

# UKRI Policy Internships Scheme

## Host Partner Information

This document contains information about the host partners, the internship opportunities available, organisational eligibility by Research Council and contact details.

Applicants can apply to only one host partner but are invited to note a second choice on their application. Applicants may be contacted by the host partner noted as their second choice should additional opportunities become available.

Some host partners only accept applications from students funded by certain Research Councils, where this is the case, the details are highlighted within the relevant section.

The internship funding details will depend on the applicant's Research Council and which host partner is chosen. Applicants should ensure that they read the details contained within the Applicant Guidance document carefully. For the purposes of applying to this scheme, students funded through UKRI Centres for Doctoral Training in Artificial Intelligence should follow the eligibility criteria and funding details for EPSRC grants.

A number of host partners will require students to undergo security vetting before they can start their internship. Please consult each host partner's information page for more details.

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# Climate Change Committee

6 internships available for AHRC, BBSRC, EPSRC, ESRC, MRC and NERC students

## About the Climate Change Committee

The Climate Change Committee (CCC) is an independent, statutory body established under the 2008 Climate Change Act. Our purpose is to advise the UK Government and Devolved Administrations on emissions targets and report to Parliament on progress made in reducing greenhouse gas emissions and preparing for climate change. CCC's reports can be accessed from [our website](#).

Our strategic priorities for 2025/26 are to:

- set out the risks the UK faces from climate change and providing independent advice on preparing for this under the Fourth Climate Change Risk Assessment
- continue to monitor progress in reducing emissions and meeting adaptation commitments
- conduct independent analysis into climate change science, economics and policy
- engage with a wide range of organisations and individuals to share evidence and analysis

The CCC is an interesting and dynamic place to work. We have significant influence on the UK's climate policy and strategy and are held in high regard internationally as a model for effective governance in climate policy. We have an exciting work programme for the next few years, with a particular focus on driving policy action and we look forward to welcoming students from a range of disciplines.

## Policy Internship Opportunities at the Climate Change Committee

As a successful applicant, you could work in a variety of areas across our work advising and assessing progress on efforts to reduce emissions and adapt to climate change. This could be sector specific (e.g. buildings decarbonisation) or cross cutting (e.g. shaping and coordinating analysis or focused on the role of people and business). Placements are available in our Carbon Budgets, Energy, Buildings, Infrastructure, People and Business and Land teams.

Your placement is likely to involve analysing and synthesising evidence; developing modelling tools; communicating and collaborating with experts; and report drafting. It may also include presenting your work to the Climate Change Committee itself. Precise areas of work will be determined by priorities at the time, but could involve the following areas:

- contributing analysis to one of the CCC's statutory reports e.g. the annual progress reports on mitigation
- conducting research into a particular topic such as the role of SMEs and finance, decarbonisation of heavy goods vehicles or non-residential buildings, policy and spending priorities for the devolved administrations, the role of farmers in enabling climate action
- contributing to the development and updates of in-house analytical tools.

The role primarily focuses on the evidence base of policy options available to respond to our changing climate and/or reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Note that the role is not about the science of climate change.

Candidates will work alongside other CCC secretariat members, and have access to key stakeholders across government, industry, and academia.

Working at the CCC is a great opportunity for you to learn about and become an expert in a new area, develop skills in writing and presenting complex information in an accessible way and improve your confidence in working with leading experts in the climate change area.

## Testimonials from Past Interns

“Over the past three months I’ve learnt so much about our path to Net Zero and have broadened my understanding of the UK’s policy space. All the while working in a brilliant, motivated team. I would encourage everyone to apply for an internship with the CCC!”

“Through completing a UKRI Policy internship at the CCC, I have developed a really good understanding of using evidence-based analysis to inform policy, gained a variety of transferable skills and, most importantly, made strong connections with the fantastic staff. The CCC is a really special place, the work that they do is amazing and I would recommend spending 3 months there to anyone!”

"Working at the CCC has been an invaluable and exciting opportunity to understand how climate research is used in a fast-moving policy context. I've learnt a huge amount about how emissions targets are calculated and policy recommendations formed and have loved working with key stakeholders such as governmental departments and charities. The team are enthusiastic and inspiring, and the work I've done at the CCC has felt immensely impactful - with a personal highlight being helping to plan my team's future strategic priorities and goals."

