



University of
Sheffield

Vice-President and Head of Social Sciences

Candidate Brochure



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Welcome from the Vice-Chancellor

This is a truly special place, with a bold and ambitious future.

Our University Vision is to deliver life-enhancing research, innovation and education that not only transform the lives of our graduates, but shapes the world we live in. This Vision is underpinned by four equally important pillars: Research, Innovation, Education, and One University.

To help us further strengthen and progress our world-leading innovation, we are excited to offer an opportunity for an exceptional leader to join us as the Vice-President and Head of the Faculty of Social Sciences. This is a key leadership role within the University of Sheffield, responsible for providing leadership and management to the Faculty of Social Sciences.

We are seeking an exceptional individual who has a track record of delivering impactful research, innovation, and education, with a deep commitment to creating an inclusive and supportive culture for staff and students.

As a key member of the University Executive Board, you will have the opportunity to shape and deliver the University's strategic objectives and priorities, and to drive our vision for a world-leading institution that transforms lives and shapes the world in positive ways.



As Vice-President and Head of the Faculty of Social Sciences, you will provide strategic direction, leadership, and management for the Faculty, ensuring that we continue to deliver key activities relevant to the business area. This is a tremendous opportunity to shape the future of our faculty and contribute to our mission of transforming lives and shaping the world we live in.

The University of Sheffield was founded more than a century ago through penny donations from the citizens of the city and region, on a pledge to build a university 'for the people'. Today, we continue to hold a profound belief in the public benefit of a first-class higher education, and our community puts civic commitment at its heart.

Our leading researchers focus on making a difference by finding solutions to some of the greatest challenges we face. From pioneering new treatments for life-threatening diseases and helping us to live healthier lives for longer, to solving the problem of feeding a world of 10 billion people and creating sustainable energy solutions to save our planet – the work we do matters.

Our education and research-led teaching gives students from across the globe the skills to make a positive impact on the world, and many of our graduates go on to become leaders in their fields. We celebrate the role that our international students, staff, partnerships and alumni play in positioning the University of Sheffield as a truly global voice.

By taking a One University approach, we are building a diverse community of staff and students from a broad range of backgrounds, demographics and cultures, and are committed to creating an inclusive, supportive and collaborative environment in which they can succeed and flourish.

As Vice-President and Head of the Faculty of Social Sciences, you will be pivotal in driving our mission forward. You will have the opportunity to shape the strategic direction of the Faculty, and to ensure that our research, innovation, and education activities continue to have a positive impact on society.

If you share our ambitions and drive to make a positive difference, we would be delighted to receive your application. Join us in shaping the future of higher education and transforming lives for the better.

Professor Koen Lamberts,
President and Vice-Chancellor of
University of Sheffield



About the Faculty of Social Sciences

The Faculty of Social Sciences has a long-established reputation for producing world-leading research. From social inequality to climate change, we are committed to tackling some of the most pressing challenges of our time.

Our academics work at the forefront of knowledge, building lasting partnerships across the globe. Our expertise is extensive – our thirteen academic departments cover the breadth of the social sciences. They are: School of Architecture, Department of Economics, School of Education, Department of Geography, Information School, Department of Journalism Studies, Department of Landscape Architecture, School of Law, Management School, Department of Politics, Sheffield Methods Institute, Department of Sociological Studies and the Department of Urban Studies and Planning.

We are committed to making a positive impact on society and through our research we improve people's lives to create a more just and equitable world. Our academics are dedicated to exploring new ideas and developing innovative solutions that make a real difference in the world. We collaborate across the globe to tackle complex issues that require interdisciplinary approaches. Our research is recognised for its excellence, and we are proud to be one of the top-ranked social science faculties in the UK.

In addition to our commitment to research and social impact, we are dedicated to providing our students with an exceptional educational experience. We provide our students with the skills and knowledge they need to become agents of change in their communities. With a wide range of undergraduate and postgraduate programs, we offer students the opportunity to learn from world-class academics and engage in cutting-edge research.

Our staff are passionate about teaching and mentoring the next generation of social scientists. We offer a programs that are designed to meet the needs of students at different stages of their academic journey, from undergraduate degrees to PhD programs. Our students have access to state-of-the-art facilities, including well-equipped lecture halls, research labs, and digital resources, which enable them to pursue their studies in a supportive and stimulating environment. We are proud to have a diverse and inclusive student community, which reflects our commitment to promoting equity and diversity in higher education.

