

## UKRI Policy Fellowships 2023: Fellowship Opportunity Description

**Fellowship Title:** Cadw Climate Change Adaptation Pathways Fellowship

**Host Organisation:** [Cadw About us](#) | [Cadw \(gov.wales\)](#)

**Host Team:** Cadw's Regeneration and Conservation team. The steering group will also include representatives from the Welsh Government's Flooding, Climate Change Adaptation, Planning and Civil Contingencies teams, the HEG Climate Change Subgroup and the National Trust

**Summary:** Opportunity to develop and test the Adaptation Pathways approach to climate change adaptation and develop guidance and training for policymakers, asset owners and practitioners in the historic environment sector

**Fellowship Theme:** Building a Secure and Resilient World

**Policy Topic:** Climate change adaptation

**Research Council:** AHRC

**Academic Discipline/s:** Built Environment, Cultural Heritage, Geography, Architecture

**Research Career Stage:** Mid-career

### Fellowship Structure

#### **Inception Phase:**

**Estimated Start Date:** Summer 2023. Exact date to be confirmed by the host depending on onboarding and security clearance requirements

**Duration:** 3 months

**FTE:** 0.4 FTE

#### **Main Placement Phase:**

**Duration:** 12 months

**FTE:** 0.6-1 FTE

#### **Knowledge Exchange Phase:**

**Duration:** 3 months

**FTE:** 0.4 FTE

### Work Arrangements

**Location Requirements:** Flexible with site visits and attendance at stakeholder engagement and training events as required. The precise arrangements will be negotiated with the successful applicant.

**Security Clearance:** [Basic Personnel Security Standard checks \(BPSS\)](#), usually takes around 6 weeks. We would expect the successful applicant to start the security clearance application process, with support from the host team, as soon as their Fellowship has been confirmed by ESRC. Inception phase can begin before the security clearance process is completed but will be required for the main placement phase. See [National security vetting: clearance levels - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#).

### Fellowship Opportunity Description

The heritage sector is at the forefront of climate change adaptation policy and action in Wales. The publication of the [Historic Environment and Climate Change Sector Adaptation Plan \(gov.wales\)](#) by the HEG Climate Change Subgroup, for example, has provided a model for other sectors to follow.

By directly linking research with policy and asset management practice, the project will respond to priorities identified in the Welsh Government's national adaptation plan, [Prosperity for all: A Climate conscious Wales | GOV.WALES](#)), particularly policy HE3 'Develop the methodologies, tools and guidance needed to build adaptive capacity.' It also

responds to a number of priorities identified in the Sector Adaptation Plan, particularly those relating to knowledge exchange and collaboration, as well as training and guidance.

Building on work already undertaken by the heritage sector on hazard mapping, for instance, this project seeks to develop and test a methodology for identifying and planning adaptation action that will be relevant to a range of policy areas. Using sites provided by Cadw, the steering group and other stakeholders, the Fellow will have access to a range of assets at different scales with which to develop practical case studies.

The exact topics will be determined during the inception stage, but could include:

- i) identifying and evaluating current and emerging practice using the adaptation pathways approach
- ii) critically analysing key stages of the methodology as it applies to the heritage sector, including risk assessment; the identification of thresholds and triggers; the evaluation of different adaptation pathways, and the prioritisation of actions
- iii) investigating the application of the methodology in a range of scenarios and at different scales, including the development of practical case studies to pilot the approaches
- iv) undertaking stakeholder engagement and dissemination of the findings, including the development and presentation of guidance and training material

The fellow will have the opportunity to co-design clear research tasks in collaboration with officials in government based on policy needs and the fellow's interests/skills during the inception phase of the fellowship.

The Fellowship will be hosted by Cadw, the Welsh Government's historic environment service. However, the establishment of an interdisciplinary steering group will help to ensure that the research is relevant and useful to a range of policy areas across Welsh Government. Working closely with other members of the UK Heritage Adaptation Partnership, for example, will also help to extend the reach and impact of the research across the UK and internationally.

The proposal responds directly to the national priority that is climate change and promotes the development of social and economic resilience through well-planned climate adaptation. It will also help to deliver the Welsh Government's Well-being goals, particularly 'a Globally Responsible Wales'; 'a Resilient Wales', and 'a Wales of Vibrant Culture and Thriving Welsh Language.'

Benefits to the Fellow include the opportunity to be embedded within Welsh Government with full access to a wide range of policy teams and relevant stakeholders. The Fellow will also have an opportunity to help shape a key area of emerging policy and practice. For example, the Adaptation Pathway approach will be a central organising principle in the next iteration of the national adaptation plan, 'Prosperity for all: A climate conscious Wales,' the development of which will commence later in 2023. The policy officer responsible for this will sit on the steering group, as will some of the chapter leads.

The Fellow will also have an opportunity to gain national and international professional recognition by:

- **increasing knowledge** and understanding of the threats and opportunities for the historic environment
- **increasing capacity, competence and capability** by developing the awareness, skills and tools to manage the impacts of climate change, and
- **building the resilience** where possible of the historic environment by taking action to adapt and respond to the risks, reduce vulnerability and maximise the benefits.

### **Person Specification**

Applications will be assessed against the following opportunity-specific requirements in addition to the generic eligibility and call criteria.

#### **Essential Criteria:**

- A proven academic track record in a relevant discipline (Built Environment, Cultural Heritage, Geography, Architecture, etc.)
- Knowledge of climate change adaptation policy and practice
- A proven academic track record in analysis and synthesis of evidence
- A proven track record of communication and stakeholder engagement

#### **Desirable Criteria:**

- Knowledge of heritage asset management
- Knowledge of heritage policy and implementation