## How will we be Recruiting?

Applications will be sifted against the UKRI criteria and will consider the CCC’s priorities for 2025/26. Successful applications will be invited to interview. If you have any questions about the potential projects or working at the CCC please contact us via the details below.

## Security Restrictions

All staff (including interns) need to go through the baseline personnel security standard (BPSS). The checks involved are:

- identity
- employment history (past 3 years)
- national and immigration (right to work) status
- unspent criminal record

## Working Arrangements and Location

The CCC office is based in Canary Wharf, London. We support a wide variety of working patterns such as compressed hours, hybrid working, remote working, part time hours, and flexi time.

## Contact

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# Department for Education (DfE)

## Behavioural Insights Unit (BIU)

1 internship available for AHRC, BBSRC, EPSRC, ESRC, MRC and NERC students

### About DfE's Behavioural Insights Unit

DfE is a UK government department with responsibility for children's services and education, including higher and further education policy, apprenticeships and wider skills.

The Behavioural Insights Unit (BIU) was set up in 2017 to provide dedicated behavioural science expertise to the department. The unit has three key objectives;

- to support the department to use behavioural insights to tackle policy challenges
- to support the department to commission high quality behavioural research
- to build the department's knowledge and ability to apply behavioural insights

Examples of our work include developing behavioural approaches to increase the number of girls studying STEM, increase the uptake of free childcare and increase the number of high achieving disadvantaged students applying for and attending top tier universities. The successful candidate will have the opportunity to work on projects of strategic importance across the educational and social care spectrum.

More broadly, the BIU sits with the department's central Strategy Unit (SU). SU are a highly collaborative, high-calibre team which carry out priority projects spanning across the whole of the Department's work. SU and the BIU work closely with ministers and the senior civil service to prioritise areas for the Department to focus on, in line with the overall strategy.

### Policy Internship Opportunities at DfE's Behavioural Insights Unit

We are offering a unique opportunity to understand research impact from the policy perspective and to apply evidence from behavioural science to some of the highest priority work in educational policy. The post-holder will support and lead on the application of behavioural insights to policy projects. Specific activities:

- work with policymakers to support them to use behavioural insights to develop effective policies
- undertake (or commission) behavioural insights research and present the findings to senior stakeholders
- build the capability of the department to understand how to apply behavioural insights to their thinking
- help to develop new ways of integrating behavioural research into educational policy
- support the department to commission high quality behavioural research, trials and interventions

We welcome applications from candidates from a variety of academic backgrounds. To join us, candidates need to have a strong interest in behavioural insights and education policy. The ability to work collaboratively is essential as well as the flexibility and willingness to partner with key stakeholders from all areas of government and outside of it. Post holders will also need to be able to demonstrate strong communication and analytical skills, as well as a personal drive to make the most out of their role.

## **Testimonials from Past Interns**

"During my time with the Behavioural Insights Unit I worked on a variety of projects aiming to make education a better place for all. The placement provided me with an invaluable insight into how the government functions, what it is like to work in the civil service and how the Department for Education uses research to inform policy. I would definitely recommend this internship and I only wish I could complete it again!" Abigail Bowling, University of York

"I found the experience of my policy internship, as part of the Department for Education's Behavioural Insights Unit, an extremely positive one. Not only was I warmly welcomed as part of the team, but I was both challenged and supported to engage with meaningful work which contributed to the work of the team. This gave me invaluable and very real insight into this area of work. I would highly recommend this opportunity to anyone with an interest in how research is applied to the development and implementation of policy." Ian Widdows, University of Sheffield

## **How will we be Recruiting?**

Candidates are asked to apply following the guidance. Applications will be assessed and successful candidates will be invited to interview.

The interview will consist of a pre-prepared 5-minute presentation, an assessment exercise and a number of questions which will focus on your skills, experience and your interest in the role.

Feedback can be provided for all applicants.

## **Security Restrictions**

The successful candidate is required to complete a basic security check. The check will require the candidate to provide proof of identity and proof of address.

## **Working Arrangements and Location**

Expected start date: Flexible (2026)

Working pattern: Full-time, part-time or flexible working

Hours: 37.5 hours per week (if full time)

Location: Flexible. We would encourage candidates to join either our Sheffield or London office. We offer blended working so you can work partly in the office and partly from home. We also welcome applications from those wishing to work completely from home.

