

Job Specification – Belfast Mobility Project Intern

Background: The Institute for Conflict Research seeks an intern to work on the Belfast Mobility Project (BMP), an ESRC funded research project, in partnership with the Open University, Lancaster University and Queen’s University Belfast. The BMP began in September 2015 and will continue until December 2017.

The intern will be expected to assist the project’s development in several ways:

- Liaise with the research team responsible for the delivery of the programme, local community representatives and relevant stakeholders.
- Assist with the recruitment of participants for the study.
- Support the research team as they carry out interviews with the study’s participants.
- Undertake the transcription of interviews.
- Read academic papers, journals and textbooks to track relevant developments in the field.

Pilot: The research team has been considering possible spin-off studies from the main project, which will likely involve the use of a tool called Spraycan. Spraycan is used at the beginning of the interviews, when participants annotate a map of their community to identify areas where they feel safe, or unsafe. Participants also highlight the boundaries of their perceived neighbourhoods and are asked to annotate a map of Belfast city centre, where they will indicate areas they visit regularly, or prefer to avoid.

Given the interactive element of Spraycan and the relatively short time the task takes to complete, the research team feel that the tool could be used on a wider basis and are considering the most effective avenue for its development. It has been suggested that an intern could assist with the development of a potential spin-off, with guidance from the research team.

The research team propose that the intern pilots a short study, which will involve taking Spraycan to youth-clubs and schools in North Belfast. The spin-off project will be developed in the same geographical field as the main study, which should supplement the central analysis and theoretically act as a means of cross-recruitment. In preparation for the pilot’s development, the research team will identify local youth-clubs that the intern should seek to engage with (members of the research team will supervise this engagement at its early stages).

It is expected that the intern will carry out a number of key duties to fully develop the pilot, including:

- Coordinating and liaising the pilot with the research team.
- Engagement with local youth-clubs.
- Plan the day-to-day framework of the pilot, with supervision by other members of the team.
- Develop an evaluation of the programme.
- Present regular progress reports and a final summary document.

Additional information: As noted, the research team will assist the intern in identifying suitable groups in the local area that could provide participants for the pilot. This engagement will likely focus on groups that ICR have previously worked with in the past, i.e. Ardoyne Youth Providers, Star Community Association (New Lodge), Forth Spring Inter Community Group and Let Youth Lead (Glandore).