

## Researcher – fair markets

**Location:** Westminster, London

**Start date:** As soon as possible.

**Salary:** In the region of £27,000 plus private pension and six weeks' annual holiday

The Social Market Foundation is a think-tank based at Westminster working to answer the major political and economic challenges of the day. Our work is consulted by senior politicians and officials and reported in the national media.

## About the role

We are seeking to appoint a researcher to support our work on fair markets. This role will support our new review of gambling legislation during 2020, as well as other projects relating to the role and performance of markets across the UK economy.

You will report to the Research Director and work closely with Dr James Noyes, fellow of the SMF and lead author of our gambling policy review. Details of that review can be found [here](#), and applicants should familiarise themselves with it before applying.

(Prior experience of gambling policy is not essential for this role. What is essential is the ability to understand markets such as that for gambling products in the context of relationships between the state, markets and wider society.)

You will also work on SMF research projects considering how markets function and the development of public policy on a range of topics including economic inequality and sustainability. This will include helping with the planning and delivery of roundtable discussions with senior stakeholders around Westminster.

As well as supporting SMF colleagues' work, you will have the opportunity to be lead author on SMF research publications, making practical recommendations to policymakers of all sorts and presenting your work to political audiences via the media and other channels.

## What we're looking for

- Experience of public policy research and analysis. That could come from working in politics, government, a commercial or third sector role, or academic work such as postgraduate study.
- A strong interest in markets, their function and their operation, and the relationship between markets and the state.
- Knowledge of fiscal policy or regulated markets would be an advantage, but is not essential.
- A willingness to work independently or as part of a small team on multiple research projects.
- Familiarity with contemporary British politics and policymaking.

- Strong written and verbal communication skills.
- Demonstrable skills at quantitative analysis are desirable but not essential.

## Outlook

The SMF is a cross-party think-tank governed by a board of trustees that includes members of all major political parties, and non-partisan figures. This non-partisan outlook informs all of our work, which reflects our status as a charity committed to public education in public policy. We welcome applications from people of all political perspectives who are happy to put the pursuit of good policy ahead of partisanship and ideology.

## How to apply

Please send the following documents to [Director@smf.co.uk](mailto:Director@smf.co.uk), with a subject line of

“Application: researcher – fair markets”:

- 1 Your CV
- 2 A 1-page letter outlining your interest in the SMF and your suitability for the role.

**Application deadline: 9am Thursday 20 February 2020.**

Interview dates: Interviews will be held week commencing Monday 24 February. Candidates for interview will be asked to complete a short written task in advance which will be discussed during the interview.

**Process:** applications will be considered on a “name-blind” basis where staff involved in assessing application documents will not be aware of the sex or other characteristics of applicants. Please assist us in this process by omitting such identifying details from your CV and letter.

**Working pattern:** this is a full-time role but the SMF does not operate fixed working hours and encourages flexible approaches to working. If you would like to discuss flexible working patterns or other approaches to help balance work with other commitments, please mention this in your application email.