London office address: Sanctuary Buildings, 20 Great Smith St, London, SW1P 3BT

Sheffield office address: St Pauls Place, 125 Norfolk St, Sheffield, S1 2JF

## **Contact**

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# Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs

10 internships available for AHRC, BBSRC, EPSRC, ESRC, MRC and NERC students

## About Defra

Defra is the UK government department responsible for safeguarding our natural environment, supporting our world-leading food and farming industry, and sustaining a thriving rural economy. Our broad remit means we play a major role in people's day-to-day life, from the food we eat, and the air we breathe, to the water we drink.

We are here to make our air purer, our water cleaner, our land greener and our food more sustainable. Our mission is to restore and enhance the environment for the next generation, leaving it in a better state than we found it.

Defra's 25 year environment plan has a set of ambitious goals to improve our environment. With net zero, biodiversity, sustainable farming and reducing the likelihood and impact of flooding high on Defra's agenda it is an exciting time to work for the department to help shape how future policy will look.

## Policy Internship Opportunities at Defra

During the internship, you will utilise your natural science/social science and data analysis skills to assist a Defra policy team by providing analysis of a priority policy issue. The internship project will reflect current policy priorities and will be decided on following conversation between Defra officials and the intern. Examples of high-profile natural science/social science-policy issues include (but are not limited to):

- air and environment quality - plastics in the environment, links between pollution and deprivation
- food and farming - alternative methods of food production, agricultural productivity, alternative proteins
- biodiversity - marine conservation zones, trends in wildlife habitats, landscape character and change
- climate change - climate adaptation, consumer trends, citizen science and wider social engagement
- other strategic evidence needs set in a post EU-Exit context

Outputs from the internship will be varied but projects will be designed to ensure that you can complete a piece of work. Examples include developing Evidence Statements for a policy issue to be used in Defra's decision-making process, or undertaking other structured activities to support knowledge exchange and facilitate links between policy makers and the wider academic community (e.g. running workshops, events, desk top studies). Alongside project work, you will have the opportunity of joining other policy officials on engagements with stakeholders or other Government Departments and have access to events open to Defra employees including training, shadowing opportunities, and attending seminars with guest speakers.

Benefits of working with Defra: Being embedded in Defra will provide you with valuable insight into the policy making process, particularly how research is used to inform decisions; it will improve your understanding of high-profile policy issues; and working directly with policy teams gives you the opportunity to build a network of policy and evidence contacts and work in an interdisciplinary environment. You will be contributing to improving the evidence base of a high-profile policy issue, have the opportunity to produce work that will have a high impact and ensure that evidence is strongly embedded into decision-making, and will have a completed project to add to your portfolio.

Whether you are interested in a policy, research, or alternative career path an internship within Defra will develop your transferrable skills providing you experience with project leadership, systematic evidence reviews, communicating complex information to non-experts, writing for a policy audience, working at pace, and balancing needs of policy and evidence.

### **Testimonials from Past Interns**

“I didn’t expect to be given so much autonomy and responsibility in just 3 months, but I was trusted to conduct research that has guided policy, which has been a privilege to do. This has given me such a confidence boost in my own abilities and skills, and to be valued in the team has made me value what I can bring to the table in future roles.”

“Whilst I was at Defra, I really enjoyed being able to engage with working groups across Defra and also being able to engage with stakeholders from industry and across the arms lengths bodies. I had amazing freedom to make my experience my own and carve out opportunities. If you do get to do an internship in Defra I would definitely urge to not only stick to your area of work but network as much as you can and get involved with a range of things - use your time to shadow and to talk to as many people as you can. It is through doing this that I am now on one of the R&D fellowships.”

“It was very valuable to be able to work directly on a piece of environmental legislation – this is practical experience I couldn’t have obtained elsewhere and it will be very useful for a potential future career in environmental policy.”

“The strongly collaborative nature of working in Defra was something I particularly enjoyed during my placement.”

### **How will we be Recruiting?**

Approximately 10 policy internships are available, and shortlisted applications will be invited for informal interviews.

You do not need to have specific expertise in the example science-policy issues listed above. The evidence priorities associated with the example topics may change, and successful applicants will enter discussions with relevant policy teams at the start of the internship.

We encourage applicants from diverse backgrounds. At Defra, we passionately believe in equality, diversity & inclusion and we match that belief with action. We are committed to being an organisation in which fairness and equality of opportunity is central to the approach in business and working relationships and where the organisational culture reflects and supports these values.

