

INTERNAL ONLY

PARTICULARS OF APPOINTMENT

DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF THE CREATIVE MANCHESTER PLATFORM

Reports to: Director of Creative Manchester

Duration: 3 years fixed term

Hours: 0.4FTE

Salary: Academic secondment/salary at appointee current scale point

Location: Oxford Road, Manchester

Date: October 2025

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**Informal enquiries are welcome and should be directed to:**

Name: Professor John McAuliffe

Email: [john.mcauliffe@manchester.ac.uk](mailto:john.mcauliffe@manchester.ac.uk)

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The University invites applications from members of academic staff of the University for the position of Deputy Director of the Creative Manchester Platform. The position is for 3 years in the first instance at 0.4FTE.

**Creative Manchester: Championing interdisciplinary research in Creativity and Creative Practices**

[Creative Manchester](#) is looking for a Deputy Director who will work with Director, Professor John McAuliffe, to further develop and help coordinate activity across three core research themes.

Creative Manchester is one of the University of Manchester's four interdisciplinary research platforms and facilitates research connecting creativity and creative practice. As Deputy Director you will develop Platform strategy, with both internal and external stakeholders, and support the director and theme leads to convene and grow interdisciplinary research communities and work, with both University and external partners, to explore new research areas and address emerging opportunities.

You will be part of a team which will mobilise relevant researchers from different disciplines, and all career stages, across the University to come together to form a strong multidisciplinary community around our key themes, and to inform our related innovation, business engagement and teaching agendas.

As Creative Manchester Deputy Director, you will work closely with the Director and Management Board to engage with relevant colleagues across the University and to shape new platform initiatives.

Creative Manchester's research themes are:

- [Creative Industries and Innovation/CreaTech](#)
- [Creative and Civic Futures](#)
- [Creativity, Health and Wellbeing](#)

**Key Duties and Responsibilities:**

The Deputy Director will work collaboratively with the Director and the broader Creative Manchester team and management board, with a focus on internal stakeholders, promoting and facilitating inter-disciplinary, cross-School working in order to:

- Advance and coordinate interdisciplinary research which connects creativity and creative practice, in line with the priorities of the University's 'Manchester 2035' strategic plan;
- Ensure this research informs the University's teaching and its social responsibility commitment in its operations.

To do this the Deputy Director will:

- Work with key stakeholders, including the Cultural Institutions, relevant research institute directors, school research directors, relevant PS colleagues and other internal stakeholders to horizon scan and coordinate research and impact support efforts associated with the Creative Manchester Platform
- Work with Director and Management Board to identify opportunities and to prioritize and support theme activity
- Work with the Creative Manchester team and academic colleagues to build a strong community of researchers affiliated with the Creative Manchester Platform, facilitating them to form new internal relationships.
- Support the development and communication of the Creative Manchester strategy for the University.
- Liaise with internal stakeholders to raise the profile and impact of Creative Manchester research at UoM, further enhancing UoM's reputation as a global leader in this area.
- Work with Director on Creative Manchester on reporting and on representing the platform at key internal committees, boards and other stakeholder forums.
- Work with the Director and Creative Manchester team to ensure the platform's research strategy and priority challenges serve to position The University to work effectively with external stakeholders and audiences while remaining dynamic, responsive and distinctive.
- Deputise for the Director as needed.

**Person Specification**

The following criteria are essential:

- An academic with an active, international research profile in a relevant area
- Experience and appreciation of interdisciplinary collaboration
- An emerging track record of successful academic leadership and management

• A strong commitment to developing the goals and strategic vision for Creative Manchester

- Emerging ability to develop and lead a team, across academic and PS staff, in the delivery of that vision
- Ability to communicate clearly and create effective working relationships
- Ability to engage and effectively communicate with researchers from diverse disciplinary backgrounds
- Experience of working with a range of user groups and stakeholders to promote and develop research and deliver research impact
- Sound financial understanding and budget management
- Strong personal commitment to equality, diversity and inclusion

**Duration of appointment:** The position is for 3 years in the first instance.

#### **Time Allocation**

The appointee will be expected to devote 40% (0.4 FTE) of their time to this role, with an equivalent reduction in their other duties to be made by their Faculty. Candidates are expected to discuss their application with their Departmental or Divisional Head, who should provide a simple statement of support via email, confirming their awareness of the job description and support for the application and associated time commitment.

**Applications:** Please submit a brief curriculum vitae (2 pages max) and supporting letter outlining how you meet the criteria and your vision for the role.

Applications should be emailed by noon on **Friday 23 May 2025** to **creative@manchester.ac.uk**

**Interview Date:** Interviews will be held shortly after the closing date (date to be confirmed)

As an equal opportunities employer we welcome applicants from all sections of the community regardless of gender, ethnicity, disability, sexual orientation and transgender status. All appointments are made on merit.