

## UKRI Policy Fellowships 2023: Fellowship Opportunity Description

**Fellowship Title:** DCMS Cultural Placemaking Fellowship

**Host Organisation:** [Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport](#) (DCMS)

**Host Team:** The Fellow will sit in the Chief Scientific Advisor's office and, depending on the proposed Fellowship project, will be embedded in either the Arts, Heritage and Tourism or Civil Society and Youth team

**Summary:** Opportunity to undertake original research and analysis to improve place-based policy making on regional growth and productivity across arts, heritage and tourism sectors

**Fellowship Theme:** Creating Opportunities, Improving Outcomes *Please see the full call text 'What We Are Looking For' for a detailed summary of the research themes targeted in this call.*

**Policy Topic:** Levelling up

**Research Council:** AHRC

**Academic Discipline/s:** This opportunity is suitable to academics with either an arts, humanities, social science, economics or behavioural science background. Experience of working with mixed and/or interdisciplinary methods is particularly welcome.

**Research Career Stage:** Open to early or mid-career researchers

### Fellowship Structure

#### **Inception Phase:**

**Estimated Start Date:** October 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 (flexible – to be agreed with the Fellow)

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

**Duration:** 3 months

**FTE:** 0.4 FTE

### Work Arrangements

**Location Requirements:** This role will be based in one of the following DCMS regional hubs: London and Manchester. Travel to and from the fellow's base will not be funded by DCMS and should therefore be factored into your application. Eligible travel and subsistence (T&S) costs are supported in the main UKRI grant. Please see full call text and guidance for more details.

**Hybrid Working:** The successful candidate will have the flexibility to work remotely, with the expectation that they attend their hub location no less than twice a week in accordance with DCMS's hybrid working policy.

**Security Clearance:** Successful candidates will be expected to undergo the following checks: Baseline Personnel Security Standard (BPSS) and Counter Terrorism Check (CTC). [See National security vetting: clearance levels - GOV UK.](#)

Please be aware that security clearance may take 4-6 weeks to obtain. We expect the successful applicant to start the security clearance process, with support from the host team, as soon as their Fellowship has been confirmed by AKRC. Inception phase can begin before the security clearance process is completed, but will be required for the main placement phase.

### Fellowship Opportunity Description

DCMS is building its evidence base on how its sectors can help to drive regional productivity, reduce regional inequalities and support placemaking to inform place-based policy development on Levelling Up. DCMS is responsible for delivering major culture and sporting events and develops policies and programmes that support the Government's Levelling Up missions, including 'Pride in Place' and 'Productivity', as outlined in the [Levelling Up White Paper](#). The Fellow will play an important role in maximising the impact of evidence and engaging academic expertise to support policy decisions and planning for future fiscal events.

The focus of the Fellowship will be on undertaking research to support place-based evidence priorities, as set out in DCMS's Areas of Research Interest. In particular, we anticipate that the Fellowship will focus on one or a combination of the following research themes, depending on the expertise of the Fellow:

- What are the key drivers of organisational productivity in arts, heritage and tourism sectors that can support regional growth (eg. through spillover effects)?
- What impacts have recent public capital investments in culture, heritage and visitor economy assets had in places and on the people who live/work/visit them? (eg. [Towns Fund](#) and [Levelling Up Fund](#))
- What are the most effective methods for measuring and evaluating the legacy impact of major cultural and sporting events (eg. UK City of Culture)? What works in delivering the legacy impact of such events?
- What are the most effective methods for driving behavioural change to increase tourism footfall and spend in different regions/places and at different times of the year? What are the most effective methods of measuring the impact of tourism?
- What is the effectiveness of different approaches to boost civil society activity and impact at a local level, particularly in areas of multiple deprivation with low levels of existing civil society activity/impact?

### **Activities**

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

- Undertaking original research on a particular theme that will support DCMS policy development;
- Developing frameworks and creating evidence summaries and reviews to support policy development and implementation;
- Conducting horizon scanning to help identify and inform future policy priorities;
- Organising workshops for policy colleagues to share research findings and provide academic challenge.
- Please note that in some cases published outputs will be subject to clearance by your host, but that all hosts are committed to supporting opportunities for fellows to publish as part of this fellowship

### **Fellowship Benefits**

Fellowships offer an exciting opportunity to undertake original research and enhance your understanding of applying research in Government policy contexts. Fellows can expect to benefit from:

- Experience of Government ways of working and how policy is made;
- Access to a network of policy and analyst teams across Government departments, as well as external stakeholders in relevant sectors;
- Access to national datasets and information (subject to security clearance and for use while in post only);
- Part of a cohort of policy fellows working across Government departments.

### **Person Specification**

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

#### **Essential Criteria:**

- Relevant subject matter expertise, such as experience of place-based studies, regional growth and development or cultural placemaking
- Working experience of conducting qualitative and/or quantitative research
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills, with the ability to translate complex and technical information into meaningful narrative that is accessible to a non-academic audience
- Excellent stakeholder engagement and collaboration skills, with the ability to design and lead on knowledge exchange activity between academic, policy and research communities
- Experience of programme or project management, with the ability to work effectively at pace to deliver expected outcomes

#### **Desirable Criteria:**

- Insight into working in a public policy context
- Experience working with colleagues from different specialisms, professions, or Government departments