

Stores & Procurement Manager

Department of Biochemistry

Closing Date: Monday 6th May 2024

Job Reference:PH41136



Stores & Procurement Manager

Salary:

£40,521—£54,395

Contract:

Permanent

Location:

Central Cambridge

Department:

Biochemistry

Responsible to:

Departmental Administrator
& General Manager

Working pattern:

Full-time, on-site

Purpose of the role

The role provides technical, commercial and administrative leadership for a stores and procurement facility in order to support to the teaching and research of multiple departments; principally Biochemistry and Pathology within the School of the Biological Sciences (SBS).

The role-holder is responsible for three key service areas: management of the BioPath Stores Facility; management and oversight of the Department of Biochemistry procurement function; management of the SBS Vehicle Pool.

BioPath Stores is the central stores facility for all departments within the School of the Biological Sciences (SBS) and over 40 other institutions across the University. With a turnover in the region of £2m per annum, a significant stock holding, both facility-owned and on consignment from suppliers. The role-holder is responsible for effective continuity of the service and overall business processes of the facility.

This position, which sits within the Department of Biochemistry, reports to the Departmental Administrator & General Manager and works closely with the Finance & Business Services Manager, fulfils the role of departmental Procurement Manager. As such, the role-holder is responsible for ensuring that all purchasing adheres to best practise and guidelines issued by the University Procurement Service, in particular obtaining best value for the University whilst maintaining awareness of sustainability goals.

As manager of the SBS vehicle pool, the role-holder is responsible for the safe and cost-effective running of the service on behalf of the School of the Biological Sciences (SBS), under the stewardship of the Department of Biochemistry.

The role-holder will need excellent interpersonal skills with a confident and pro-active approach to dealing with people at all levels of seniority.

They will be required to work independently on their own initiative, as well as being part of a team, managing a range of Stores technicians and professional services staff, ensuring and maintaining health and safety regulations in line with Health & Safety Executive policies and procedures.



Stores & Procurement Manager

Key responsibilities [1/3]

1) Responsible for development of the BioPath Stores and its facilities, space and services in order to support the provision of teaching and research:

- Oversee space and storage facility refurbishment programmes, co-ordinate stock control schemes, oversee projects from design meetings through to daily co-ordination of work on site, act as 'user representative' on larger projects such as replacement stock control system.

2) Day to day management of BioPath Stores Facility activity:

- Manage the flow of work requests to ensure timely service to research staff, allocate and oversee work of Stores Technicians, provide training to technicians, ensure a safe working environment. Conduct risk assessments, instruct students in safe working practices and oversee activities in the Facility and its services. Design and implement purchasing strategies to ensure the facility offers products appropriate to the changing needs of its customers; liaise and negotiate prices and discounts with suppliers, in consultation with Procurement Services when appropriate, ensuring all University and tendering rules are adhered to.
- Ensure stock levels are managed to minimise shortages and wastage levels.
- Review, design and implement systems and procedures to ensure the highest level of customer service.
- Ensure that day to day operations of the facility are maintained to the highest standard and it operates in line with University policy and procedures, including all relevant health and safety guidelines. Review, design, and implement systems and procedures to monitor and protect stock holdings of both the facility and consignment stock held on behalf of Suppliers. Optimise storage space to facilitate the most efficient access to the stores stock. Hold & maintain any licences relevant to allow the facility to hold controlled items (e.g. alcohol).
- Develop and maintain excellent working relationships with University Procurement Services, end users and Suppliers.
- Supervise the goods in process for the Departments of Biochemistry and Pathology ensuring the prompt delivery of all items to the end recipient.

3) Manage the Stores procurement budgets to ensure effective use of funds:

- Monitor expenditure against the budget, monitor service resources, place orders and source suppliers for consumables and equipment as required. Negotiate with suppliers in relation to purchases, review and develop timesheet charging systems, ensure charging of technicians is implemented and carried out in a timely manner.
- Implement the 'University Purchasing Guidelines and Standard Terms and Conditions', and act as departmental point of contact on procurement matters.
- Regularly review and act on any non-standard terms and conditions requested by suppliers, ensuring that all purchase requests are fulfilled from the most cost effective and sustainable source, which could be BioPath Stores, Marketplace or an alternative University supplier.
- Ensure that the correct VAT treatment is applied to all purchasing requests, including the authorisation of VAT Exemption Certificates if required.
- With reference to the University Import Hub teams, ensure correct Import/Export treatment of all orders. Represent the Department in University Procurement focus groups and committees when required.

