

Insight

JOIN OUR TEAM

WE'RE RECRUITING

Research Consultant

FULL TIME: 37 hours per week
LOCATION: Manchester, Birmingham, London, or Glasgow (hybrid-working)

SALARY: £26,000 upwards.

APPLICATIONS OPEN
Posted 5 November 2026

RECRUITMENT PACK

Research Consultant

We provide evidence, analysis, tools and know-how that help our clients make a bigger positive impact.

Who We Are

GC Insight is the UK's largest profit-for-purpose social enterprise providing economic advice and analysis. We offer comprehensive services in advisory, research, and evaluation to help public and private sector clients enhance their performance and maximise the impact of their investments.

With a team of approximately 50 working across offices in Birmingham, London, Manchester, and Glasgow, we provide opportunities for growth and progression. As part of The Growth Company, we proudly reinvest our profits to create greater social impact in the communities we serve.

You can find out more about our service and subject offer on our website.

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Research Consultant

The Opportunity

Our Research Consultants are integral team members, working with colleagues to deliver high-quality projects and develop evidence and insights which underpins our advice. Your day to day role will involve the following:

- Supporting project teams across our core service areas of economic strategies, economic impact assessment, the preparation of socio-economic evidence bases, business cases and evaluation.
- Collecting, analysing and presenting quantitative data, including socio-economic datasets, trends, benchmarks and performance indicators.
- Undertaking survey-based research and interviews to gather qualitative information.
- Desk research, analysis and policy reviews.
- Producing accurate, well-presented analysis, charts, maps and other visual outputs for inclusion in reports and presentations.
- Working collaboratively with colleagues at all levels to develop evidence and analysis that responds to client needs.
- Supporting the development of new tools and approaches that make effective use of data, technology and emerging analytical techniques.

You will work alongside colleagues ranging from recent graduates to experienced industry professionals, gaining hands-on experience across a wide variety of projects. You will also support work winning, including proposals and marketing activities.

The role will offer opportunities for you to build your research and consultancy skills, experience a wide range of assignments from your first day. It will provide opportunities for you to progress, in line with your personal development and career plan, and through access to in-house training and The Growth Company's career development systems.

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Person Specification

You will be ambitious and have a keen interest in the drivers of economic growth in different geographies. You will have an appreciation of the world around you and the policy and economic context that impacts our work across the UK.

Key Requirements:

- A good Honours degree (2:1 or higher) in Economics, Geography, Urban Regeneration and Development or another relevant degree such as Data Science.
- Relevant work experience is desirable.
- Strong numerical skills, with the ability to interrogate data and draw meaningful insights.
- Ability to design and deliver surveys and undertake qualitative interviews to gather robust evidence and insights.
- Ability to communicate complex findings and messages clearly, using data visualisation and infographics.
- Curious about AI and emerging digital tools, and their potential to enhance analysis, research, productivity and the communication of insights.
- Proficiency in the Microsoft Office suite, particularly Excel, Word and PowerPoint.
- Good interpersonal and communication skills, including the confidence to undertake telephone or face to face research.
- Excellent time management with the ability to manage multiple priorities and meet deadlines.
- Clear and concise written communication skills, with the ability to produce high-quality work.
- Strong active listening skills.
- A positive and constructive attitude to tasks and work.
- Ambitious, proactive and self-motivated with a willingness to learn.
- Ability to demonstrate the Growth Company Group values: Empower People, Stronger Together, Build on Success, Do the Right Thing, Make a Positive Difference.

We are looking for people who are naturally curious and analytical, care about quality and attention to detail, and enjoy working in a fast-paced environment as part of a team.

