CRUK Data Community
CRUK Data Interest Group Manager
Job Description

Location: Remote

Type: 0.1FTE (amounting to a time commitment of 0.5 days a week)

Term: This position is fixed-term for up to 24 months, (in line with the duration permitted by your university's fixed-term contract.)

Start Date: 1/05/2026

The CRUK Data Science Community

The CRUK Data Science Community aims to bring together researchers, data scientists, bioinformaticians, technicians, clinicians and more across the UK and beyond who are interested in or using data-driven approaches to accelerate progress in cancer research. The community is organised around eight Interest Groups (IGs), each representing a priority area in data science and addressing key challenges and opportunities across the research landscape.

Each IG is supported by an expert advisor (CRUK Data Interest Group Advisors) who helps guide its direction and ensure activities reflect both scientific needs and the wider priorities of CRUK. These communities are designed to be focused, collaborative spaces where community members can connect with others, share expertise, explore new methods, tackle emerging challenges, and support skill development across a large network of UK-wide academic and research institutions.

By connecting researchers from across career stages and disciplines, the CRUK Data Science Community aims to strengthen the national data science ecosystem and enable more impactful, collaborative cancer research.

CRUK Data Interest Group Manager

To steward the IGs and help further grow the CRUK Data Science Community, we are recruiting eight CRUK Data Interest Group Managers who will play a central role in building connections, coordinating activities, and supporting scientific exchange.

CRUK-IGMs will be experienced in their IG area and maintain active communication channels with regular updates on news and opportunities in the field. The CRUK Data Interest Group Manager will collaborate with the CRUK's Community Research Coordinator,

and the CRUK Data Interest Group Advisors to help build community activities and ensure each IG remains vibrant, inclusive, and aligned with the interests of its members. Their management of the IG will be essential in fostering collaboration, amplifying community voices, and supporting each IG to grow into a dynamic, supportive hub for data-driven cancer research. We particularly encourage early career researchers to apply, as the time commitment is designed to be manageable alongside their research activities and they are often closely embedded within the relevant scientific fields

The CRUK Interest Groups:

1. Compute Infrastructure & AI Tools

Focuses on the computational foundations needed for modern cancer research, including high-performance computing, cloud infrastructure, workflow optimisation, and the development and application of AI and machine-learning tools.

2. Data and Samples Reuse

Aims to maximise the value of existing datasets and biological samples by improving accessibility, harmonisation, interoperability, and best practices in data governance, sharing, and reproducibility.

3. Health Systems Data & Clinical AI

Explores the use of real-world clinical data, electronic health records, imaging, and AI-enabled clinical decision tools to support diagnosis, prognosis, treatment planning, and improved patient outcomes.

4. Public Involvement and Diversity

Ensures data-driven cancer research reflects diverse populations and is informed by meaningful patient and public involvement. Promotes equity, representation, and inclusive research practices.

5. Training and Careers

Supports the development of skills and career pathways for researchers working at the intersection of data science and cancer research, including training, mentorship, and capacity building.

6. Spatial Biology Data

Focuses on data emerging from spatial transcriptomics, proteomics, and imaging technologies, developing approaches for analysis, integration, and biological interpretation of spatially resolved tumour ecosystems.

7. Environmentally Sustainable Use of Data

Addresses the environmental footprint of data-intensive research by promoting efficient computing, sustainable data practices, and awareness of the resource and energy implications of large-scale analytics.

8. Children and Young People's Cancer

Concentrates on data science approaches tailored to paediatric and young adult cancers, including handling rare disease datasets, cross-centre data integration, and age-specific research challenges. Encouraging collaboration to power studies and age-specific research challenges such as around treatment toxicity and survivorship

Key Responsibilities

Community Management:

- This role requires being visible and active as a point of contact for this community area and helping to maintain a welcoming and engaged community network.
- Maintain and grow an active presence on the CRUK Data Science Slack Workspace and through other communication channels, ensuring discussions within your IG channel are vibrant, inclusive, and aligned with community goals as well as the community charter and code of conduct.
- Maintain knowledge of your community to allow you to facilitate connections and knowledge share between community members. This could be anything from connecting individuals who work at institutions near each other or empowering individuals who are working on a challenge relevant to the SIG to be a speaker at a community webinar.
- Promote the IG in relevant networks to attract new community members and connect the community up with relevant other community groups and networks (UK based and international).

