Department for Culture, Media and Sport

DCMS is an influential Whitehall Department supporting the Secretary of State for Culture Media and Sport. DCMS also provides strategic leadership to a much larger group of sponsored bodies.

About DCMS

The Department for Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) is here to help make Britain the world’s most creative and exciting place to live, visit and do business. We protect and promote our cultural and artistic heritage and help businesses and communities grow by investing in innovation and highlighting Britain as a fantastic place to visit. We help to give the UK a unique advantage in the global race for economic success.

DCMS is a modern Whitehall department and provides the opportunity for Assistant Economists to work across a span of challenging and high-profile policy areas, including Media, Telecoms, Internet safety, Broadband roll out, Arts and Culture, the Creative Industries, Gambling, Sport, Tourism and the Digital Economy. As a department with an influential and varied policy portfolio but a small number of staff Assistant Economists in DCMS have a high degree of responsibility, working directly with policy and corporate teams, representing the department at cross-government or external events, and carrying out work independently.

The department is based just off Parliament Square in Westminster, London.

Economics in DCMS

DCMS has a small number of economists working in the Evidence and Analysis Unit (EAU), which also includes statisticians, social researchers and operational researchers. EAU provides support and advice to colleagues across the department, as well as leading on a number of high profile projects such as the Spending Review. It works with researchers in partner bodies such as Sport England, the Arts Council, and Ofcom.

Economists in DCMS work flexibly across a wide variety of tasks in different areas right across the scope of the department. Main areas of work include:

- Assessing and writing business cases for capital investment and providing advice on the economic case to the department’s Finance Committee. Recent business cases have included the British Museums World Exhibition Centre, plans for rollout of superfast broadband, and capital investment to enable a new model of working for English Heritage.

- Carrying out cost benefit analysis for impact assessments, ensuring regulatory policies are based on robust evidence that withstands scrutiny from the Regulatory Policy Committee. Recent impact assessments have included changes to rules on gambling machines and various measures as part of the Digital Economy Bill.
Developing methodologies to monetise difficult to quantify benefits, such as the wellbeing value of engaging with culture, and helping disseminate this knowledge to DCMS sectors so that they can make their case for public funding.

Undertaking and managing research projects into the economic and social impacts of DCMS sectors, commissioned by DCMS or its partners. Recently commissioned research includes a contingent valuation and wellbeing study in cultural institutions, the influence of visa fees and processes on decisions to visit the UK, and the meta-evaluation of the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games.

Training and Development
As members of the Government Economic Service, DCMS economists have access to a range of training courses and development opportunities.

Pay and Conditions
Assistant Economist starting salary is £31,363 (plus specialist allowance of £4,000)
Economic Adviser salary range is £47,692 – £56,243 (plus specialist allowance of £4,000)
42 hour working week (including lunch breaks) with flexible working hours
26.5 days annual leave (rising to 31.5 after 4 years service), plus 9 days public holidays

Routes In
Assistant Economists
Successful applicants are members of both the Government Economic Service (GES) and the Civil Service FastStream, and are assessed against competencies required by both. Forms of assessment include online aptitude tests, presentations, interviews, and written exercises.

Other Recruitment
DCMS regularly opens up opportunities to existing GES members in other government departments. From time to time DCMS may recruit Economic Advisers by direct recruitment.

Further information
Please visit the following websites:

www.faststream.gov.uk
www.culture.gov.uk

Or contact evidence@culture.gov.uk