For further details about the Faculty of Social Sciences please see our website: www.sheffield.ac.uk/social-sciences.

Our Vision and Strategic Plan

The University of Sheffield is special. A world class institution at the heart of our city. Driven by outstanding people working as One University. We believe our work has the power to change lives. Not just for those who study, teach and do research here. But for those who benefit from the breakthroughs we make every day. We're proud of our past. Yet it's the future that really excites us.

We are the University of Sheffield. And this is our vision.

Find out more about our [Vision and Strategic Plan](#).

Our Four Pillars

Through our 4 pillars of Research, Innovation, Education and One University we will deliver life-enhancing research, innovation and education that not only transforms the lives of our graduates but shapes the world we live in.



Research

Our distinctive and innovative research will be world-leading and world-changing. We will produce the highest quality research to drive intellectual advances and address global challenges.



Innovation

Our transformative research and enterprise will address the world's most pressing challenges. We will enable and promote a culture of excellence in innovation and entrepreneurship across the University.



Education

Our research-led programmes will inspire, enthuse and challenge a diverse community of outstanding students. Our graduates will be equipped to stand out as confident global citizens guided by strong values, ethics and standards, able to make meaningful contributions to society.



One University

We will build a diverse community of staff and students from a broad range of backgrounds, demographics and cultures, and create an inclusive, supportive and collaborative environment in which they can succeed and flourish.

Our Story

115 years in the making, [our story](#) continues to evolve every day, defined not just by our achievements but by the unique character of our people and this remarkable city.

Our Values

We believe the best way to achieve our Vision and Strategic Plan is by fostering an ambitious, inclusive, collaborative community through our values.

We are, and will always be, guided by our values:

We are **ambitious** and strive for **excellence** in all that we do.

We believe in **collaborative** working.

We champion an **inclusive** and **diverse** community.

We are **responsible** – for our people and the wider world.

We are open and **transparent** about the decisions we make.



The Opportunity Overview

This is one of five Vice-President and Head of Faculty roles in the University, reporting to the Provost and Deputy Vice-Chancellor. The role sits on the University Executive Board (UEB), chaired by the President and Vice-Chancellor, and comprising the Provost and Deputy Vice-Chancellor, four other Vice-Presidents and Heads of Faculty, two cross-cutting Vice-Presidents (Education, and Research and Innovation), the Chief Financial Officer, the Chief Operating Officer and the Director of Human Resources.

The Vice-President will, in collaboration with other members of UEB, work to ensure the development and delivery of the University Strategy and Vision, and through their leadership of the Faculty will ensure alignment of Faculty priorities with University strategic aims.

The Vice-President has full, devolved accountability for the leadership and management of success of the Faculty of Social Sciences. The post holder will also ensure close collaboration with other faculties within the University, to strengthen our capacity for world-leading research.

This is an exciting opportunity for a visionary individual to lead major initiatives, develop innovations, and make a significant impact on the social sciences landscape of the University. The Faculty Vice-President for Social Sciences will be a key member of the University's leadership team and will have the opportunity to shape and influence the direction of the University's social sciences activities for years to come.

The successful candidate will have a proven track record of leadership and management in a higher education context, with a deep understanding of the challenges and opportunities facing the social sciences. You will have excellent communication and interpersonal skills, with the ability to engage and influence a range of stakeholders both internally and externally.

The Faculty Vice-President for Social Sciences will be a strategic thinker with the ability to develop and implement innovative and impactful initiatives that drive the social sciences agenda of the university forward.

You will be committed to promoting diversity, equity, and inclusion in all aspects of your work and will have a strong commitment to the values and mission of the University of Sheffield.

**RUSSELL
GROUP**

A member of the Russell Group
of leading UK universities

REF Research
2021 Excellence
Framework

92 per cent of our research is classed
as world-leading or internationally
excellent.

