**member logo**

**Role Profile Template**

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| This role template has been developed for a **Grade 8 IT Specialist** and applies for Computing across the University. All duties under the *Main Duties and Responsibilities* are expected to be performed by the role holder. If changes are made (i.e. If additional duties/ responsibilities added or specific tasks removed) please amend the template (using track changes)and submit the final document to Grading to assess if the changes would affect the given grade.  *Please delete this box once you have amended or saved this document for recruitment*. |

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| When submitting a Role Profile each request will need to include   * Grading Administration form (New Requirement – NR1) * Completed Role Profile (using track changes showing all changes made) * An organisational chart clearly showing the role, and other roles within the team/ section. * A completed Role Profile Support Tool – HERA Statements |

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| **Job title** | **IT Specialist** |
| **Reports to** (Position Title) |  |

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| **Role Overview**  In one or two short paragraph(s), provide factual, quantitative information that summarises the scope of the role, and its relationship to the overall aims/ goals of the team/ Department or School (specific tasks and activities are covered in the **Main duties and responsibilities**). |
| The role is based in a research intensive department of the University that is critically dependent upon the effective delivery of IT services in order to fulfil its academic mission. It is closely aligned to the design and delivery of services to enable the department’s pursuit of its research goals, whilst providing technical leadership in key areas of specialism to ensure that core infrastructure services are able to keep pace with the ever increasing demands of a fast moving department in a constantly innovating IT context. |

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| **Role purpose**  In one or two short paragraph(s) outline the main purpose of the role. It is useful to define What is being done (e.g. managing) to Whom or What (e.g. the xx team) to achieve what Outcome. (E.g. to ensure that agreed response times are met). |
| The role holder takes full technical responsibility for the design, delivery, support and continuous improvement of at least two areas of the departments IT infrastructure. By delivering against the IT plan, and leading on agreed technical projects, they enable the department to fulfil its goals in research, teaching and learning, as well as providing the tools to support the delivery of the department’s administrative functions. |

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| **Staff management responsibility**  (Please tick the applicable statement(s), and indicate the number of staff (or others – see guidance notes), whose work the role is responsible for.  An org chart showing the staff managed and reporting relationships within the team should also be supplied on a separate document) | | | |
|  | | | ***Required*** |
| **Supervisory -** Allocate tasks, check the quality/ quantity of the work and provide informal feedback on the standard of the work. Introduce team members to new processes and procedures. | | |  |
| *How many people does the role supervise?* | Staff | Contractors | Others |
| 2+ |  |  |
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| **Line management –** Undertake formal staff review and development processes, manage staff welfare issues, identify training and development needs of an individual or team, undertake formal performance management for individuals as required. | | |  |
| *How many people does the role manage?* | | | Staff |
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| **Resources managed**  e.g. budgets, annual spend value, equipment, buildings (please list the overall value and/or purpose of resources managed) |
| Multiple projects with a typical capital expenditure of between £100k and 250k. Projects aligned to the either the provision of IT infrastructure, or to the provision of bespoke IT services to directly support Research. |

