

Senior Economist or Senior Research and Policy Analyst

£55,330 - £68,250 p.a., depending on experience

London | SW1

The Resolution Foundation is an independent think-tank focused on improving living standards for those on low-to-middle incomes. Our reputation for rigorous analytical work that results in effective policy solutions places us at the forefront of the UK debate on economic and social policy.

The Resolution Foundation is looking for a thoughtful and committed individual to lead our work on housing. This is an exciting time to join the team as we work to keep living standards at the top of the policy agenda, build on the success of our Economy 2030 Inquiry, and set new priorities under our new CEO.

What does the role involve?

Working at the heart of the Foundation's research and policy team and in collaboration with external partners, the post holder will design and deliver an ambitious programme of research and policy work that builds on our existing housing programme focusing on the living standards impacts of housing. The postholder will also work as a flexible member of our research team, getting involved in other areas of the Foundation's work.

What kind of person are we looking for?

The role would suit an individual with the ability to conduct economic and policy analysis independently at an advanced level. This would be consistent with the skills obtained from significant experience working in government, think tanks or applied academic research, along with university-level training in associated disciplines (or equivalent experience gained in another context). A formal training or qualification in economics is not a prerequisite, but a degree of economic literacy and an ability to apply that to the UK housing market, is essential for this job. We are open to candidates who have knowledge of and experience applying either quantitative or qualitative research skills in a social science context, but all candidates will need strong numeracy skills, and will be expected to use Excel for data manipulation, and to work with household survey micro-data using appropriate statistical software.

The successful candidate will have the skills to situate research findings in the policy context, the ability to communicate the results to a wide range of stakeholders (verbally and in writing); and knowledge of issues in housing policy and the way that housing affects the living costs of low-to-middle income households. A proven track record for delivering research impact or policy change is also essential.

We are a fast-paced organisation, responding to the current economic crisis as well as contributing to crucial longer-term public policy debates so the capability to work at pace on several different projects is essential. The ideal candidate will also be able to work collaboratively with a wide range of stakeholders from academia, government, industry and the broader research community.

Closing Date: 08.59am on Thursday 17 April 2025

First Interviews: 7 - 8 May 2025 | **Second Interviews:** w/c 12 May 2025

What is the organisational culture?

The Foundation prides itself on analytical rigour and we strive to achieve standards of excellence in all our work. This commitment is matched by dedication to our core purpose, working to improve the living standards of those on low-to-middle incomes. These twin pillars of rigour and purpose inform our culture and underpin everything we do.

As a member of our research team, the successful candidate will benefit from interaction with senior stakeholders in government, media and the wider policy-making world. We hold a regular programme of external events, hosting diverse speakers from the policy making world, including universities, the voluntary sector and the private sector, and we regularly engage with politicians from across the political spectrum. We also hold internal masterclasses and roundtables with leading experts who engage with our work in detail. The research team have backgrounds in economics, social sciences and a range of other disciplines, and carry out quantitative and qualitative research and analysis, using a wide range of micro-datasets and macroeconomic data sources.

Investing in our team is a priority for us and we work hard to ensure each employee feels valued, respected and able to give their best. We use formal training, on-the-job learning and mentoring from colleagues to actively develop the skills and reputations of all our team. Researchers can expect to develop skills in quantitative data handling and analysis; communicating research, whether in a written form, using visuals, or orally; policy reviews and analysis; and developing their own network.

We offer a competitive benefits package and a range of flexible working and family-friendly policies including generous occupational benefits and annual leave allowances. We are a small close-knit team who all support each other and share cross-organisational work in addition to fulfilling individual responsibilities. Our office is based in Westminster with home working available up to two days per week, subject to business need. We also have a range of family-friendly policies and practices.

Diversity at the Resolution Foundation

The Foundation recognises the lack of diversity in economics and the policy making sector, and works to address this through implementing and promoting best practice in internal policies and procedures, and through devising and supporting sector wide initiatives promoting careers in economics and think tanks to underrepresented groups.

Our Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Strategy encompasses all areas of our work and also our contribution to wider efforts in the sector. For more information about our work in this area, please see our recruitment brochure.

We are happy to provide reasonable adjustments to assist candidates to navigate the application process or the demands of the role itself. Please contact sharmina.khanam@resolutionfoundation.org if you would like to speak to someone in confidence about your needs.

As part of our commitment in this area, we offer job specific pre-application discussions to Black, Asian and other Minority Ethnic candidates and all candidates with disabilities who would like to speak to someone about the role in advance. Please contact sharmina.khanam@resolutionfoundation.org for more details.

We also offer opt in guaranteed interviews to Black, Asian and other Minority Ethnic candidates and all candidates with disabilities if they meet all the essential requirements outlined in the job description 'about you' section and score in the top 60% of applications. To apply via the guaranteed interview scheme, please tick the relevant box during the application process and follow application process.

In line with our determination to attract a diverse team, we regularly analyse a variety of statistics to inform the focus of our work in this area. To help with this, we would be grateful if you would complete the equal opportunities monitoring form provided on the application platform. Any information you provide is collated anonymously and used solely to track the effectiveness of our recruitment campaign.

