Speaker: Jennifer Israelsson (UK Health Security Agency)

Date: 15/11/2022 at 13:15 in 8 West 2.20

Title: From abstract climate models to physical hospital beds – an impact modelling case study

Abstract:
Climate change is no longer an upcoming risk, but something that is already present, and society must therefore adapt to the associated changes in risks and impacts. A great deal of research on changes in weather indicators based on climate projection data, such as changes in temperature and rainfall, already exists on both a UK and finer scale level. It is however usually not clear how these changes in weather will translate into impacts for organisations and the public. This results in many organisations still struggling to understand how they should adapt to climate change, despite the wealth of climate projections data available.

In this talk, I will present a project that was co-produced between the meteorology department at University of Reading and staff at the Royal Berkshire hospital. The aim of this project was to better understand the impact of temperature on hospital admissions, and to produce projections of indicators and numbers that the Royal Berkshire Foundation Trust could use to plan their future operations. I will also reflect on the benefits of co-producing a project with the intended end-user and producing research outputs for different audiences.

Speaker:
Dr Jennifer Israelsson is a Senior Environmental Scientist in the Climate Change and Health team at the UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA), currently focusing on the resilience of the health system to climate change and the impact of greenspace on health. She is part of the newly formed 'Centre for Climate and Health Security' within UKHSA. She did her PhD at University of Reading in the 'Mathematics of Planet Earth CDT', where she developed new statistical methods to estimate correlation ranges for daily rainfall measurements, and continued with a Postdoc in climate health before joining UKHSA.