Stores & Procurement Manager

Key responsibilities [2/3]

4) Manage all aspects of health and safety in the BioPath Stores Facility:

- Develop and implement schedules for regular inspection of all safety critical systems (e.g. rolling shelving, handling equipment, cold storage) take responsibility for maintenance schedules, establish and ensure compliance with disposal arrangements for contaminated waste, oversee and make arrangements for safe transportation of gases and chemicals and ensure cleanliness, security and safety of all work areas.
- Ensure the facility correctly receives, stores and disposes of hazard waste as advised by the Departmental Safety Officer.

5) Make arrangements for the regular servicing of BioPath Stores Facility equipment and the SBS Vehicle Pool vehicles:

- Check that all equipment and vehicles remain operational and that relevant regulation updates are complied with Identify when existing equipment is beyond economical repair, respond to emergency equipment breakdowns. Oversee the maintenance of specialist services that are routed to them i.e. gas, vacuum and hydraulic services etc.
- Manage the SBS Vehicle Pool, ensuring that the vehicles are maintained, road worthy and legal. Create and keep updated information for drivers, including the procedures for maintaining records of approved drivers.
- Design and implement charging structure to ensure the Facility remains competitive and self-funding.

6) Liaise with the Departmental Finance Team to ensure the financial accuracy of all transactions relating to the BioPath Stores and Vehicle Pool facilities:

- Review and approve all supplier invoices, providing the correct coding as required.
- Investigate and resolve the more complex issues resulting from supplier invoicing discrepancies. Ensure the annual stock take is completed in a timely, professional and efficient manner, keeping closure time to a minimum.
- Be responsible for the management of the Stores Inventory Management system, including approving access and supporting training as required. Be proactive in seeking technical solutions for updated systems.

7) Provide advice to staff and students on for the procurement and purchase of experimental equipment:

- Provide a costing and resource service to researchers and students.
- Provide advice on budgets, design and construction time to assist in the provision of quotations and grant applications.

8) Facilitate communication on health and safety within the Facility and represent the Facility at departmental and School level:

- Oversee the provision of health and safety, ensure effective communication, participate in/chair meetings and proactively take forward initiatives and resolve any matters on health and safety.
- Produce comprehensive guidance on all aspects of health and safety and represent health and safety in management meetings/committees where appropriate.
- Ensure all team members are up to date with all aspect of Health and Safety training necessary for them to carry out their role.

Stores & Procurement Manager

Key responsibilities [3/3]

9) Investigate and respond to accidents, incidents, health conditions and complaints relating to health and safety and to take remedial action as appropriate.

- Provide specialist input to the investigation of accidents, incidents and work-related ill health conditions in order to prevent recurrence, ensure appropriate follow up action is carried out after safety or security-related incidents.
- Carry out workplace environmental monitoring surveys as appropriate.

10) Line management of the BioPath Stores professional services team, including staff training and development, appraisals, annual leave planning, sickness management and first line management of grievances.

Person specification

	Essential	Desirable
Education & qualifications		
First degree/Masters/ level 7 vocational qualifications in a relevant discipline.	✓	
Skills		
Knowledge of consumables demands in science and how scientific research is implemented in STEMM/life science.	✓	
Understanding of specialist research equipment and consumables.	✓	
Highly effective and efficient analytical and problem solving skills.	✓	
Ability to effectively communicate verbally and in written at all levels.	✓	
Excellent organisational skills, with advanced numeracy and attention to detail.	✓	
Understanding of IT and automated systems for stock control and management.		✓
Relevant Experience		
Knowledge of consumables demands in science and how scientific research is implemented in life science	✓	
Experience of running an operational facility and understanding of senior administrative management.	✓	
Experience of implementing health and safety in a research and/or commercial environment.	✓	
Experienced user of Microsoft Office.	✓	
Experienced user of computerised databases, inventory control, sales systems and databases.		✓
Experience of procurement and purchasing, preferably at scale.		✓

Behavioural Attributes

This section summarises the behavioural attributes (or competencies) that we expect the role holder to be able to demonstrate, at what level and whether this is an essential or desirable requirement.