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Our Offer to You

GC Insight offers:

- A varied workload that maintains interest and provides opportunities for progression
- A supportive work environment and a ‘hands-on’ Director team
- A competitive salary and discretionary bonus scheme
- Hybrid working arrangements that offer the best of both worlds
- 25 days holiday, increasing with service
- A 6% employer pension contribution
- Staff volunteering days and benefits including an annual leave purchase and salary sacrifice electric vehicle schemes

The work is genuinely interesting, focusing on some of the UK’s most complex economic, social and environmental issues. The evidence and advice we provide help shape forward strategies, services and interventions for people, places and economies.

Harry Gover started with GC Insight as a Research Consultant and has since been promoted to a Consultant. This is what he has to say about working here:

'Being at GC Insight has been amazing for my professional and personal development. Working on such a variety of project types and subject matters, and drawing on the wealth of experience in the team is invaluable’

As well as interesting and stretching work, GC Insight employs great people. It’s a friendly, supportive team where we help each other, share what we know and enjoy working together. Collaboration is central to everything we do.

Research Consultants are allocated a ‘buddy’ when they join, providing dedicated one-to-one guidance, complemented by a strong peer network offering wider support.

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Our Projects

Our projects: tackling real-world challenges

Our work spans some of the biggest economic, social and environmental challenges facing the UK. From helping places plan for the future to understanding what works in tackling poverty, our projects give Research Consultants the opportunity to explore different subjects, develop a wide range of research and analytical skills, and contribute to work that informs important decisions. Our portfolio is constantly evolving, but here is a flavour of the projects our teams have been working on:

- **Shaping the future of towns and cities:** Developing economic growth and regeneration strategies for Bradford, Dudley, Tameside and Bolton, identifying priorities for investment.
- **Preparing for the jobs of tomorrow:** Researching skills and workforce needs in renewable energy, life sciences, health and social care, and advanced manufacturing.
- **Unlocking regional economic opportunities:** Identifying opportunities for transformation across three regions of Scotland, including tourism, renewable energy and advanced manufacturing.
- **Tackling poverty and inequality:** Evaluating initiatives addressing child poverty, food insecurity and wider inequalities, identifying what works.
- **Supporting a more sustainable economy:** Exploring ways to increase recycling and reuse, reduce electrical waste and repurpose food-processing by-products.
- **Helping more people into good work:** Developing Get Britain Working plans for three areas, informing local employment and skills support.
- **Understanding the value of culture:** Assessing the economic and social value of Bayeux Across Britain, Bolton Food & Drink Festival and HOME Manchester.
- **Making better investment decisions:** Appraising regeneration, innovation and town centre investments to assess benefits and value for money.
- **Informing major infrastructure decisions:** Assessing socio-economic impacts of rail freight, housing and renewable energy proposals.
- **Understanding what works in public policy:** Evaluating government investment in housing, broadband, environmental programmes and employment support.
- **Unlocking new homes and regeneration:** Evaluating Homes England programmes to accelerate housing delivery, unlock sites and regenerate communities.

Across these projects, our Research Consultants have opportunities to contribute at every stage, from designing research and engaging with stakeholders to analysing evidence, developing recommendations and presenting findings to clients.

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Research Consultant

Why else should I consider a career at GC Insight?



Our business is all about people and team culture is important. If you would like to hear our team's perspective, you can watch a short video here.

How to Apply

If you would like to be considered for the opportunity, please provide a tailored CV and cover letter outlining why you think you are a good fit with GC Insight and the role of Research Consultant to careers@gcinsight.co.uk

We want to hear your authentic voice and understand your own experience, skills and motivation, so we ask that you prepare your CV and cover letter in your own words, without using generative AI to create your response. In return, every application is reviewed by us, not by AI.

Applicants must have the right to work in the UK and be able to provide evidence of this. Please note that we are unable to provide visa sponsorship. As part of your application, please confirm the basis of your current right to work in the UK.

Candidates are encouraged to include their salary expectations for this role in their cover letter.

If you would like to have an informal chat ahead of applying, or to confirm your suitability for the role, please send a message to the email address above and a member of the team will be in touch as soon as possible.

Applications are being considered on an ongoing basis so please apply early.

APPLY NOW