THE WORLD
UNIVERSITY
RANKINGS
2022

Top 50 most international universities

**Good
University
Guide 2023**

2nd in the north

over **30,000** students
from **150** different countries

8,600 staff

£831.7m

University income

**6 Nobel Prize winners among
former staff and students**

Main Duties and Responsibilities

Corporate Leadership

- As a member of the UEB, play a key part in the development and delivery of the University's vision and strategic plan.
- Lead the development and delivery of Faculty strategic priorities, ensuring alignment to the University vision and strategy.
- As part of the University's wider leadership team, work collaboratively to contribute to sub strategies and enable action plans as part of the University's vision and strategic plan.
- Take a visible corporate leadership role on issues assigned and agreed by the Provost and Deputy Vice-Chancellor.
- Champion the University values of ambition, excellence, collaboration, inclusivity, responsibility, and transparency.
- Represent the University at a local, national, and international level.

Faculty Leadership

- Provide strategic vision, leadership, and direction for the Faculty of Social Sciences and its senior leadership team.
- Lead the implementation of the Faculty strategy and business plans.
- Lead and oversee key institutional Faculty projects.
- Ensure diversity and inclusiveness are integral to the Faculty strategy, culture, and community.
- Ensure that the Faculty complies with legal requirements and with University policies and procedures.
- Champion the social sciences both within, and beyond the University on a local, regional, national, and international level.

Research and Education

- Promote excellence in student education with a focus on student experience and measurable outcomes.
- Embed the University's Learning and Teaching Strategy.
- Facilitate an environment and culture of research excellence with a focus on quality, impact, and innovation.
- Work collaboratively to develop and deliver Research and Education strategies, ensuring high standards and alignment with University strategy.
- Work with Heads of Department to ensure the Faculty successfully meets recruitment targets.

Faculty Management and Planning

- Work closely with the Faculty Director of Operations to effectively plan and manage Faculty resources, business operations and income generation, including approving and monitoring Faculty and departmental budgets, and exercising control over post releases.
- Work with Heads of Department to achieve agree income and other targets across a portfolio of activities.
- Be responsible and accountable for financial and capital resources in line with financial principles and related policies.
- Be responsible for the effective implementation of agreed HR strategies and policies, and work with the heads of departments to nurture and encourage innovation and creativity within the Faculty.
- Be responsible for ensuring the optimal use of physical resources, including space, in the Faculty.



Main Duties and Responsibilities - Continued

People Leadership and Management

- Lead, manage and develop the Faculty Director of Operations, Faculty Director of Research and Innovation and Faculty Director of Learning and Teaching, along with all Faculty academic Heads of Department.
- Ensure staff have support and direction to contribute to high levels of achievement and develop their careers.
- Chair the Faculty Promotions Committees, ensuring that recommendations recognise and reward staff appropriately, in line with University policies.
- Continue to develop own research profile, and to keep an active interest in discipline area.
- Undertake appropriate personal development.

External Relationships

- Lead the Faculty in respect of embedding principles contained in the University's internationalisation agenda, embracing, and exploiting opportunities for growth and collaboration on an international stage.
- Develop and promote philanthropy activities across the Faculty and foster collaborations with international relevance and standing.

Key Internal Relationships

- The Vice-President will report to and be line managed by the Provost and Deputy Vice Chancellor and will work closely with the President and Vice-Chancellor.
- The Vice-President is a member of the University's Senate and the University Executive Board.
- The post holder will work closely and collaboratively with the AMG Senior Leadership Team.
- The post-holder will work closely with members of Senate, UEB, Professional Services Executive, and other committees.
- The post holder will develop strong relationships with Professional Services colleagues, e.g. HR and Finance Business Partners.

About You

Experience and achievements

- An excellent academic track record, with international research standing including experience of securing significant grant income and internationally peer reviewed publications showing evidence of research vision and innovation.
- A track record of high quality, and inspirational research led teaching, with a commitment to ongoing teaching enhancement to deliver excellent student experience.
- Evidence of successful engagement with external bodies, industry, etc., for example to enhance research and education, to attract investment and to commercialise research outputs.
- Experience of working across academia and professional services and between academia at local, regional and national level.
- Experience of working within an interdisciplinary context.
- Substantial experience of working in a large/complex organisation at a senior management level.
- Proven ability to lead a large and disparate team.
- A senior manager who has managed significant and complex financial and human resources.
- Financial acumen and proven experience of managing a financially sustainable business unit.