Full definitions are at: <https://www.hr.admin.cam.ac.uk/policies-procedures/behavioural-attributes>.

Please review these and provide specific examples in your application of how you have demonstrated these attributes in your work, education or other experience. It will assist your application if you explain the situation, what you did and what the outcomes were.

Attribute	Level
Communication	B
Relationship Building	B
Valuing Diversity	A
Achieving Results	A
Strategic focus	C
People Development	C
Negotiating and Influence	C
Innovation and change	C

The Department



The Department of Biochemistry at the University of Cambridge is a world-leading biochemical research and education facility, building on the University's tradition of scientific enquiry to enable and support outstanding science. As part of the School of the Biological Sciences our excellent undergraduate and postgraduate education programmes develop the next generation of scientists, whilst over 40 research groups led by investigators of international standing collaborate with colleagues around the world to answer fundamental questions on how cells and their constituent molecules work in life and relate to disease.

About the Department

The Department is located in two main buildings located on Tennis Court Road. The original Hopkins Building on the Downing Site started life in 1924 as the Sir William Dunn Institute of Biochemistry, under the inspirational leadership of our founder, Frederick Gowland Hopkins. Hopkins was a truly remarkable scientist and human being: he won the 1929 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine for his discovery of

vitamins, he was a passionate believer in equal rights for women and men (recruiting many women as research scientists at a time when this was unheard of in Cambridge) and rescued many Jewish and other victimized scientists from mainland Europe during the interwar years. His legacy of fairness, equality, mentorship and academic excellence remains our inspiration. The Hopkins Building is beautiful, elegant and, equally important for a modern teaching and research department, has been extensively refurbished in recent years. Our other main building, located 350 metres south on the Old Addenbrooke's Hospital Site, is named after the late, great Fred Sanger, an alumnus of the Department and winner of two Nobel Prizes in Chemistry – one for the sequencing of proteins and the second for developing the technology to sequence DNA that precipitated the genomics revolution. The Sanger Building was funded by generous donations from Peter and Paula Beckwith, the Wolfson Foundation, the Wellcome Trust and many others and was opened formally by Fred Sanger himself in November 1997.

There is much more information about the Department at <https://www.bioc.cam.ac.uk>.

The School of the Biological Sciences

The School of the Biological Sciences encompasses the Faculty Board of Biology and the Faculty Board of Veterinary Medicine and is represented on the Faculty Board of Clinical Medicine. It has responsibilities across four Triposes (the Natural Sciences Tripos, the Medical Sciences Tripos, the Veterinary Sciences Tripos and the Psychological and Behavioral Sciences Tripos).

It shares the Graduate School of Life Sciences, Graduate Committee and Medical Education Committee with the Clinical School. It has its own Degree Committee. It includes nine Departments and the Centre for Family Studies, plus five major research Institutes and an animal hospital. The School is a key player in the Cambridge Conservation Initiative as well as the majority of Cambridge Strategic Initiatives. The School is associated with the Museum of Zoology and the Botanic Garden. Key officers of the School plus details of relevant Research Ethics Committees (Human Biology, Psychology) can be found on the School's website. Various subcommittees report to the Council, as required.

Formal representation on the Council of the School (its most senior decision-making body) is outlined in Chapter 8 of the University's Statutes and Ordinances. Heads of School Institutes, as well as Heads of Departments, are currently co-opted on to the Council, together with representatives of the three Faculty Boards. In addition, the Head of the Botanic Garden and a representative from the School of Technology attend as observers.

Most of the detailed information about research and teaching in the School is to be found on the departments' web sites. The members of the Gurdon Institute, the Sainsbury Laboratory and the Systems Biology Centre have affiliations with departments in the School. The Stem Cell Institute and Milner Institute also have affiliations within the School of Clinical Medicine.



Terms of appointment

Tenure and probation

The appointment will be made on a permanent basis. Appointments will be subject to satisfactory completion of a nine month probationary period.

Hours of Work and Working Pattern

The hours of work for the position are 37 hours per week, working Monday – Friday, on-site due to the nature of the role.