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| **Main duties and responsibilities**  Describe the key areas of work need to be undertaken by the role holder in order to meet the purpose of the role as stated above. It is anticipated that no duty should exceed 3 or 4 lines. Please list the tasks in order of importance. | |
| **1** | **Technical specialism** (4)  Maintains knowledge of specific specialisms, provides detailed advice regarding their application and executes specialised tasks. The specialism can be any area of information or communication technology, technique, method, product or application area. |
| **2** | **Project management** (4)  Defines, documents and carries out small projects or sub-projects (typically less than six months, with limited budget, limited interdependency with other projects, and no significant strategic impact), alone or with a small team, actively participating in all phases. Identifies, assesses and manages risks to the success of the project. Agrees project approach with stakeholders, and prepares realistic plans (including quality, risk and communications plans) and tracks activities against the project schedule, managing stakeholder involvement as appropriate. Monitors costs, timescales and resources used, and takes action where these deviate from agreed tolerances. Ensures that own projects are formally closed and, where appropriate, subsequently reviewed, and that lessons learned are recorded. |
| **3** | **Systems design** (5)  Specifies and designs large or complex systems. Selects appropriate design standards, methods and tools, consistent with agreed enterprise and solution architectures and ensures they are applied effectively. Reviews others' systems designs to ensure selection of appropriate technology, efficient use of resources, and integration of multiple systems and technology. Contributes to policy for selection of architecture components. Evaluates and undertakes impact analysis on major design options and assesses and manages associated risks. Ensures that the system design balances functional, service quality, security and systems management requirements. |
| **4** | **Database design** (5)  Maintains and applies up to date, specialist knowledge of database concepts, object and data modelling techniques and design principles, and a detailed knowledge of the full range of database architectures, software and facilities available. Analyses data requirements, to establish, modify or maintain a data model. Takes account of specialist requirements (e.g. geocoding, for geographic information systems). Interprets the model into an appropriate database schema within set policies. Demonstrates, installs and commissions selected products. |
| **5** | **Programming/software development** (5)  Sets local or team-based standards for programming tools and techniques, including security guidelines, and the selection of appropriate development methods. Advises on application of standards and methods and ensures compliance. Takes technical responsibility for all stages and/or iterations in a software development project, providing method specific technical advice and guidance to project stakeholders. Assigns work packages, monitors performance and manages change control dynamically, to optimise productivity. Provides advice, guidance and assistance to less experienced colleagues as required. |
| **6** | **Application support** (4)  Maintains application support processes, and checks that all requests for support are dealt with according to agreed procedures. Uses application management software and tools to investigate issues, collect performance statistics and create reports. |
| **7** | **IT Infrastructure** (4)  Provides technical expertise to enable the correct application of operational procedures. Uses network management tools to determine network load and performance statistics. Contributes to the planning and implementation of maintenance and installation work, including building and management of systems and components in virtualised computing environments. Implements agreed network changes and maintenance routines. Identifies operational problems and contributes to their resolution, checking that they are managed in accordance with agreed standards and procedures. Provides reports and proposals for improvement, to specialists, users and managers. |
| **8** | **Database administration** (4)  Uses database management system software and tools, and knowledge of logical database schemata, to investigate problems and collect performance statistics and create reports. Carries out routine configuration/installation and reconfiguration of database and related products. |
| **9** | **Network support** (4)  Maintains the network support process and checks that all requests for support are dealt with according to agreed procedures. Uses network management software and tools to investigate and diagnose network problems, collect performance statistics and create reports, working with users, other staff and suppliers as appropriate. |
| **10** | **Problem management** (4)  Initiates and monitors actions to investigate and resolve problems in systems, processes and services. Determines problem fixes/remedies. Assists with the implementation of agreed remedies and preventative measures. |
| **11** | **Incident management** (4)  Prioritises and diagnoses incidents according to agreed procedures.  Investigates causes of incidents and seeks resolution. Escalates unresolved incidents. Facilitates recovery, following resolution of incidents. Documents and closes resolved incidents according to agreed procedures. |
| **12** | **Performance Management** (4)  Supervises individuals and teams. Allocates routine tasks and/or project work. Provides direction, support and guidance as necessary, in line with individuals’ skills and abilities. Monitors progress against agreed quality and performance criteria. Acts to facilitate effective working relationships between team members. |
| **13** | **Learning Delivery (4)**  Prepares or customises and delivers learning activities to a variety of audiences with a view to the transfer of business and/or technical skills and knowledge and the promotion of professional attitudes in order to facilitate learning and development. |
| **14** | Actively contributes to the University IT Community in order to share knowledge, best practice, and technical expertise. |

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| **Working Conditions**  Which statement best describes the environment in which the role will primarily be based? |
| Office based. Some travel to similar sites may be required. Normal health and safety requirements will be followed. |

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| **Physical Requirements**  Which statement best describes the physical demands of the role? |
| Requires normal physical effort associated with an office environment (or equivalent) |

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| **Sensory Requirements**  Which statement best describes the sensory demands of the role? |
| Uses tools/ equipment requiring the use of dexterity and/ or precision in order to complete a specific task |

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| **Specific duties and responsibilities (please add any specific duties or responsibilities that have not been captured above)** | |
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*This role profile outlines the duties required at the current time to indicate the level of responsibility. It is not intended to be a comprehensive or exhaustive list and may be varied by University management to include other reasonable requests which are up to the same skill level, and of the same type, already undertaken and which do not change the general character of the job or the overall level of responsibility.*

The University expects that you will:

* Treat all members of the University community (including all staff, partners, students and visitors) with respect, courtesy and consideration at all times.
* Behave professionally to, and expect professional behaviour from others in the University community (including all staff, partners, students and visitors).
* Take care of their own health and safety, not compromise the health and safety of others, and comply with University and departmental safety requirements.

