

Impact Acceleration Manager – InterAct

Full time and fixed term until 31 March 2026

Job Ref: REQ250306

As part of the University's ongoing commitment to redeployment, please note that this vacancy may be withdrawn at any stage of the recruitment process if a suitable redeployee is identified.

This research role is based at Loughborough Business School, Loughborough University campus.

InterAct, a £5.8 million Made Smarter Innovation funded, Economic and Social Research Council led network, was launched in November 2021. The network's aims for the 38-month programme were to bring together economic and social scientists, UK manufacturers, and digital technology providers to address the human issues resulting from the diffusion of new industrial digital technologies (IDTs).

InterAct's core research and 51 funded projects provide valuable insights to help manufacturers adopt IDTs, improving resilience, productivity, sustainability and job quality.

Following the announcement of nearly £1 million in additional funding from UKRI to 'Amplify the Impact of InterAct' this extension phase will focus primarily on leveraging the actionable human insights created by InterAct and its investments to accelerate the impact and enable the rapid scale-up of IDTs adopted by UK-based SMEs to facilitate energy and resource efficiency.

Loughborough University is renowned for the relevance of its research. Research undertaken at Loughborough helps business and industry to compete more effectively, shape public policy and ultimately improve the quality of people's lives. Loughborough has a research community made up of more than 2,200 staff and students and is well known for having a wide range of research partnerships with multinational businesses and has long-standing collaborative links with many public and private sector organisations. In the 2021 Research Excellence Framework (REF) 86% of the Business and Management research was rated as world-leading or internationally excellent.

Job Description

Job Grade: Management and Specialist - Grade 6

Duration: Fixed term until 31st March 2026

Job Purpose

The impact acceleration manager (IAM) will develop and lead the Knowledge Exchange Programme and support the core and commissioned research programmes to disseminate deliverables and maximise the translation of outputs into outcomes and impacts.

Job Duties

- To work across the core and commissioned investments to ensure that the impacts from new and previous InterAct investments are maximised, whilst ensuring the rapid scale-up of IDTs by SMEs in the short and midterms.
- To lead the collection, analysis and presentation of data to evidence the impacts, and to track industry partners co-investment (largely in-kind contributions).
- To develop effective and efficient mechanisms for knowledge exchange. These activities will be focused on engaging with stakeholders who can amplify and accelerate the adoption of IDTs by manufacturing SMEs.
- To disseminate outputs such as methodologies, toolkits, industry and policy reports and explainer videos through industry and policy facing events in collaboration with key stakeholders (e.g. DBT, MSI, MSA, Make UK, Chambers). These may include existing forum, national manufacturing events and bespoke webinars and workshops.
- To support the InterAct presence on digital channels and assist with external communications.
- To contribute to the production of policy and industry reports, publications and presentations.
- To attend meetings, online and in-person, and to present to the project Operations Board, Strategic Advisory Board and to external stakeholders.

General and Administrative

- To work effectively with relevant administrative, technical and academic staff in the School and across the University.
- To engage in training programmes at the University (e.g., through Staff Development) which are consistent with ongoing professional development, and the needs and aspirations of the project team and those of the School.
- To maintain confidentiality where relevant and ensure that intellectual property agreements are not violated.
- To carry out specific other duties as may be reasonably requested by the project leaders and that are commensurate with the nature and grade of the post.

Points to Note

The purpose of this job description is to indicate the general level of duties and responsibility of the post. The detailed duties may vary from time to time without changing the general character or level of responsibility entailed.

Special Conditions

All staff have a statutory responsibility to take reasonable care of themselves, others, and the environment and to prevent harm by their acts or omissions. All staff are therefore required to adhere to the University's Health, Safety and Environmental Policy & Procedures.

All staff should hold a duty and commitment to observing the University's Equality & Diversity policy and procedures at all times. Duties must be carried out in accordance with relevant Equality & Diversity legislation and University policies/procedures.

Organisational Responsibility

Reports to InterAct Network Manager.

Person Specification

Your application will be reviewed against the essential and desirable criteria listed below. Applicants are strongly advised to explicitly state and evidence how they meet each of the essential (and desirable) criteria in their application. Stages of assessment are as follows:

- 1 – Application
- 2 – Test/Assessment Centre/Presentation
- 3 – Interview

Essential Criteria

Area	Criteria	Stage
Experience	Demonstrable understanding of the different types of impact.	1,3
	Previous experience of identifying and maximising the delivery of impact from research activity.	1,3
	Experience of developing and delivering knowledge exchange activities and events (on-line and in-person).	1,3
	Proven and demonstrable experience of building and maintaining collaborative relationships.	1,3
	Relevant experience in an academic research environment or equivalent industrial experience.	1,3
	Experience of working with public bodies, professional institutions and stakeholders from industry and other fields.	1,3
Skills and abilities	Strong project management and organisational skills.	1,3
	Ability to build, nurture, maintain and collaborate with a strong network of stakeholders including researchers, industry and policy- makers.	1,3
	Effective and confident communicator (written and verbal).	1,3
	Ability to work within a team environment, and to work independently.	1,3
	Accuracy and attention to detail.	1,3
Training	Willingness to undertake further training as appropriate and to adopt new procedures as and when required.	1,3
Qualifications	First degree or equivalent.	1
Other	Commitment to observing the University's Equal Opportunities policy at all times.	1,3
	Commitment to maintain confidentiality, where relevant, at all times.	1,3

Desirable Criteria

Area	Criteria	Stage
Experience	Experience of working in the Higher Education Sector and good knowledge and understanding of the Research Excellence Framework (REF), in particular what is meant more broadly by the impact of research.	1,3
	Experience of facilitation of group discussions.	1,3
	Experience of implementing and/or monitoring equality, diversity and inclusion policies.	1,3
	Experience of involvement with large multi-institutional projects, including stakeholder management.	1,3
Skills and Abilities	Knowledge of, and interest in, manufacturing research.	1,3
	Ability to collect data through face-to-face meetings, focus groups and surveys.	1,3

Conditions of Service

The position is full time (37 hours per week) and fixed term until 31 March 2026. Salary will be on Management and Specialist Grade 6, £35,116 – £45,413 per annum, at a starting salary to be confirmed on offer of appointment.

The University is committed to enabling staff to maintain a healthy work-home balance and has a number of family- friendly policies which can be found [here](#).

The University offers a wide range of employee benefits which can be found [here](#).

We also offer an on-campus nursery with subsidised places, subsidised places at local holiday clubs and a childcare voucher scheme (further details are available at: <http://www.lboro.ac.uk/services/hr/a-z/childcare-information---page.html>)

In addition, the University is supportive, wherever possible, of flexible working arrangements. We also strive to create a culture that supports equality and celebrates diversity throughout the campus. The University holds a Bronze Athena SWAN award which recognises the importance of support for women at all stages of their academic career. For further information on Athena SWAN see <http://www.lboro.ac.uk/services/hr/athena-swan/>