Pension

You will automatically be enrolled to become a member of USS (Universities Superannuation Scheme) – a defined benefits pension scheme. For further information please visit:

www.pensions.admin.cam.ac.uk

Annual leave

Full time employees are entitled to annual paid leave of 41 days inclusive of public holidays. For new part-time employees, annual leave will be pro rata'd based on days worked.

General information

Pre-employment checks

Right to work in the UK

We have a legal responsibility to ensure that you have the right to work in the UK before you can start working for us. If you do not have the right to work in the UK already, any offer of employment we make to you will be conditional upon you gaining it.

Health declaration

Once an offer of employment has been made the successful candidate will be required to complete a work health declaration form.

Qualifications

The person specification for this position lists qualifications that are essential and/or desirable. Please note that if you are offered the post you will be asked to provide your relevant original certificates of these qualifications.

References - offers of appointment will be subject to the receipt of satisfactory references.

Information if you have a disability

The University welcomes applications from individuals with disabilities. We are committed to ensuring fair treatment throughout the recruitment process. We will make adjustments to enable applicants to compete to the best of their ability wherever it is reasonable to do so and, if successful, to assist them during their employment.

The University

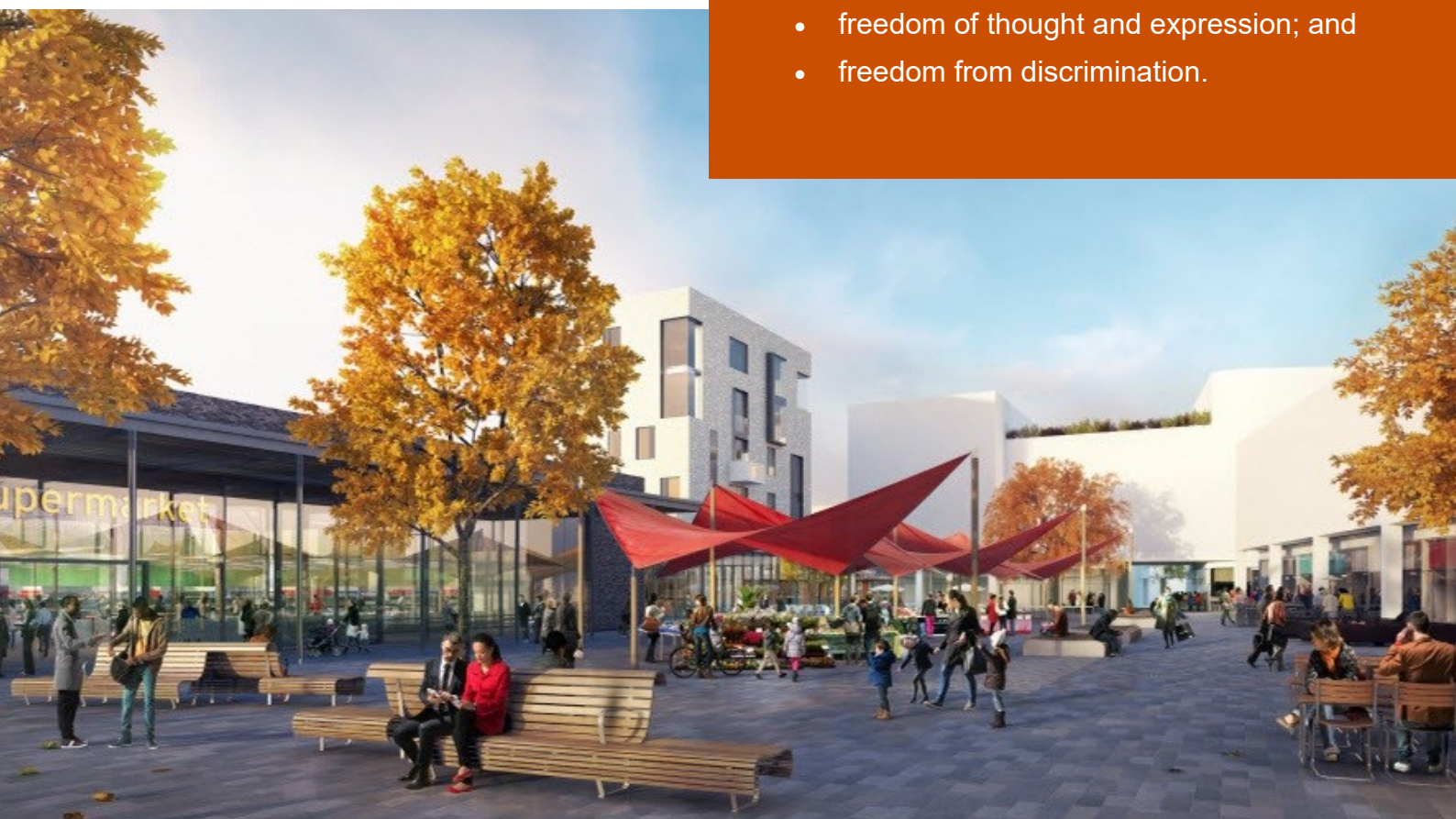
The University of Cambridge is one of the world's oldest and most successful universities. We are a renowned centre for research, education, and scholarship that makes a significant contribution to society. The University is consistently ranked amongst the top universities in the world. Our affiliates have won more Nobel Prizes than any other University.