Content & Communication:

- Work together with the CRUK Data Interest Group Advisors and CRUK Community research coordinator to keep the community informed about news in the IG, changes in the research fields, events, and opportunities through regular updates, providing updates to newsletters and key announcements within the area of interest.
- Seed discussions on challenges and opportunities specific to your IG area. Share relevant resources, encourage discussions on relevant publications.

Contribute to Event Planning:

- Work with the CRUK Community Research Coordinator, and your Data Interest Group Advisor to design and organise a range of events, from interactive workshops to seminars and networking sessions tailored to the IGs interests.

Contributing to CRUK Data Science Community Strategy

- Work closely with the CRUK Community Research Coordinator to align engagement activities with research priorities of the community and CRUK's Research Data Strategy.
- Attend and participate in quarterly update meetings with other IG Managers and the Community Research Coordinator to support joint initiatives across the eight IGs that enhance knowledge sharing and scientific collaboration.

Key Benefits of the role:

- Develop leadership skills through coordinating an interest group within a national scientific community.
- Grow your professional network by working closely with PIs, researchers, and data science experts across the UK.
- Enhance your visibility within the wider data science landscape.
- Build valuable skills in communication, event organisation, and community building.
- Contribute to shaping research culture and supporting collaboration across CRUK priority areas.
- Flexible role (0.1 FTE) designed to complement your research career.
- Unlock future opportunities to apply in collaboration with the CRUK Data Interest Group Advisors for CRUK supported project funding in the areas of the special interest.

Qualifications

- Be a researcher with a PhD and/or equivalent research experience relating to the relevant IG.
- Passionate about bringing researchers together collectively to problem solve, create a sense of community etc.
- Strong communication and organisational skills.
- Willing to commit 0.1FTE (approximate 0.5 days per week to community building within the SIG)

Desirable

- Experience managing online communities (Slack or similar platforms).
- Experience in planning events

Deadline

Interested parties to apply via the link by **Midnight on 24th March**

CRUK Data Community
CRUK Data Interest Group Manager
Application Guidance

Background

CRUK is establishing eight Data Interest Groups to grow a vibrant, collaborative UK-wide cancer data science community. To support this effort, we are recruiting CRUK Data Interest Group Managers, each experienced in their specific interest group area. Data Interest Group Managers will play a key role in building connections, coordinating community activities, and supporting scientific exchange. They will maintain active communication channels, share relevant news and opportunities, and work closely with the Interest Group Advisors and the Community Research Coordinator to develop engaging workshops and initiatives. This role is essential in ensuring each Interest Group remains active, inclusive, and aligned with the needs of its members, helping the communities become dynamic hubs for data-driven cancer research.

Accessing the Application

Please register for an account on Flexigrant https://cancerresearchuk.flexigrant.com/, and look within the 'availible grants' tab for the application entitled 'CRUK Data Interest Group Manager'

Filling In the Application form

Please complete all sections of the application form

Certain fields or sections are fixed or have predefined values for this grant. These are indicated in the guidance below with magenta boxes.

Application Form

Number	Page	Est. time to complete	Status	Required documents	
1	Applicant Information	10 mins	Not Started		Start
2	Proposal Outline		Not Started		Start
3	Supporting Information		Not Started	0 / 2	Start
4	Costs		Not Started		Start
5	Terms and Conditions		Not Started		Start

Applicant Information

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Individuals associated with this application
Your contact details have been added to the table below as you have entered these previously.

ⓘ You must add at least 1 contact(s) with a full name, contact type, complete address, phone number and email specified.

	Contact name	Contact type	Phone	Email	Address complete	
👤 Get my ORCID identifier		Lead Applicant			Yes	Edit

Host institution
Please ensure that the host institution that will be responsible for approving submission of your application and the administration of any award is the one that is shown in this table.

ⓘ You must add at least 1 organisation(s) with a name specified.

Lead organisation	Organisation name	Phone	
☑	University of		Edit

This is the institution that employs you

* What is the current source of funding for your position?

This is the grant provider funding your position. If this is multiple funders name them all.

* What is your primary profession?
In selecting your primary profession, please choose the description that best describes your profession in relation to this application.

[Please Select...   ▼]

* What will be the total number of hours per week spent on **all** research projects (including the one outlined in this application)?
When entering number of hours, please enter this as a number rather than a percentage.

[40   ▲▼]

Here write the total number of hours per week you work

* Of the hours stated in the previous question, how many hours per week do you propose to spend on the project outlined in this application?
When entering number of hours, please enter this as a number rather than a percentage.

