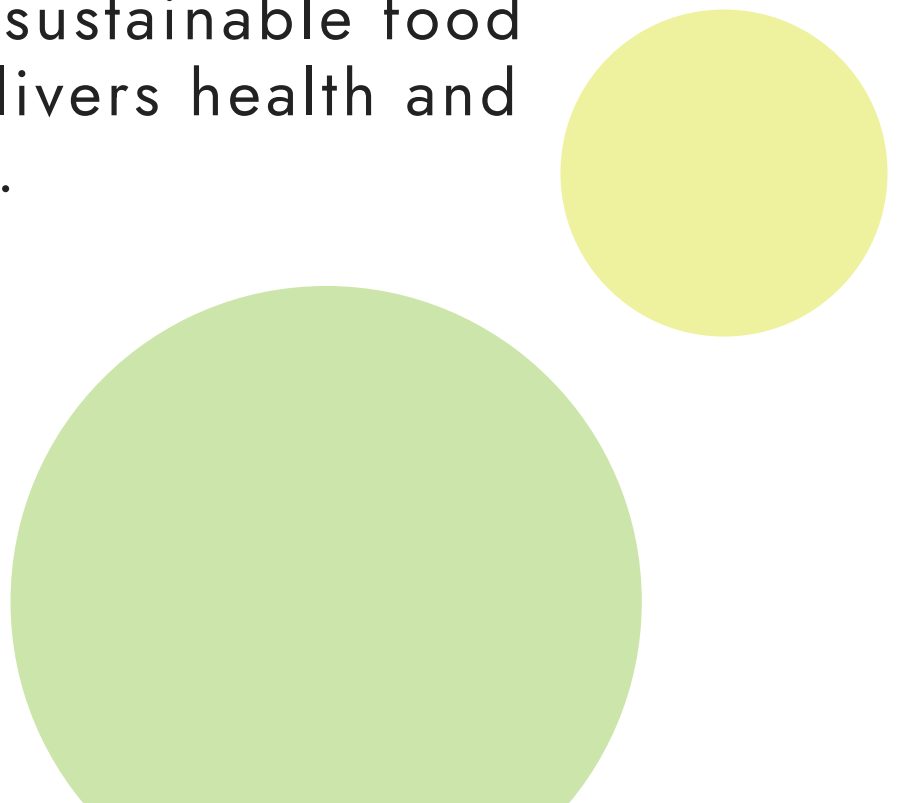
Influencing food policy



Inspiring change in food businesses and investment

OUR VISION

We believe in a sustainable food system which delivers health and wellbeing for all.



WELCOME

I really hope once you've taken a look inside this job pack you will decide you'd like to join us.

We are a talented team of 22 people with a mix of communications skills, deep policy knowledge, broad business networks, campaign experience, nutrition and environmental expertise and most importantly a passion to make it easier for everyone to eat well. We pride ourselves in being nimble and adaptable to the changing context in which we're operating. This year we have a new government which is creating new opportunities for us to get our evidence into the hands of policy makers to tackle some of the problems with the food system.

Back in 2015, The Food Foundation was born and I was the charity's first employee. From small beginnings, we've always had a big ambition: to make it easier for everyone in Britain to eat well, regardless of their circumstances. And we go about this by starting with evidence and then using it to convince policy makers, business leaders and investors to take action.

At the heart of what we do is changing the environments in which we are all making decisions about what to eat, so that those environments make healthy and sustainable choices more affordable, accessible and appealing. Rebalancing the food system so that it is not so dominated by junk food and meat and dairy is challenging because you're fighting against some big commercial incentives, but in our first nine years we've influenced some important commitments by both policy makers and businesses. Progress always feels too slow, but change is definitely happening.

We're also a collaborative bunch. I feel strongly that charities with aligned missions should not compete with one another, and so we try and reflect that approach in our extensive network of partnerships with civil society organisations and academics. If you join us you will quickly develop an extensive network.

If you want to be part of a team making change happen, here and now, then please consider applying. We would love to hear from you.

ANNA TAYLOR

Executive Director



The Food
Foundation



OUR STAKEHOLDERS



OUR BENEFITS

- 25 days holiday per year, plus bank holidays.
- Pension with 5% employer contribution.
- A flexible approach to working hours, patterns and location.
- Access to training and personal development opportunities.
- Cycle to work scheme.



OUR VALUES

- Collaborative
- Creative & innovative
- Trustworthy & credible
- Bold & impactful



RESEARCH ANALYST/LEAD

Hours: Full Time or Part Time (Minimum of 3 days per week)

Salary: £37,000 - £39,650 (£33,300 - £35,685 remote), dependent on experience. Pro rated for Part time.

Contract: 1 Year fixed term contract

Working pattern: Hybrid or Remote working considered. Our office is based in London, Brixton. Currently all hybrid workers are required to come to the office at least twice a week.

How to Apply: On the last page of this job pack

Job Purpose

An exciting opportunity has arisen at The Food Foundation to work at the intersect of research, advocacy and policy. The postholder will undertake policy-relevant research on a range of topics such as health and environmental outcomes, food prices and food insecurity.