Our sustained pursuit of academic excellence is built on a long history of first-class teaching and research within a distinctive collegiate system. For eight centuries our ideas and innovations have shaped the world. Our principal goal is to remain one of the world's leading universities in an increasingly competitive global higher education sector. Today the University of Cambridge is at the centre of a cluster of over 4,300 businesses employing 58,000 people.

Our capital investment projects include the West Cambridge site, the North West Cambridge development and the growth of the Biomedical Campus in the south of the city. The North West Cambridge development includes the opening of a primary school – the first in the UK to be managed by a University. So we are deeply embedded in, and committed to serving, our local community. These are all conspicuous signs of a University that is not only adapting to new needs, but also anticipating the future.

Our mission is to contribute to society through the pursuit of education, learning, and research at the highest international levels of excellence. Our core values are:

- freedom of thought and expression; and
- freedom from discrimination.



About us

The University is one of the world's leading academic centres. It comprises 150 faculties and departments, together with a central administration and other institutions. Our institutions, museums and collections are a world-class resource for researchers, students and members of the public representing one of the country's highest concentrations of internationally important collections.

The University has an annual income of £2 billion. Research income, won competitively from the UK Research Councils, the European Union (EU), major charities and industry, exceeds £500 million per annum and continues to grow.

The Colleges and the University remain committed to admitting the best students regardless of their background and to investing considerable resources both in widening access and financial support. The 31 Colleges are self-governing, separate legal entities which appoint their own staff. Many academic staff are invited to join a College as a Teaching Fellow, which provides a further social and intellectual dimension. The Colleges admit students, provide student accommodation and deliver small group teaching.

The University awards degrees and its faculties and departments provide lectures and seminars for students and determine the syllabi for teaching and conducting research.

Our instinct for seeking out excellence and setting up enduring and mutually beneficial collaborations has led us to establish strategic partnerships across the globe. Whether it is the successful Cambridge-Africa Programme involving universities in Ghana, Uganda and elsewhere on the African continent; or the close association with the government of India to pursue new research in crop science; or the creation, with Germany's Max Planck Institutes, of a Cambridge-based centre for the study of ethics, human economy and social change – international partnerships are now an inextricable part of the University's make-up.

“Cambridge graduates and researchers have made – and continue to make – a colossal contribution to human knowledge and the understanding of the world around us. Their work touches on the lives and livelihoods of everyone from patients diagnosed with life-threatening diseases, to residents of areas critically affected by climate change, to children growing up in conflict zones. It has a lasting impact on our society, our economy and our culture: the world is truly a better place thanks to their efforts.”