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| **Person Specification** | | |
| **Key Skills and Experience**  This form lists the ***essential*** (experience and attributes without which the job could not be done) and ***desirable*** experience and attributesthat enable the role holder to perform the role well. When recruiting to this role applicants should be shortlisted by assessing how they meet these.  Only ***essential*** criteria will be used as part of the grading process. | | |
| **Criteria** | **Description** | **Essential or Desirable** |
| **Experience**  List the key experiences that an individual would need to be able to do the role. Be careful not to quantify this in ‘years’.  e.g. Experience working with finance IT systems. | * Demonstrable experience of IT and management * Managing technical activities and associated teams with evidence of managing for quality results * Evidence of working at a tactical or operational level to deliver a technology change * Evidence of developing and applying an understanding of a new technology to deliver business results. * Evidence of effectively sharing technical knowledge and skill to support the outputs and learning of colleagues and users. | E  E  E  E  E  E |
| **Skills**  List the key skills that an individual would need to be able to do the role. Be careful not to quantify this in ‘years’.  E.g. Advanced Excel. | * Expert knowledge of 1 or more IT domains:   + e.g. in IT Infrastructure : expertise in networks or desktop or servers   + e.g. in Application Design: expertise in application development, or analysis and design (functional and technical.) * Expertise in the following technologies: [name] * Ability to develop and maintain their own knowledge in their field * Strong planning skills * Strong ability to build relationships at all levels of the organisation * Able to communicate effectively orally and in writing * Highly proactive, persuasive and enthusiastic | E  E  E  E  E  E  E |
| **Qualifications**  List the key qualifications that an individual would need to be able to do the role. Be careful not to overstate the level required. | * Degree level qualification/Level 7 vocational qualification | E |
| **Additional requirements**  List any additional requirements that may be relevant to the role (on-call, weekend working etc.) |  |  |
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| **Behavioural Attributes Framework**  [Behavioural attributes](http://www.admin.cam.ac.uk/offices/hr/policy/behavioural/) (or behavioural competencies) are a way of describing a range of individual characteristics that can be measured and can be shown to differentiate effective and ineffective performance.  **Behavioural Attributes are not used as part of the grading process.** Behavioural attributes may however assist staff during recruitment, performance, training and carer progression.  The Recruitment Guidance section of the HR web pages provides information on how the attributes may be used as [selection criteria](http://www.hr.admin.cam.ac.uk/recruitment/recruitment-planning-and-preparation/construct-selection-criteria/using-behavioural), when [short-listing](http://www.hr.admin.cam.ac.uk/recruitment/step-3-recruit-and-select/complete-short-listing/assess-behavioural-attributes) and during [interviews](http://www.hr.admin.cam.ac.uk/recruitment/step-3-recruit-and-select/conduct-selection-activities/using-behavioural-attributes). Where departments/institutions are going to use behavioural attributes during the recruitment process, potential applicants for the vacancy should be made aware of this in the [HR7 Further Information document](http://www.hr.admin.cam.ac.uk/forms/hr7-further-information-template). An optional paragraph is included within the HR7 template for this purpose.  HR will provide the Department with the headings for each behavioural attribute, specific to the grade of the role. Departments wishing to use the behavioural attributes may then select which behaviours and positive indicators are relevant, adding these into the [HR7 Further Information document](http://www.hr.admin.cam.ac.uk/forms/hr7-further-information-template) as required. | | |

**Guidance notes for completing the Role Profile**

The Role Profile is a multi-purpose document, supporting managers from grading, through recruitment, induction and into the employee review process, it is a continual cycle, and the document should be reviewed at regular intervals so as to ensure that changes to the requirements of the role are identified, and recorded.

**General guidance**

The Role Profile should be used to describe the tasks and duties that make up the role. It is important that it gives an accurate impression of the purpose of the job and what the role holder will be expected to achieve so that:

* The most suitable applicants are encouraged to apply for your vacancy;
* The person appointed to the role understands what is expected of him/her and there is a framework for discussing his/her performance, including during probation.