[4   ▲▼]

As this position is 0.1FTE, here write half a days' worth of hours

* Are you a clinician?
◯ Yes
◯ No

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* **Career Breaks and Part Time Working (if relevant)**
To be completed by the Lead Applicant only.

Please give brief details of any breaks, interruptions or specific circumstances (such as a long-term condition) in your research career or periods of part-time working (e.g. parental leave, caregiving responsibilities, sickness or time taken out of active research to pursue training or impact of COVID-19). These details will be used by our reviewers to make appropriate adjustments when assessing an individual's track record, productivity and career progression.

If you would like to discuss any adjustments to be made to the application process, please review our support available.

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Proposal Outline

CANCER RESEARCH UK   Application Portal   Reviews   Committee Meetings   ⑦ ⬇

My account
My contact details
My CV
My EDI
Available grants
My applications & awards
My downloads

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Insert your name, institution and this fixed position title here

* **Project Title**

Name – Institution – CRUK Data Interest Group Manager

You have entered 5 words (50 words max)

Dates and Duration Guidance
- For the Start Date below, please select: **01/05/2026**
- For the End Date below, please select: **30/04/2028**
- For the Duration below, please enter **24**

This position is available from 01/05/2026 and ends on 30/04/2028 for a maximum of 24 months. If your fixed term contract with your institution ends before 24 months insert the number of months remaining and alter the end date

* **Proposed start date**
The start date must be on the 1st of the month and at least two months after the Funding Committee meeting.

01/05/2026 📅

* **Proposed end date**
End date must be on the final day of the month.

30/04/2028 📅

* **Duration of proposed project (months)**

24

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* Which group are you interested in becoming a CRUK Data Interest Group Manager for?
Select one of the following:

○ Children and Young People's Cancer
○ Compute Infrastructure and AI tools
○ Data and Samples Reuse
○ Environmentally Sustainable use of Data
○ Health Systems Data and Clinical AI
○ Public Involvement and Diversity
○ Training and Careers
○ Spatial Biology Data

* Please describe your research and data science background and how it relates to the relevant Interest Group

You have entered 0 words (400 words max)

* Describe the current challenges and opportunities you think exist in the research area of the Interest Group

You have entered 0 words (400 words max)

* What strategies would you use to keep community discussions active, inclusive, and aligned with community priorities?

You have entered 0 words (300 words max)

* Describe a time you organised a collaborative activity- e.g this could be helping to organise a workshop/seminar/hackathon or setting up a journal club. What was your approach and what did you learn?

You have entered 0 words (300 words max)

* Have any generative artificial intelligence tools been used when completing this application?
Please see our policy on the use of generative AI tools in CRUK funding applications.

○ Yes
○ No

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Supporting Information

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* Line Manager Letter of Support
Please provide a letter of support from your current line manager confirming the proposed time commitment for this position.

Please upload documents as either a PDF or Word Document and do not exceed a file size of 30mb.

Choose your file(s)	or drag and drop files here to upload
File name	**Date uploaded**	**Action**

* Declaration of Competing Interests
Please download the following template and complete, before uploading the completed version.

Joint-Lead Applicants should also complete this template.

Please upload documents as either a PDF or Word Document and do not exceed a file size of 30mb.

Choose your file(s)	or drag and drop files here to upload
File name	**Date uploaded**	**Action**

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Costs

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Costs
Please enter 0.1FTE of your current salary and indicate your university spine point in the budget line name. You should select 'Salaries' as the item type.

As per our grant conditions you should **only enter the base rate for salaries and running expenses**. A fixed indexation rate, determined by CRUK, will be applied to all subsequent years of the award for salaries and running expenses post submission. For this reason, **costs should not include any indexation or spine point increases** added by the institution hosting this award.

If your costs are deemed to be incorrect, your application will be returned to you to update, and your Host Institution will be required to re-approve the submission.

X Expand table

Budget items		Year 1	Year 2	Total
Salaries				
Applicant Name	Cost	£3,769.40	£3,769.40	£7,538.80
Salaries Total	Cost	£3,769.40	£3,769.40	£7,538.80
Grand Total	Cost	£3,769.40	£3,769.40	£7,538.80

X Expand table

[Add A New Item]

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Insert a new item to the costs table with your name and 0.1FTE (10%) of your current salary for both year 1 and year 2.

If you have any questions about the application process, please contact charlotte.palmer@cruk.org.uk