

Clare Green joins DASA as Innovation Partner for East of England

News story

Introducing DASA's new Innovation Partner who will work with suppliers in the East of England



DASA are pleased to appoint Dr Clare Green as the new Innovation Partner for the East of England. Clare will meet with suppliers in the region to learn more about their innovations and to provide advice and guidance on DASA, and wider government, opportunities.

Clare's career to date has spanned both large industry and SMEs, as well as knowledge exchange roles within the HEI sector. She joins us from an academic environment where she worked as a Technology Innovation Manager in a multi-university Research England-funded Connecting Capability Fund (CCF). In this role, she provided support to the projects teams to help de-risk their technology, determine the market need and competitor landscape as well as helping to secure innovation funding to demonstrate the concept and provide a route to market.

Clare also has experience in facilitating collaboration between companies, engineers, scientists and clinicians to develop innovative technologies with a medtech and biotech focus. These are very broad sectors and include personalised medicine, tissue-engineering, medical devices, diagnostics, digital health and the application of machine learning and artificial intelligence to improve healthcare pathways.

Clare said:

I am passionate about embedding commercial focus and translational skills within project teams and get a great deal of satisfaction from seeing developments move through the technology readiness levels (TRLs) and from playing a key part in enabling early-stage ideas to pass through the critical proof of feasibility and

demonstrator stages so they are investor-ready.

I am delighted to be the new Innovation Partner for the East of England region, which is special to me as I was born in Cambridge and then returned there to study for my BBSRC-funded Industrial PhD in Molecular Biology. This important economic region is a rich source of innovative technology solutions with tremendous potential to address a number of vital unmet needs for our UK defence and security end-users. Helping to turn these ground breaking ideas into exploitable innovations, which will make our world a safer place, and build UK prosperity, is a very exciting prospect. I am particularly looking forward to identifying and working with entrepreneurs who may not have worked with Government before and have not yet been able to realise the full potential of their innovations.

DASA's network of regional Innovation Partners is available to give advice to suppliers about their ideas and how they can best engage with DASA. [Find out more](#).

Published 24 August 2021

[Vacancies for 4 Administrative Officers in the Application Management Team](#)

News story

Details of vacancies for Administrative Officers in our Application Management Team.



This exciting and interesting role puts you at the heart of the VMD's work in the authorisation of applications for veterinary medicinal products.

You will be part of a team that links with scientific disciplines and has frontline interactions with the pharmaceutical industry and with regulators from other global jurisdictions.

Job Title

Administrative Officer in the Application Management Team

Grade

Administrative Officer

Office base

Addlestone, Surrey

Salary & Pension

£24,369 per annum with Pension Scheme

Annual Leave entitlement

Commencing at 25 days

Role

The job holder is responsible for overseeing the progression of application procedures subject to published standards targets for licensing work as set out in the VMD Business Plan, and meeting and contributing to objectives set out in the Authorisations Work Plan.

Skills

- Experience of working under pressure, within a target driven environment.
- Experience in authorisation procedures for veterinary medicinal products or can demonstrate the ability to develop this understanding quickly.
- Fluent in English language (spoken and written).
- Competent in the use of Microsoft Word, Excel and Outlook.
- A good level of numeracy

How to apply

You must make your application via the [Civil Service Jobs Website](#) where you will find a full job description including salary details.

Closing Date

7 September 2021

Published 24 August 2021

More than £2bn of taxpayers' money protected against fraud

- Since 1996, more than £2bn detected or prevented through the National Fraud Initiative
- £40,000 benefit cheat found to own several businesses and a Mercedes with personalised number plates
- 183,000 dodgy disabled parking permits pulled out of circulation thanks to the programme

An anti-fraud scheme run by the Cabinet Office has detected or prevented more than £2bn of fraud since it was [launched 25 years ago](#), helping to protect public money and put fraudsters behind bars.

The National Fraud Initiative plays a critical role in identifying people trying to defraud the public sector, ensuring taxpayers' money goes towards delivering vital services, instead of ending up in the wrong hands.

Cabinet Office Minister, Lord Agnew, said:

"The work done by the National Fraud Initiative is keeping nefarious fingers out of the public purse, protecting funding which can go towards essential services such as the NHS.

"It's entirely right that British taxpayers expect the Government to protect their hard-earned money and programmes such as these allow us to do exactly that."

One such case saw the IT manager of an NHS hospital trust sent to prison for defrauding the Government of £800,000 – the equivalent of 16 nurses' wages for a year. His criminal activity was detected thanks to the work of the NFI and its collaborators on the case, the Local Counter Fraud Specialist (RSM), the NHS Counter Fraud Authority and HMRC.

Senior Investigator at the NHS Counter Fraud Authority, Ben Rowe, said:

“The National Fraud Initiative was key in identifying a serious fraud being perpetrated by someone in a position of trust who was stealing large sums of money intended for essential NHS services.

“The scheme offers an excellent example of collaborative working between government agencies being done right.”