Exact start dates can be decided between policy team and interns but would be expected to commence sometime between March 2026 and September 2026.

### **Security Restrictions**

Successful applicants will receive instructions on how to complete basic security checks. Applicants who choose to be based in London may need to apply for CTC security clearance before starting the internship.

International students are welcome to apply although those on student visas will be restricted to 20 hours a week and onboarding can take longer so the placement will realistically start after May 2026.

### **Working Arrangements and Location**

Defra is well equipped for remote working and many teams are dispersed. Office hubs are London, Bristol or York. The placement can be hybrid office/home based or entirely home based. You will be based in a relevant Defra policy team supported by the Central Science Division within core Defra. Part of the work may involve liaising with other Defra teams and external experts, and may involve short visits to other sites. Defra are open to flexible working and are



happy to accommodate where possible. Applications from part-time registered students are welcomed. If successful, part-time students who are eligible for studentship extensions will have these applied on a part-time basis.

**Contact**

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# Department for Energy Security and Net Zero

32 internships available for AHRC, BBSRC, EPSRC, ESRC, MRC and NERC students

## About the Department for Energy Security and Net Zero

The Department for Energy Security and Net Zero (DESNZ) leads on the government's mission to make the UK a clean energy superpower by achieving clean power by 2030 and accelerating to net zero. We are responsible for UK energy security, protecting billpayers, supporting economic growth for the UK and protecting jobs and reducing the UK's emissions. For more information see: [About us - Department for Energy Security and Net Zero - GOV.UK](#).

## Policy Internship Opportunities at the Department for Energy Security and Net Zero

1 x Planning Policy: Supporting the development of new policy proposals for speeding up planning consenting processes.

1 x Net Zero Innovation Policy: Supporting our net zero innovation policy work, ensuring innovation is positioned as a key policy lever in delivering the government's Clean Energy Superpower Mission and Industrial Strategy.

1 x Embodied Emissions Reporting Policy Analysis: Supporting the Low Carbon Products team in planning to publish guidance in 2026 to help manufacturers with monitoring, reporting and verification of the embodied emissions content of steel, cement and concrete.

1 x Nuclear Skills Policy: Supporting the Nuclear Skills and Supply Chain team in nuclear policy analysis, stakeholder management and project delivery. The role will focus on interventions in the high-level nuclear skills landscape.

2 x Circular Economy Industrial Policy: Developing evidence and analysis to support the development and implementation of policies to support industry adoption of circular business models and technologies.

1 x Nuclear Power and Industry Policy: Supporting the Nuclear Power and Industry Team in nuclear policy development, stakeholder management and Ministerial engagement. The team cover a variety of areas including nuclear skills, supply chain and nuclear strategy.

8 x Review of Electricity Market Arrangements (REMA) and Future Electricity Security (FES): Contributing to a government policy priority in energy security including the Review of Electricity Market Arrangements (REMA) and the Future Electricity Security team. Interns will be at the forefront of policy development on market arrangements aimed at delivering a resilient, low carbon future electricity mix.

1 x Industrial Decarbonisation Research: Supporting industrial decarbonisation policy making in areas such as fuel switching, resource efficiency, CCUS/BECCS with technical evidence, primarily through conducting internal research and analysis, developing briefings, presentations and workshops.

1 x Establishing a Centralised Digital Carbon Accounting Platform: Leading the development of a project to design and seek approval for a new Government-administered centralised digital carbon accounting platform which will enable businesses to provide their energy use, reporting requirements and wider sustainability obligations for mandatory government and voluntary initiatives in one, publicly-accessible platform.

1 x Carbon Markets Analysis: Supporting cross-cutting carbon markets analytical work to support growth of high integrity carbon finance for Emerging Markets and Developing Economies (EMDEs).

3 x Net Zero Innovation Development & Analysis: Developing the future of net zero innovation and analysing the impact of previous funding and projects. Interns will see the technology innovation challenges to achieving net zero and what DESNZ is doing to overcome these.

1 x North Sea Energy Future Policy: Supporting a policy project on a specific area of the North Sea transition from oil and gas extraction to clean energy industries. For example, considering whether types of oil and gas infrastructure or skills are transferable to other sectors.