When developing the Main Duties and Responsibilities section you:

**Should**

* Give an accurate impression of what the job involves, taking care not to over or understate the duties.
* Focus on objectives, outputs or expected results rather than the specific tasks undertaken to achieve these
* Define each duty and responsibility as a statement of what the role holder is expected to achieve (i.e. outcome) by:
  + Start the sentence with the action (e.g. plan, prepare, produce, provide, maintain, analyse, test etc. then
  + Describing the activity to which the action is applied (e.g. test new system, analyse financial data); then
  + Stating briefly the purpose of the activity in terms of outputs or standards to be achieved (e.g. test new systems to enable them to meet the agreed systems specification; analyse financial data using Excel spreadsheets to show departmental expenditure on a monthly basis).
* Review the expectations of the role alongside other roles within the team (check for clarity in levels of responsibility, control etc.).

**Avoid**

* Using too many duties, between 6 and 10 should be sufficient for the majority of roles.
* Words like ‘assist’, ‘help’, ‘ensure’, ‘manage’, ‘work with’, etc., unless they are qualified by how the activity is done);
* Detailing the way that a specific task or activity is to be carried out (this can make the description overly prescriptive)
* Basing the duties on the previous occupant, when a role is vacant ensure that description supports the requirements of the role to be undertaken, not necessarily on the tasks the previous individual undertook.
* Using jargon, acronyms (unless also spelt out), or making reference to specific systems/ equipment (unless previous experience is an essential requirement– this should be listed as such in the person specification).

**Role Profile Support - HERA Statements**

For each statement selected there should be at least 1 main duty/ responsibility or resource to support this listed in the **Main duties and responsibilities, Resources managed** or **Role purpose** sections.

When completing this section:

* To select a statement place a tick in the Yes column.
* Indicate the number(s) of the Main duties and responsibilities which demonstrate the selected statements.
* For a statement to be selected, the whole statement must apply.
* The statements read from most complex/ involved at the top through to more basic/ routine at the bottom.
* *Text in italics is intended as a general guide to the type of activity which might occur, this is not an exhaustive list*.
* Normally the statements selected would be consecutive (based on the maximum number listed in each section)

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| **Communication** (Normally no more than 2 statements should be selected)  This section covers the requirement to understand and convey information to others. Consider the content of the information communicated rather than the status of the recipient. This section also covers the requirement to provide input into decision making (the impact of the specific advice given would need to be considered here). | | |
| **Is the role required to:** | **Yes** | **Main duty No.** |
| Provide complex information/ advice/ guidance on policy or highly technical/ specialist information to others, who may be non-specialists in the area. *(Translating legislation into Department/ University policy, design of research*). |  | 1,4 |
| Persuade and/or negotiate with others on behalf of the Department/ School/ University in order to directly influence events or decisions. Undertake active collaboration with others to pursue a shared interest. |  | 2 |
| Assess the situation/ query and tailor the information provided to ensure relevance to the specific situation. *(Interpret and advise others on University policies, regulations, manufacture methods, regulations*). |  |  |
| Provide straightforward information to others. Content may be factual/ routine in nature and may involve taking/ recording and passing on information. *(Explain processes, methods to others based on clear guidance/ documentation).* |  |  |

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| **Groups/ Networks** (one, or two statements may be selected)  A network is defined by HERA as an interconnecting group of people, possibly from different work teams or organisations, who exchange information, contacts and experience on a recurrent basis for professional purposes connected with the role. | | | |
| **Is the role required to:** | **Yes** | **Main duty No.** |
| Set up or lead groups or networks (internal or external) with others from different teams/ departments who meet to share information and practice. |  |  |
| Be a member of a group or network (internal or external) with others from different teams/ departments who meet to share information and practice. |  | 14 |
| The role is not required to be a member of a group or network. |  |  |

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| **Service Delivery** (Normally no more than 2 statements should be selected)  This section covers the requirement of the role to directly affect the quality of service provided. Consider the degree by which the role can set/ adapt the overall standards within which the | | |
| **Is the role required to:** | **Yes** | **Main duty No.** |
| Set the overall standards for service across significant area of operation, such as a school or an equivalent range of activity across the University. Pre-empt changes, and anticipate future of the area. |  |  |
| Routinely initiates and makes adaptations to the way a functional area/ unit of the Department would operate (typically through the development of policies and processes). Review and adapt services provided in order to meet the needs of those receiving the service. |  | 3 |
| Adapt the method used or the advice given in relation to a specific situation/ query. Policies and procedures would provide a general framework. The role may provide specialist advice/ guidance on policy to others. |  |  |
| Work within clearly defined rules, regulations and procedures. The role holder would have little or no ability to adapt the way in which the work is undertaken, or the content of information provided. |  |  |