Another case discovered one man fraudulently claimed more than £40,000 of incapacity benefit, income support and council tax benefits. After this was detected by the NFI, further investigation found he owned several small businesses, had savings of more than £100,000 and owned a Mercedes Benz complete with personalised number plates.

Since it was established in 1996, the NFI has also helped public bodies prevent more than £300m of Council Tax discount scams, £370m of housing benefit fraud, almost £850m of pension payments being made in error and has taken more than 183,000 fraudulently claimed disabled parking badges out of circulation.

The work being done by the NFI to keep fraudsters out of the public purse has recently been recognised by the UK Fintech Awards, where they picked up Data Initiative of the Year for their industry-leading use of data.

NHS IT Manager Case study

Data matching enabled by the NFI identified an IT manager working for a hospital trust who was also a sole director of two shell companies.

The directorships had not been declared so an investigation by the Local Counter Fraud Specialist (RSM), the NHS Counter Fraud Authority and HMRC followed.

Investigations revealed that the employee had filed non-trading accounts for both companies during their existence. However, he then produced fraudulent invoices, all under his own £7,500 authorisation limit, and sent them by email from his fictional employees, to obtain £674,000 from the trust.

He even added VAT of £132,000 to make the invoices more plausible. A dismissal and prosecution followed and he was sentenced to five years and four months imprisonment. Confiscation proceedings are underway to try to recover the funds.

British Embassy Turkey launches Oxford Centre for Islamic Studies (OCIS) fellowships 2021 to 2022

The Chevening Oxford Centre for Islamic Studies (OCIS) Fellowships are aimed at mid-career academics or professionals who are dedicated to the promotion of academic activities which encourage a more informed understanding of the culture and civilisation of Islam and contemporary Muslim societies.

The following fellowships are a collaboration between the UK Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office and [OCIS](#):

- Chevening OCIS Fellowship
- Chevening OCIS Abdullah Gül Fellowship

Course/programme structure

Fellows will undertake a 6-month period of self-directed research focusing on their own project on the culture and civilisation of Islam and contemporary Muslim societies in a global context.

Fellows will benefit from meeting a multi-disciplinary group of scholars focusing on the Islamic world and have the opportunity to develop contacts with relevant individuals, discuss issues relating to the Islamic world, including Islamic history, classical Islamic sciences, economics and Islamic finance, and the study of Muslims in the West. Fellows will contribute to the Centre's objective to encourage and promote sustained dialogue and collaboration within the global academic community of the culture and civilisation of Islam and contemporary Muslim societies.

OCIS is a Recognized Independent Centre for the University of Oxford and provides a meeting point for the Western and Islamic worlds of learning.

This fellowship programme will commence in October 2022. Fellows will need to develop their own research project to focus on during their fellowship prior to arriving in the UK.

Fellows must reside in Oxford for the duration of their award. OCIS can provide information about accommodation options in Oxford upon selection.

Benefits

- six-month period of research at OCIS
- living expenses for the duration of the fellowship
- return economy airfare from home country to the UK
- allowance package for research-related activities
- access to a programme of cultural events and activities organised by the FCDO and the Chevening Secretariat

Eligibility

The Chevening OCIS Abdullah Gül Fellowship is available to applicants from Turkey.

To be eligible for a Chevening OCIS Fellowship, you must:

- demonstrate the potential to rise to a position of leadership and influence
- demonstrate the personal, intellectual and interpersonal attributes reflecting this potential
- be a citizen of Afghanistan, Algeria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Egypt, Indonesia, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Libya, Malaysia, Morocco, Nigeria, Pakistan, the Occupied Palestinian Territories, Philippines, Sudan, Syria, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, or Uzbekistan
- return to country of your citizenship at the end of the period of the fellowship
- hold a postgraduate level qualification (or equivalent professional training or experience in a relevant area) at the time of application
- have significant professional and/or academic research experience (at least five years)
- provide evidence of meeting at least the minimum English language abilities for Chevening Awards
- not hold British or dual-British citizenship
- not be an employee, a former employee, or relative of an employee (since August 2019) of Her Majesty's Government (including British embassies/high commissions, the Department for International Development, the Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy, the Ministry of Defence and the Home Office), or a staff member of the Association of Commonwealth Universities

Please note that applicants who have previously received financial benefit from a HMG-funded scholarship or fellowship are eligible to apply after a period of five years following the completion of their first HMG funded award. In these cases, applicants will be required to demonstrate their career progression from that point.

For more detailed information on the eligibility criteria for fellowships, read the guidance page on the [Chevening website](#)

[Measures of inflation](#)

News story

Latest blog by GAD in which we look at measures of price inflation, at how inflation was affected during the pandemic, as well as the RPI consultation

conclusion.



Inflation is a key indicator of the health of an economy but with no single approach to measuring inflation, there's debate about which methodology is most appropriate. In this blog we look at the outcome of a consultation to reform the UK's longest standing measure of inflation, the Retail Price Index (RPI). [Measures of Price Inflation: RPI, CPI, and CPIH.](#)

Published 24 August 2021