The postholder will sit within the policy team but will work with colleagues across the organisation, leading research and supporting science communications. You will work closely with colleagues and academic partners to shape research questions that provide the necessary insights to support our advocacy, engagement and campaign work. You'll also conduct data analysis in house, primarily of government datasets as well as You Gov polling data for our Food Insecurity surveys. In addition, you'll support the team with reports and briefings, undertaking literature reviews and identifying research gaps. The postholder will lead on the updating and development of our widely used data visualisation dashboards, identifying ways to make them as user friendly and insightful as possible.

You will take initiative and be able to work independently, have an eye for detail and an inquisitive mind. You'll be passionate about social change, and evidence-based campaigns and communications. You'll be as confident analysing data, as you are with communicating findings to others. You'll be a good collaborator, seeking to understand advocacy and campaign needs of data. You'll be organised and have good time and project management skills.

This role may be a good fit for candidates with an education background in data science, nutritional epidemiology, statistics or public health, who have relevant work experience or are at postdoc level and looking to make a difference through research.

RESEARCH ANALYST/LEAD

A week on the job

Analysing new government diet survey data, engaging with academics to shape research questions that can support national or local campaigning, coordinating The Food Foundation's participation in research projects, working with the communications team to identify headline data for use in media releases, identifying key data to use in a new MP briefing, collaborating with the policy and business teams on the use of data for the organisation's flagship reports, and collaborating with research colleagues in partner organisations.

Responsibilities

- Undertake high quality research, including analysing large datasets, for use in Food Foundation publications, campaigns and media releases
- Quality Assurance and peer-review of research undertaken by colleagues and partners, internally and externally
- Design, develop and undertake research for key Food Foundation reports such as Broken Plate and SOFI, particularly focused on managing contributions from partners and on secondary analysis
- Oversee our food insecurity tracking, including commissioning a You Gov survey two times a year and undertaking analysis of the data.
- Keep track of new data releases in the UK relevant to nutrition, health and food and ensure cross-organisation knowledge of the data and that the most up to date figures are used in all outputs.
- Produce data visualisations and data stories on Flourish for Food Foundation research, and design and develop data dashboards which help to build the organisation's reputation as a trusted source of evidence and insight on food policy
- Provide advice to the Food Foundation team on the most impactful figures and statistics to use in reports and briefings, and how best to present these for impact

PERSON PROFILE

Technical skills

- Knowledge of methodological approaches appropriate for developing the evidence base on issues such as nutrition epidemiology, food prices, climate change, food insecurity, and/or agriculture policy.
- Experience working with large UK nutrition and health datasets, such as the National Diet and Nutrition Survey, Family Food Survey, Family Resources Survey, National Child Measurement Programme, Office for National Statistics, amongst others, and/or with large commercial datasets such as Kantar, Nielsen
- Demonstrable ability to translate, communicate and share research for use in briefings, reports, media and other public-facing materials for public audiences
- Experience of commissioning research from academics and commercial providers such as You Gov
- Sound knowledge of quantitative research methods and statistics, including experience using R, SPSS and/or STATA
- Demonstrable ability to develop research questions which are policy relevant and which help to generate media interest, and undertake research accordingly with minimal supervision
- Experience working in collaboration with academic and non-academic partners

PERSON PROFILE

Personal skills

- An interest in policy and public health, and the intersect of campaigning/ communication and research
- Willingness to work at pace, and in a way which is responsive to the changing external context and new policy opportunities
- Thrive when working on several projects at once, all with different timelines and different combinations of colleagues
- Attention to detail and quality assurance
- Effective listening skills in order to understand the requirements of the organisation.
- Drive and resilience to try new ideas if the first one doesn't work - you'll be expected to work with limited supervision, so it's important that you're able to motivate yourself.
- Team working skills and a collaborative approach to sharing ideas and finding solutions.
- Strong communication and presentation skills in order to explain your work to people who don't understand the mechanics behind data analysis.

HOW TO APPLY

Deadline to apply: 9am, January 27th 2025

Please apply as soon as you can. We will interview candidates as appropriate applications are received.

Please apply to office@foodfoundation.org.uk (with 'Research Analyst/Lead' as the subject) with a cover letter and up-to-date CV. Please use your cover letter to:

- Explain why you want the role.
- Briefly describe how you meet the skills section of the person's profile.
- Briefly describe your own lived experience, understanding and/or ally-ship on the issues surrounding equality, inclusion and diversity?

The Recruitment Process

Our recruitment process aims to see candidates at their best. That's why we set out the process from the beginning. There will be a small task to complete before the interview. The interviews will be held at the Brixton Office. We will aim to inform shortlisted candidate by end of day on January 31st and first round interviews will take place on February 5th & 6th.

The Food Foundation is committed to creating a diverse work environment, as we know a diverse workforce brings with it a diversity of ideas, thinking and different ways of working which enhance what we do. We recognise we have work to do to improve diversity and inclusion within our organisation. We welcome and encourage applicants from underrepresented backgrounds to apply.

The successful candidate will be subject to enhanced DBS check, will have the right to work in the UK and able to offer 2 satisfactory references. We may not be able to respond to all applicants due to the high volume of applications.

MEET OUR TEAM