Stephen Toope, Vice Chancellor 2019



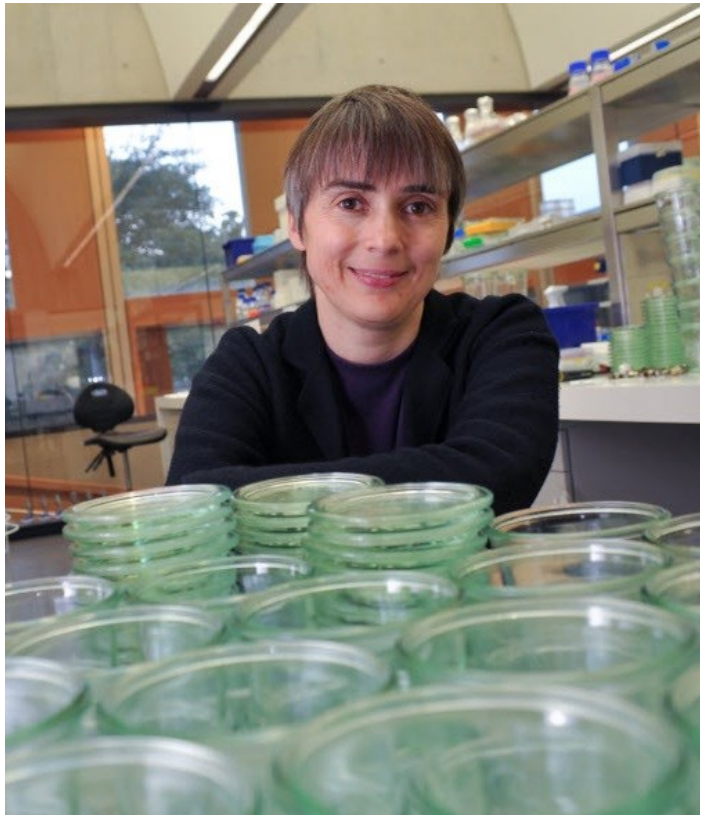
Working at the University

Working at Cambridge you will join a diverse, talented and innovative community, with more than 18,000 students and over 16,000 staff from all walks of life and corners of the world.

The University continually explores strategies to attract and retain the best people. It is committed to supporting its staff to achieve their best. We are a fair, diverse and inclusive society and we believe our staff are our greatest asset. There is strong commitment to developing institutional leadership and supporting and encouraging staff development at all levels.

We offer a variety of roles including academic, research, professional, managerial and support roles. We also offer extensive benefits and excellent learning opportunities within a stimulating working environment.

The University's estate is undergoing the most significant transformation in its history. Cambridge has been able to create a new science and technology campus to the west of the city centre, and is now expanding further to the north west of Cambridge including investing in affordable homes for University key workers and community facilities. Even with our continued development, the University remains within walking or cycling distance across the campus. The University is a major partner on the Cambridge Biomedical Campus and we continue to redevelop our historic city centre sites demonstrating our determination to ensure that we can offer the best facilities and opportunities for our staff and students.



Equality & diversity

The University has built its excellence on the diversity of its staff and student community. We aim to be a leader in fostering equality and inclusion, and in promoting respect and a sense of belonging for all. We encourage applications from all sections of society. All appointments are made on the basis of merit. We have an Equal Opportunities Policy, along with a range of diversity networks for women, black and minority ethnic and lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender staff. More details are available here: <http://www.equality.admin.cam.ac.uk/>

The University has a bronze Race Equality Charter award, with framework for improving the representation, progression and success of minority ethnic staff and students within higher education. Furthermore, the University's Athena SWAN award recognises and celebrates good practice in recruiting, retaining and promoting women.

Living in Cambridge

Cambridge is rich in cultural diversity. From beautiful University and College buildings, museums and art galleries, quaint gardens and punts on the River Cam, to a vibrant restaurant and café scene, our employees are surrounded by the wonderful features of this unique city.

You can find a wide-range of high street shops and 3 shopping centres, with independent alternatives at the historic market and nestled within the passageways in the city centre. You will find a cinema, bowling alley, a nightclub and various live performances At the Cambridge Leisure Park, with further entertainment options at the Corn Exchange, Arts Theatre and the ADC Theatre. Further information can be found on the [Visit Cambridge](#) website.