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| **Decisions** (Normally no more than 2 statements should be selected)  This section covers the decisions that role is required to make, or be accountable for. Consider the specific decision made by the role, the scope of impact and the time/ resource to amend the decision if wrong.  Please indicate whether the role makes the decision without reference to others (Ind), jointly with others (Joint), or provides direct input into the decisions made by others (Input). | | | | |
| **Is the role required to take:** | **Ind** | **Joint** | **Input** | **Main duty No.** |
| Decisions that affect the whole University, which will impact on the operation of the majority of departments and endure over an extended period of time *(nature and level of degrees offered, formulation of University wide plans or services)* |  |  |  |  |
| Decisions that affect a whole Department, which will impact on the operation of a number of functions, and endure over a significant period of time (*introduce a new service, allocating overall resource requirements in a Department)* |  |  |  |  |
| Decisions that affect the operation of a function, unit, course or sub-section of a department. The impact of the decision is likely to endure for some time (i.e. months) (*drawing up specifications, policy advice).* |  |  |  | 9,7,5 |
| Decisions which have an immediate impact and have little effect beyond the individual. Decisions have a short term impact (i.e. days) and can be easily amended *(purchase standard consumables, allocating of cost codes, giving organising meeting, provision of general guidance).* |  |  |  |  |
| The role is not required to take decisions |  |  |  |  |

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| **Planning and Organisation** (Normally no more than 2 statements should be selected)  Organising, prioritising and planning time and resources, be they human, physical or financial. This would include planning work for others on day to day tasks or on projects, carrying out operational planning, planning for coming years (what timescale), commitment of resources (people, financial, budgetary, technical etc.). | | |
| **Is the role required to:** | **Yes** | **Main duty No.** |
| Be responsible for long term, strategic level planning that will affect significant parts of the University, planning would normally cover a period of at least 3 to 5 years) |  |  |
| Take responsibility for the operational planning of a department or large area of activity (*overall management of a cross departmental project).* Planning would include financial, systems, processes and policy across a number of teams |  |  |
| Be responsible for the operational planning of work and resources of a specific function, or area of activity. Would include development, review and effective use of finances, systems, and processes. |  | 3,7,8,12 |
| Plan, or co-ordinate the work or resources within a section or team. This would normally include monitoring of finances, processes or workflow |  |  |
| Plan and prioritise own work in order to meet agreed objectives. The individual would normally be able to organise their work over a period of at least a week |  |  |
| Complete tasks to a given plan with allocated resources (*roles where the order of tasks is determined by external factors such as visitors or the receipt of queries)* |  |  |

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| **Problem Solving** (Normally no more than 2 statements should be selected)  Covers identifying or developing options and selecting solutions to problems which occur in the role (reactive). Consider the level of initiative expected, is the role able to select from available options, how much assessment of various options (where an immediate solution) may not be apparent, dealing with complex problems, and anticipating problems which could have major repercussions. | | |
| **Is the role required to:** | **Yes** | **Main duty No.** |
| Work in new and challenging situations where there is no previous precedence. Solutions would require consideration of multiple diverse factors including strategic considerations for the University as a whole. |  |  |
| Develop solutions to novel problems which occur either occasionally, or where guidance is not provided by existing policies. Solutions to problems would require consideration of diverse, conflicting factors. |  | 5 |
| Work within general guidelines. Weigh up pros and cons of different approaches and select the most appropriate solution from a range of established alternatives. |  | 2,3 |
| Resolve standard problems, selecting solutions from within existing policies or procedures. |  |  |

