

Researcher in Residence Opportunity

Evaluation of the BNSSG Falls Prevention Programme

Gloucestershire & Bristol, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire (G&BNSSG) Integrated Care Board (ICB) is seeking a Researcher in Residence to support the evaluation of the BNSSG Falls Prevention Programme and contribute to the development of evidence-based approaches to healthy ageing, frailty prevention, and community health.

This is an exciting opportunity for an academic or applied researcher to work alongside commissioners, providers, local authorities, and community partners to generate evidence that can directly inform service development and future commissioning decisions.

About the Programme

Falls are a major cause of injury, reduced independence, and hospital admission among older adults, placing significant pressure on health and care services.

The BNSSG Falls Prevention Programme aims to support a more proactive and preventative approach to falls and frailty through community-based strength and balance activities and wider prevention initiatives. The programme is delivered across Bristol, North Somerset, and South Gloucestershire and seeks to help people remain active, independent, and connected within their communities.

About the Role

The Researcher in Residence will work with the G&BNSSG ICB and BNSSG system partners to support the evaluation of the Falls Prevention Programme and strengthen the evidence base for prevention-focused approaches.

The role offers a unique opportunity to undertake applied research within a live health and care system, ensuring that evaluation findings are relevant, actionable, and directly useful to decision-makers.

Key Activities

The successful applicant may contribute to:

- Quantitative analysis of existing programme and service data
- Survey design, administration and analysis
- Evaluation framework development and implementation
- Evidence synthesis across multiple data sources
- Preparation of evaluation reports and presentations
- Stakeholder engagement across health, care, local authority and voluntary sector partners
- Supporting a consistent approach to evaluation across related locality-based initiatives
- Identifying opportunities to align findings with Local Authority Physical Activity Strategies, Neighbourhood Health developments, and Ageing Well programmes

Expected Outputs

The project will generate evidence to support:

- Evaluation of the BNSSG Falls Prevention Programme
- Understanding the effectiveness and impact of proactive strength and balance approaches
- Future strategic commissioning decisions within G&BNSSG ICB
- Learning for wider falls prevention, frailty, and healthy ageing initiatives

Support and Integration

The Researcher in Residence will be embedded within a wider network of partners and will have opportunities to engage with:

- BNSSG Falls Prevention Steering Group
- Falls Collaboratives
- Locality Partnership Boards
- Community HCIG
- Local Authority Falls Collaboratives
- Localities Researcher in Residence Programme
- Knowledge Mobilisation Fellow for Falls and Frailty

Funding and Timescale

- **Available budget:** up to **£7,000**
- **Estimated researcher input:** approximately **20-25 days**
- **Preferred start date:** September 2026
- **Project completion:** September 2027

Working arrangements can be agreed with the successful applicant and will include opportunities for both remote and in-person engagement.

Who Should Apply?

We welcome expressions of interest from researchers with experience or interest in:

- Evaluation and implementation research
- Quantitative and/or mixed-methods approaches
- Population health and prevention
- Healthy ageing, frailty, and falls prevention
- Community-based health and care interventions
- Knowledge mobilisation and embedded research
- Working across health, care, voluntary sector, and local authority systems

What You'll Gain

This opportunity offers:

- Experience of embedded research within an Integrated Care System
- Direct engagement with commissioners and decision-makers
- Opportunities to influence service development and population health strategy
- Experience of translating research into practice and policy
- Opportunities to develop partnerships across the BNSSG health and care system

How to apply

Please submit your completed application to: **bnssg.research@nhs.net**

Please include:

- A completed Researcher in Residence application form
- A copy of your research CV

Application deadline: 30/09/2026

If you have any questions or would like an informal discussion about the opportunity, please contact the G&BNSSG ICB Research Team at **bnssg.research@nhs.net**.