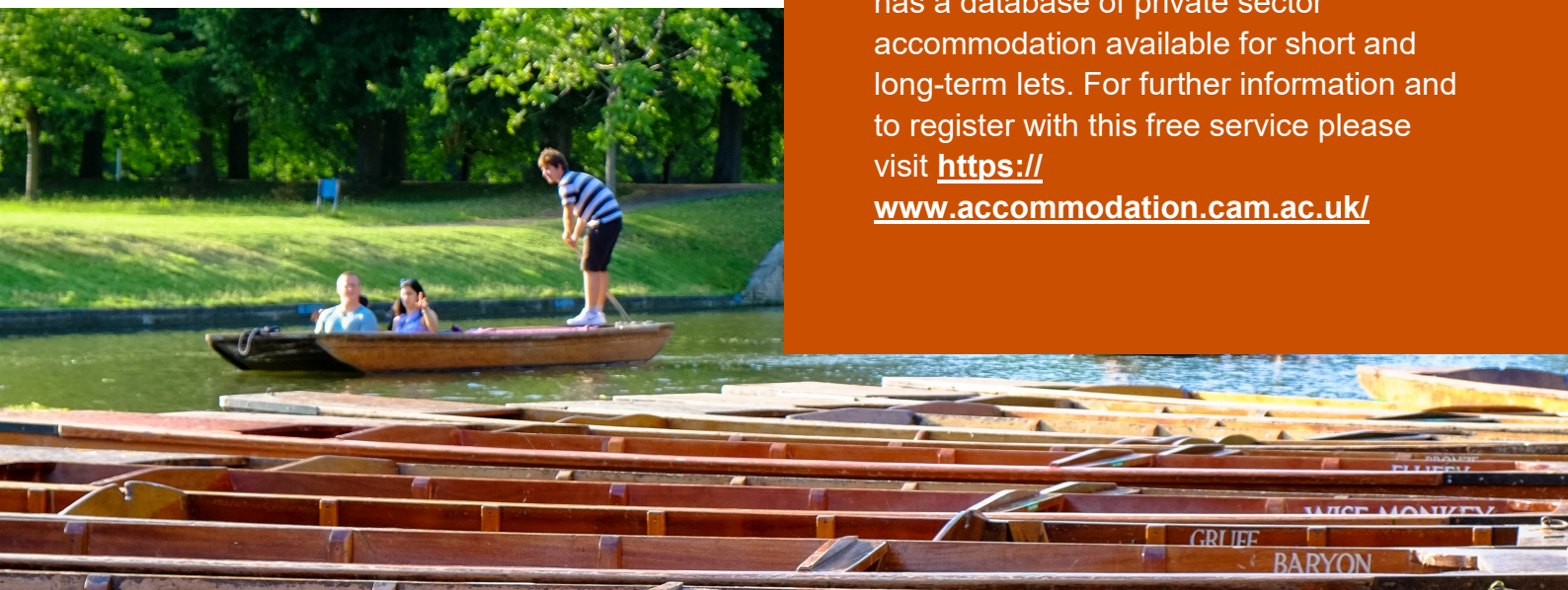
If you prefer the faster pace of life, London is a 45 minute train journey away. For those travelling from overseas, Stansted Airport is just 45 minutes away and Heathrow Airport under 2 hours away. The University is a short distance from a host of other attractions such as Ely Cathedral, Newmarket Races and various wildlife parks and stately homes. Cambridge is also within easy reach of the beautiful Broads and coastlines of Norfolk and Suffolk.

Relocation Support

The University recognises the importance of helping individuals to move and settle into a new area. We provide support and guidance to those relocating internationally or domestically to take up a post at the University of Cambridge, liaising with other University offices and selected partners to ensure comprehensive relocation support is available. This includes: accommodation, childcare, schools, banking, immigration and transport. If you would like further information, please visit <https://www.accommodation.cam.ac.uk/>. The Shared Equity Scheme and the Reimbursement of Relocation Expenses Scheme provide financial assistance to qualifying new members of staff with the costs of relocating to Cambridge.

Accommodation Service

The University Accommodation Service helps staff, students and visiting scholars who are affiliated to the University in their search for suitable accommodation in Cambridge. The dedicated accommodation team can provide access to a wide range of University-owned furnished and unfurnished properties, and has a database of private sector accommodation available for short and long-term lets. For further information and to register with this free service please visit <https://www.accommodation.cam.ac.uk/>



What Cambridge can offer

We offer a comprehensive reward package to attract, motivate and retain high performing staff at all levels and in all areas of work.