2 x SME Decarbonisation and Energy Efficiency: Investigating ways of increasing support for SMEs to decarbonise and reduce energy bills. SMEs are significant carbon emitters, playing a key role in UKs supply chains and have issues with high energy costs.

2 x International Climate Finance Programmes & Global South Energy Transitions: Supporting the development and delivery of international climate finance programmes (ODA) and related strategies, initiatives and engagements designed to accelerate developing country energy transitions.

1 x Commercial Buildings Decarbonisation: Focussing on delivering more carbon emissions reductions in the commercial buildings sector, through existing regulations and future policies.

1 x Energy Engineering: Focussing on innovations that could support electricity network upgrades and decarbonization of the energy system, and the policies that could be put in place to deploy those innovations at scale.

3 x Climate Science Team Policy: Supporting on one climate science team workstream, which include climate mitigation, capability, resilience, greenhouse gas inventory and international workstreams.

1 x CCUS Clusters Policy: Focusing on the development of CCUS industrial clusters, supporting the deployment of a major UK infrastructure initiative.

### **Testimonials from Past Interns**

"My internship within DESNZ was such a fantastic experience - I learnt so much about not only the area I was working in, but also how science and policy intersects, how research informs policy, and ways my future career could develop. I felt like the research paper I worked on was valued and appreciated, and that even in just three months I made a real, tangible impact on the work in DESNZ." 2024 UKRI Policy Intern

### **How will we be Recruiting?**

Suitable candidates will be invited to interview which are likely to be held remotely through Microsoft Teams.

It is helpful if candidates express their interest in any particular role(s) set out above in their written application. Candidates selected for interview should be prepared to discuss their preferred placement(s). Although we can't guarantee we will be able to match successful applicants to their preferred placements, we will do our best to take preferences into consideration when matching applicants to placements. Specific expertise in a given area is desirable but not required.

### **Security Restrictions**

Prospective interns will be expected to meet relevant HR onboarding checks, including National Security Vetting to Baseline Personnel Security Standard (BPSS). The vetting will take at least 4 weeks to complete. Checks will be conducted to verify interns' identity, right to work in the UK, and in the Civil Service. Please see [Civil Service recruitment: nationality rules - GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk/civil-service-recruitment-nationality-rules) for nationality requirements. Further details will be provided to successful candidates.

## **Working Arrangements and Location**

Most posts will take place in our London office. Other office locations that may be available to interns include Salford, Birmingham, Darlington and Cardiff. The Department currently operates a hybrid office/home working model. If you are successful, we will discuss the working location and other working arrangements with you once an offer has been made.

## **Contact**

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# Department for Work & Pensions (DWP)

12 internships available for AHRC, BBSRC, EPSRC, ESRC, MRC and NERC students

## About DWP

The Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) is the UK's biggest public service department, responsible for the design and delivery of the welfare system. DWP addresses social policy challenges for all age groups e.g. tackling family conflict, policies for an efficient Labour Market and work and pensions policies to address the ageing population. DWP is responsible for delivering the State Pension, working age benefits, disability and sickness benefits to 22 million citizens, and the Department's broader policy remit affects the lives of everyone in the country. DWP's ministers and senior officials make a huge number of important decisions, affecting the lives of millions. Decisions require evidence, and this is generated and translated by the Department's analysts and scientists, who work in all parts of the organisation. The Department is a large employer and offers many opportunities for graduate and postgraduate analysts who are employed as Government specialists. Analysts in Government work closely with policy makers and operational decision-makers at all levels, including Ministers. Analytical work informs policy and operations, such as Jobcentre Plus and the Pensions Service and can have a substantial impact on the lives of large numbers of people. DWP analysts design and deliver research and evaluation of policies, programmes and pilot projects to shape labour market policy, poverty reduction, disability, ageing society and welfare reform.

The Analytical Community in DWP includes over 700 members across core professions: Economics, Operational Research, Social Research, Data Science and Statistics. The Department employs a growing number of experts in Digital, behavioural science, psychology and medicine. Analysts in DWP are based in five main hubs: Leeds, London, Newcastle, Sheffield and Manchester. DWP also has hubs in Glasgow and South Wales.