Personal attributes

- Ability to communicate an ambitious vision, engaging all elements of the Faculty.
- Open, collaborative, approachable and reliable.
- Drive, enthusiasm and vision.
- Personally innovative and also able to foster an environment where purposeful creativity and innovation can thrive.
- Diplomatic and politically astute in all communications and interactions with internal and external stakeholders.
- Able to maximise opportunities and exploit challenges.
- Influential, with the ability to positively influence across the University and externally with a range of partners and organisations.

Education

- Background education and experience which commands significant respect amongst the academic community.

Skills and knowledge

- A skilful strategist with a demonstrable capacity to identify and build on the synergies between disciplines.
- Proven ability to establish clear direction and plan strategically.
- Ability to empower and delegate.
- Willingness and ability to facilitate and encourage development within the Faculty at all levels.
- Capacity for successful innovation and ability to lead its delivery.
- Commitment to personal development.
- Ability to identify, create and foster links and engender confidence with external agencies and partner institutions.



Terms of Appointment

This appointment will be underpinned by an open ended professorial post. The role of Vice President will be offered to successful candidates for an initial period of five years, extendable by mutual agreement.

An excellent salary will be offered commensurate with the seniority of this post and the experience of the successful candidate. The salary is subject to regular review.

The role is also eligible to earn up to 10% of salary under the University's current Executive Performance Scheme.

Holidays:

- A minimum of 41 days annual leave including bank holiday and closure days (pro rata) with the ability to purchase up to 10 days more of additional annual leave.

Pension:

- Professorial staff are eligible to join the Universities Superannuation Scheme (USS).

Role specific benefits:

- Private Medical Insurance for you and your immediate family.
- A generous removal/relocation expenses package, subject to the terms of the scheme.
- We are happy to explore flexible delivery of the role, provided the entire role is delivered effectively, including playing an active and visible part in campus life.
- Our staff wellbeing offer, which encourages and supports staff to maintain their own positive health and wellbeing through a range of accessible, inclusive and supportive services and activities.
- A comprehensive selection of benefits and offers to suit your lifestyle needs under the umbrella of The Deal.
- Access to extensive development and training opportunities.
- Award-winning equality and diversity action which enhances working life for all.

For more information on any of the above visit:

www.sheffield.ac.uk/jobs/benefits



Sheffield - A remarkable place to work

Our people and their collective talent are what make Sheffield such a special place to live and work. We're a diverse community that shares values, purpose and identity. We're committed to changing the world for the better, through the power and application of ideas and knowledge.

We'll encourage you to pursue the extraordinary. To do this, we want you to be healthy, happy, engaged, and to feel you belong. We build teams of people from different backgrounds whose talent and contributions complement each other to the greatest effect. We believe diversity in all its forms delivers greater impact.

We want to hear from people who are as committed as we are to putting diversity, inclusion and belonging into practice to make the most significant contribution we can to addressing the great challenges of the century.

We make sure to reward and recognise the contributions, values and behaviours that align with those of the University.

Our Research and its Impact


With over 115 years experience as a leading global university, we have a history of changing the world for the better. From the first documented use of penicillin as a therapy in 1930, a drug that has gone on to save more than 82 million lives worldwide, to building Europe's largest research-led manufacturing cluster, home to Rolls-Royce, Boeing and McLaren Automotive, our inventive spirit, and top quality research environment is what sets Sheffield apart.

Put simply, our research changes lives and advances our understanding of what it means to be human.

We work with other leading universities, governments and multinational companies to tackle the biggest challenges facing the world today. We're focused on the biggest issues in climate, energy, health and social justice. We're also protecting and promoting the arts, culture and heritage.

Our flagship research institutes bring together experts from a range of disciplines to understand and tackle challenges related to food sustainability, energy, healthy lifespans and neuroscience.

We're continuing to develop new interdisciplinary strengths in globally significant areas including energy and the environment, healthcare across the disciplines and digital technologies.

A photograph showing three scientists in white lab coats and safety glasses working in a laboratory. They are looking at something on a piece of equipment, possibly a microscope or a small robot. The background shows a window with a white lattice pattern and a brick building outside.

We are in the top 10 percent of all UK universities for research.

92 per cent of our research is classed as world-leading or internationally excellent by the Research Excellence Framework 2021.



Our Education and Student Experience

Sheffield's world-shaping research feeds into our life-altering education - it's one of our core values.