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| **Analysis and Research** (Normally no more than 2 statements should be selected)  Research and analysis of information (data, financial, legal etc.) to reach a conclusion (proactive). Consider whether the role follows standard procedures to gather and analyse data, collates and analyses a range of data from different sources, identifies and designs appropriate methods of research, or establishing new methods or models for research, setting the context for research. | | |
| **Is the role required to:** | **Yes** | **Main duty no.** |
| Develop methodologies and analytical techniques to investigate complex ideas and concepts, work out how to apply methodologies to objectives and expectations. Form conclusions, identify and explain relationships between data or phenomena. |  |  |
| Interpret information (documents, data, financial etc.) in order to identify information relevant to the situation. The role would determine the method of investigation/ analysis based on the specific situation. |  | 3,4,8 |
| Gather information from a range of standard sources, and undertake general analysis/ manipulation for interpretation by others |  |  |
| Gather information and establish facts before passing this on to others for further investigation and analysis. |  |  |

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| **Pastoral Care & Welfare** (Normally no more than 2 statements should be selected)  Covers welfare and well being of students and staff within the institution in both formal and informal situations. This may include the need to be aware of the support services available, giving supportive advice and guidance, and counselling others on specific issues. | | | |
| **Is the role required to:** | **Yes** | **Main duty No.** |
| Deal with complex, severe and serious welfare issues. Staff or students supported by this role would normally be referred by others. |  |  |
| Provide advice to others on a range of commonly occurring welfare issues, the role would be expected to identify causes, and take action to resolve the matter where possible |  |  |
| Show sensitivity to others who may show signs of distress, or need help, explain standard procedures, and involve relevant people who can take appropriate action. |  | 12 |

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| **Team Development** ( Up to three statements may be selected)  Development of skills and knowledge of others in the **direct work** team. This may include the induction of new colleagues, coaching and appraising any individuals who are supervised, mentored or managed by the role holder, and giving guidance or advice to one's peers or supervisor on specific aspects of work. | | | |
| **Is the role required to:** | **Yes** | **Main duty no.** |
| Identify training and development needs of an individual member of staff, define performance requirements, assess the application of learning to ensure that development activity has taken place. |  |  |
| Provide training to team members on specific tasks, equipment or activities as part of a formal training session. Give guidance on performance and provide feedback. |  |  |
| Provide a general introduction for members of the direct work team on how to operate systems or equipment, or undertake routine processes. |  | 5 |
| The role is not required to participate in the training or induction of other members of the direct work team |  |  |

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| **Teaching and Learning (Training)** (Normally none, one, or two statements may be selected)  Development of the skills and knowledge of students and others who are not part of the work team. Providing instruction to students or others when they are first using a particular service or working in a particular area, carrying out standard training and the assessment and teaching of students. Consider who develops the material (the role, others, or based on supplied instructions). | | | |
| **Is the role required to:** | **Yes** | **Main duty no.** |
| Undertake delivery and assessment of modules or parts of a degree programme. Evaluate student progress and adapt the material in response to feedback. |  |  |
| Develop and deliver the content and material for workshops, sessions or 1:1 training on specialist equipment, systems or processes. Assess performance and provide feedback as part of the session. |  |  |
| Deliver workshops, sessions or 1:1 training on specialist equipment, systems or processes. Typically the content would be pre-set, or written by others. Assess performance and provide feedback as part of the session. |  | 13 |
| Provide a general introduction for others (students, PIs, departmental staff) on how to operate systems or equipment, or undertake routine processes. |  |  |
| The role is not required to participate in the training or induction of others |  |  |

The following elements also make up the HERA scheme, although the evidence for these would be supplied in specific sections within in the Role Profile, these elements are:

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| **Element** | **Guidance (the element covers)** |
| **Teamwork and Motivation** | Team work and team leadership when working in both internal and external teams. This may include the need to contribute as an active member of the team, motivating others in the team, and providing leadership and direction for the team. |
| **Sensory and Physical Demands** | The sensory and physical aspects of the role required to complete tasks. This may include physical effort, co-ordination and dexterity, applying skilled techniques and co-ordinating sensory information, and high levels of dexterity where precision or accuracy is essential. |
| **Work Environment** | The impact the working environment has on the individual and their ability to respond to and control that environment safely. This may include such things as the temperature, noise or fumes, the work position and working in an outdoor environment. |
| **Knowledge and Experience** | Relevant knowledge needed to carry out the role, however acquired, whether this is technical, professional or specialist. This may include the need for sufficient experience to carry out basic, day to day responsibilities, the need for a breadth or depth of experience to act as a point of reference for others, and the need to act as a leading authority in one's field or discipline. |