Main duties and responsibilities

- Lead the Resolution Foundation's research programme on housing
- Propose and evaluate new projects and policy ideas as part of the Foundation's research programme
- Design, manage and lead key projects by conducting quantitative and qualitative research to the highest standards and developing appropriate policy proposals
- Support and inform the Foundation's research programme by managing a rich network of stakeholders in government, the private sector, the voluntary sector and academia
- Disseminate research projects through written reports, media articles, blogs and presentations
- Communicate the work of the Foundation in print and broadcast media
- Represent the Foundation at our own seminars, conferences and other public events, as well as events run by other organisations
- Monitor and keep the team informed of external policy developments relevant to the Foundation's research programme
- Any other duties as deemed reasonable by the line manager

The Foundation is a small team and staff members support each other, work flexibly, and share cross-organisational work in addition to fulfilling individual responsibilities.

The Foundation is a fast-paced organisation and members of the research team need to be comfortable working quickly and on several different projects at once. We are a small team and all employees are expected to support each other, work flexibly, and share cross-organisational work in addition to fulfilling individual responsibilities.

About You

Essential requirements:

- A commitment to the Resolution Foundation's core mission and understanding of public policy issues relating to low-to-middle income households in the UK
- Thorough knowledge and understanding of issues relating to housing policy and the way that housing affects living standards
- The ability to situate analysis in a fast-moving policy context
- Knowledge of either quantitative or qualitative research skills, and experience applying at least one of them in a social science context
- Strong numeracy skills and experience using Excel for data manipulation
- A track record of delivering research impact or policy change
- Excellent written and oral communication skills in a range of formats (such as briefings, reports, blogs, media appearances and presentations)
- Proven project management skills and experience of designing, managing and delivering high-quality projects on time
- Excellent interpersonal skills and the ability to work flexibly as part of a small team in a fast-moving environment

Desirable Characteristics:

- Master's degree in a social science subject, or equivalent knowledge gained in another environment
- A well-established network among the UK's analytical and policy communities, including academics, policy experts and other stakeholders
- Experience working directly with micro data (either from administrative sources or household or firm surveys) using appropriate statistical software
- Line management experience

Summary of main terms and conditions

Some of the main terms and conditions for this post are summarised below. This summary does not form part of any subsequent employment contract. The Foundation has a defined contribution pension scheme and a range of flexible and family friendly policies.

Due to the nature of this post, sometimes you will be expected to work outside normal office hours. Time off in lieu is available when appropriate. The Foundation is a small team and staff members support each other, work flexibly, and share cross- organisational work in addition to fulfilling individual responsibilities.

Job Title: Senior Economist/Research and Policy Analyst	Working Hours: 37.5 hours per week. Exact timings are flexible and you may sometimes be asked to participate outside these hours
Contract: Permanent	Annual Leave: 30 days p.a plus bank holidays
Accountable to: Research Director	Probation Period: Three Months
Location: London, SW1H 9AA	Notice Period: Three Months

How to apply

Resolution Foundation uses an online application platform for all our roles. Developed by the Behavioural Insights Team, Be Applied is designed to eliminate unconscious bias in the recruitment process. If you would like to apply, please visit <https://app.beapplied.com/apply/cnh3rri9ig>

The application process consists of two stages:

Stage 1: About You

You will be asked to provide some personal details and to upload your CV. When uploading your CV, please ensure it clearly demonstrates how you meet all the essential requirements outlined in the job description above.

Stage 2: Work-Place Scenario-Based Questions:

You will need to complete three scenario-based questions relevant to the role. These questions will be assessed against the essential requirements section of the job description. Each response has a 250-word limit, and you will have the opportunity to revise your answers before submitting your application.

N.B. Each of your answers will be reviewed separately and anonymously by different people. This means the person reviewing your answer to question 2 will not have access to your answer to question 1, and so on. Therefore, do not refer in one answer to what you have written in another (e.g. avoid using phrases like "as explained above"). If it is relevant, explain again in full.

Use of AI in the application process

Please refrain from using AI software to help answer the application questions. The Applied system requires all candidates to certify that the answers they provide are their own original work and not plagiarised nor automatically generated.

Applied provides an AI generated answer for reviewers to refer to when sifting and asks them to flag responses they suspect may be AI generated. Using AI to help construct your answers may therefore be detrimental to your application.

Closing Date

To be considered for this opportunity, please ensure you submit your application by 08:59am on Thursday 17 April 2025.

Interview

Shortlisted applicants will be contacted as soon as possible after the closing date. We expect to hold first interviews on 7 and 8 May 2025 with second interviews during week commencing 12 May 2025. Please let us know if you have any specific requirements so we can make any necessary reasonable adjustments in advance.

Financial Assistance

Assistance for interview expenses may be provided subject to agreement in advance. If you are invited to attend an interview and would like to be reimbursed for travel expenses, please let us know when confirming your attendance. We are unable to cover international travel expenses but can offer virtual interviews instead.

Office-Based and Remote Working

The Foundation's office is based in Westminster with home working available two days per week, normally Wednesday and Friday. If you have any health concerns that may impact your working arrangements or queries about caring responsibilities, please contact sharmina.khanam@resolutionfoundation.org.

Feedback

All unsuccessful applicants will be sent feedback about their application through the Applied platform. Candidates who have attended an interview will be offered in-depth feedback. We also welcome any feedback candidates have about the application process.

Privacy notice for job applicants

For full details on how we process your personal data, please see our privacy notice for job applicants which can be found on the [Opportunities page](#) on our website.