Our academics are genuine experts. Our students learn at the leading edge of discovery from researchers who are tackling some of today's biggest global challenges. We teach in creative and innovative ways to provide a stimulating and inspiring learning environment. We don't see teaching as a one-way process. We see it as students and academics working together in a supportive, collegial atmosphere. We challenge our students to excel. And we expect them to challenge us too.

Sheffield is one of the top universities targeted by employers according to the High Fliers report 2023. We prepare our students for the future from day one. We help them explore all their options including employment, entrepreneurship and further study. They have opportunities to meet regional, national and international employers in all sectors. We also make connections with our successful alumni who can offer advice and support.

The majority of our courses give the chance to undertake a placement year as part of a degree. It's a way of helping our students stand out from the crowd and develop the confidence and skills for graduate employment.

The student experience at Sheffield is unrivalled. Our Students' Union has won the Whatuni Student Choice Award for Best Students' Union for five consecutive years. Committed to sustainability, inclusion and equality, it's dedicated to amplifying the student voice and making a positive change on campus. There are also over 400 societies and sports clubs to join.

Sheffield is a major student city with a strong sense of community. It's vibrant, diverse and surrounded by some of the most breathtaking countryside in the UK. We're not surprised that so many of our students move here and fall in love with Sheffield. They discover a forward-thinking city that's safe, affordable and easy to explore.

Our extraordinary city is the perfect setting for groundbreaking collaborations. Although it's world-famous for precision engineering, creative and digital industries account for almost two fifths of the region's jobs.

Healthcare technology is another growth sector. Sheffield Teaching Hospitals is the UK's largest NHS foundation trust. Our close links with the city make innovation and progression possible.

Sheffield has been called the UK's greenest city; there are 50 public parks and 170 woodlands within the city boundary. As England's fourth-largest city, it has the wealth of facilities you'd expect to find in a major city, yet more than a third of Sheffield lies inside the Peak District National Park.

Sheffield is geographically diverse, nestled in a natural amphitheatre created by seven hills, and fed by five rivers. This diversity has given rise to an exceptional range of activities available, from climbing, mountain biking, road cycling, running, walking - we've got some of the best in the world.

The city contains an abundance of entertainment and cultural activities including award-winning theatres, museums and galleries, a variety of clubs and live music venues, and a range of spectator and participation sports. With a thriving cultural industries quarter and a range of city-wide events throughout the year, there is something on offer to suit everyone's taste and interests.

Located in the centre of the UK, at the heart of an excellent transport network, the M1 and M62 are within easy reach, there are 5 international airports within 65 miles and a bustling railway station offers access to every corner of the UK, and beyond. The main University campus lies on the western edge of the city centre and is easy to get to by car, bus and tram.

To find out more about how we work with partners and friends in Sheffield to help shape a culturally and economically vibrant city visit: www.sheffield.ac.uk/about/city



**Sheffield -
A remarkable
place to live**

How to Apply

Saxton Bampfylde Ltd is acting as an employment agency adviser to the University of Sheffield on this appointment.

To apply for this role please visit their website at www.saxbam.com/appointments using the code: **WDDP**.

If you are unable to apply through the website, please email Belinda.Beck@Saxbam.com quoting reference **WDDP**.

The closing date for applications is noon on **Monday 6 November 2023**.

Following a longlist meeting of the Selection Panel, successful candidates will be invited to attend preliminary meetings with Saxton Bampfylde between 20th November to the 11th December, 2023.

Informal engagements with key stakeholders at the University will take place in the second week of January 2024.

Final-stage interviews at the University are expected to take place on week commencing 15th January, 2024.

Please diarise these dates accordingly.

Applications:

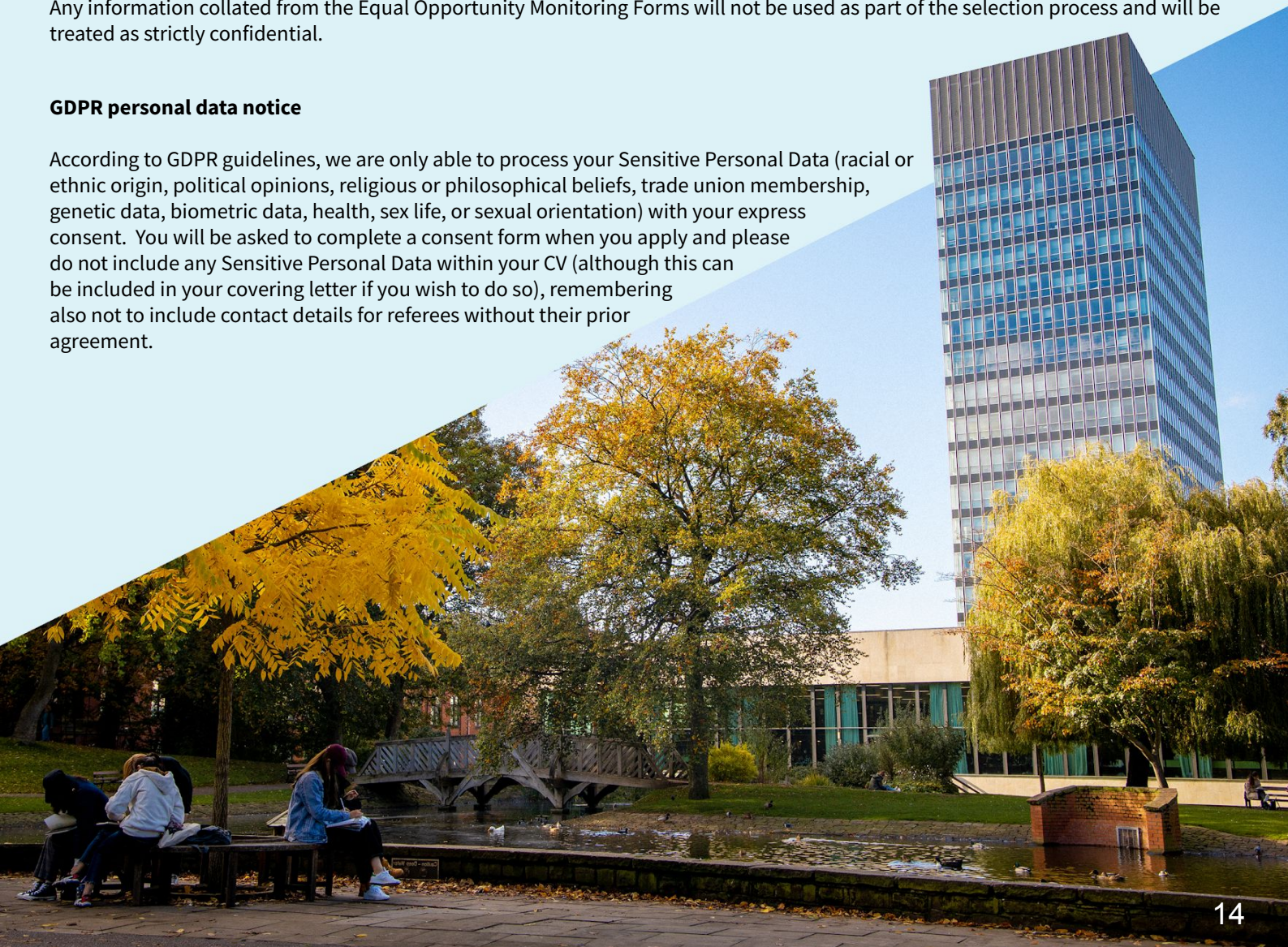
Click on the 'Apply' button and follow the instructions to upload a comprehensive curriculum vitae (CV) along with a covering letter setting out your interest in the role and details of how you match the required criteria.

Please include current salary details and the names and addresses of three referees. Referees will not be approached until the final stages and not without prior permission from candidates.

All candidates are also requested to complete an online Equal Opportunities Monitoring Form as part of the application process. This will assist the University of Sheffield in monitoring selection decisions to assess whether equality of opportunity is being achieved. Any information collated from the Equal Opportunity Monitoring Forms will not be used as part of the selection process and will be treated as strictly confidential.

GDPR personal data notice

According to GDPR guidelines, we are only able to process your Sensitive Personal Data (racial or ethnic origin, political opinions, religious or philosophical beliefs, trade union membership, genetic data, biometric data, health, sex life, or sexual orientation) with your express consent. You will be asked to complete a consent form when you apply and please do not include any Sensitive Personal Data within your CV (although this can be included in your covering letter if you wish to do so), remembering also not to include contact details for referees without their prior agreement.





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