The University offers a wide range of competitive benefits, from family leave entitlement, to shopping and travel discount schemes. Our generous annual leave package contributes to the positive wellbeing of our University employees. Sabbatical leave enables academics to focus on research and scholarship, whilst still maintaining their full salary. The University also has a career break scheme for academic and academic-related staff, with additional flexible working policies for all other staff.

Pay and benefits

The University salary structure includes automatic service-related pay progression in many of its grades and an annual cost of living increase. In addition to this, employees are rewarded for outstanding contribution through a number of regular pay progression schemes. The University offers attractive pensions schemes for employees, with an additional benefit of a salary exchange arrangement providing tax and national insurance savings. Payroll giving is also a simple, tax-efficient way for employees to make monthly donations to charity.



CAMBens employee benefits

We offer a CAMBens scheme for University employees, providing access to online and in-store shopping discounts and cashback. With more than 2,000 participating retailers, employees can save money on a wide range of household expenses, from groceries and clothes, to holidays and insurance and much more. A range of local discounts are also available, helping employees to save money whilst also supporting local Cambridge businesses and a CAMBens Cycle to Work salary sacrifice scheme is also available, which enables employees to save money on transport costs. A 10% discount rate on the purchase of train season tickets, bulk buy tickets and an interest free travel to work loan are also available for staff of the University.



What Cambridge can offer

Family-friendly policies

The University recognises the importance of supporting its staff. We have a range of family-friendly policies to aid employees' work-life balance including a generous maternity, adoption and shared parental leave entitlement of 18 weeks full pay and emergency family care support via My Family Care.

Other family-friendly support includes:

Our highly regarded workplace nurseries, a childcare salary exchange scheme and a high quality holiday Playscheme may be available to help support University employees with caring responsibilities (subject to demand and qualifying criteria). Further childcare information can be found here:

<https://www.childcare.admin.cam.ac.uk/>

The Newcomers and Visiting Scholars Group is an organisation within the University run by volunteers whose aim is to help newly arrived wives, husbands, partners and families of Visiting Scholars and members of the University to settle in Cambridge and give them an opportunity to meet local people. The Office of Postdoctoral Affairs supports the postdoctoral community within Cambridge. Further details are available here: <https://www.opda.cam.ac.uk/>

Your wellbeing

The University's Sport Centre, Counselling Services and Occupational Health are just some of the support services available to University employees to promote their physical and mental wellbeing. There are many societies in Cambridge catering for almost every taste and interest. Whether you want to take part in a sport, participate in music or drama, pursue a hobby, or join a political group, you will almost certainly find that a society exists for this purpose. The University also hosts the [Cambridge Science Festival](#) and [Cambridge Festival of Ideas](#), as well as [Open Cambridge](#) weekend, which together attract over 50,000 visitors per year. The festivals are a great opportunity to get your first taste of public engagement, through volunteering, supporting hands-on activities or proposing a talk.

Development opportunities

We support new employees to settle in through various activities. The encouragement of career development for all staff is one of the University's values and we put this into practice through various services and initiatives. Our Personal and Professional Development Department provides development opportunities and courses for all University employees. These include face-to-face sessions, online learning modules and webinars. Employees may also apply for financial support to undertake training that will lead to a qualification. We offer reduced staff fees for University of Cambridge graduate courses and the opportunity to attend lectures and seminars held by University departments and institutions. The CareerStart@Cam programme also supports employees in assistant staff roles who do not hold higher education qualifications to develop their skills, experience and qualifications.



How to apply

Applications should be submitted online via the University of Cambridge jobs page www.jobs.cam.ac.uk by clicking “Apply online” in the job advert. You will need an email address to register for our online system.

Conversations about flexible working are encouraged at the University of Cambridge. Please feel free to discuss flexibility prior to applying (using the contact information below) or at interview if your application is successful.

Informal enquiries are welcomed and should be directed to the Departmental Administrator & General Manager:
Dr Katherine Wallington via: da@bioc.cam.ac.uk

If you have any queries regarding the application process please contact our HR Office via: personnel@bioc.cam.ac.uk

The closing date for applications is:
Monday 6th May 2024

The interview date for the vacancy is to be confirmed.