## Policy Internship Opportunities at DWP

DWP offers a unique opportunity to experience an organisation that is directly responsible for both the design and the frontline delivery of its policies and services. A DWP internship will support the development of a broad range of analytical, presentational and professional skills, as well as wider professional development from e.g. in-house seminars. Each student will be matched with an area to contribute to a priority analytical project to support the development of policy or facilitate senior decision-making, via the innovative usage and translation of evidence, data and information. The work of a DWP internship will directly address and impact the research questions outlined in our Areas of Research Interest (ARI) statement\*. Students will participate in their team's wider responsibilities and gain a broad and rich insight into life in DWP as well as an overview of working in the Civil Service. Students will benefit from being part of a cohort, offering a peer support network and opportunities to share experiences with other student interns.

Some of the areas in which internship projects are available are as follows:

Labour Market Analysis; Universal Credit Research; Working Age Benefits and Housing; Disability Analysis; Work & Health Joint Unit; Pensions & Later Life Analysis; Income, Families and Disadvantage; Operations; Contracted Health and Employment Services; Working Age Modelling & Analysis.

Projects vary by area but can be broadly categorised as follows:

Literature/evidence review/synthesis; quantitative analysis; qualitative research/analysis; specialist modelling or econometrics; or a combination of the above categories. [DWP Areas of Research Interest 2023 - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/dwp-areas-of-research-interest-2023)

## Testimonials from Past Interns

“I applied because I am actively considering non-academic career options after graduation. I was able to get very detailed insights into how policies are made and what the role of civil servants is in this process. I was really made to feel part of the team and was invited to every single meeting. I thoroughly enjoyed the placement and learned a lot. I also noticed that the type of work carried out in DWP speaks a lot more to me than some of the things at university. I enjoy more short-term and output-driven projects. I also like the more collaborative aspect in the Civil Service. I am very likely to apply as an analyst in DWP.”

“I wanted experience of working in the civil service. I hoped that I would identify a future career path, as well as additional skills which I wouldn't get during my degree. I was very pleasantly surprised by my secondment. Although I expected to enjoy it, I wasn't expecting to enjoy it as much as I did, and I didn't want it to end! My project was interesting, rewarding and challenging but also manageable in the time I was given for it. It was great to see my work being used and achieving impact straight away. My team were amazing, and I feel very lucky to have been placed with them. I think it's important for PhD students to be part of a team (as PhDs can be quite isolating) and I really liked the atmosphere within the civil service. This scheme is a very good way to experience working for the civil service. I have already applied for the GORS mainstream recruitment.”

## How will we be Recruiting?

Shortlisted candidates will be invited to an interview via MS Teams to determine final selections but will not be asked to give a presentation. The ideal candidate needs to be able to work in a fast-paced team environment, planning and balancing multiple project tasks and communicating effectively with colleagues. Students should have a strong grounding in their academic discipline, with the ability to effectively operate beyond these boundaries in areas they are not specialist in. Interviews will focus on: Analytical and research methods; approaches to reviewing, assimilating, and analysing data, evidence and information from different sources; communicating outputs to non-technical audiences.

There is no restriction on academic discipline, with applications welcome from a broad range of backgrounds; past students have come from: economics and econometrics, social policy, epidemiology, mathematics, history, anthropology, sociology, but this list is not limited – transferrable skills are more important than specific research interests.

Successful candidates will be matched to areas/projects based on their research interests and skills profile; we will endeavour to accommodate preferences where possible and can offer some flexibility. Note that all internships offer the same core professional development, Government insight, embedding, shadowing and mentoring opportunities.

## Security Restrictions

All successful candidates will be required to undergo basic identity and DBS checks prior to the internship commencing from March 2026 onwards.

## Working Arrangements and Location

Interns will be fully embedded within a DWP analytical team. DWP analysts work on a cross-site basis in Birmingham, Glasgow, Leeds, London, Newcastle, Manchester, Sheffield and Treforest. Flexibility around hybrid working and home working can be considered. During the internship travel and related expenses incurred in relation to the internship will be reimbursed by DWP – via the student's Home University – up to the Scheme's stated limit over the duration of the secondment. Full terms and conditions for the internship will be included in an agreement for successful candidates. If successful, part-time students who are eligible for studentship extensions will have these applied on a part-time basis.

## Contact

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# Government Office for Science (GO-Science)

7-15 internships available for AHRC, BBSRC, EPSRC, ESRC, MRC, NERC and STFC students

## About GO-Science

The Government Office for Science (GO-Science) advises the Prime Minister and Cabinet to help ensure that we are putting excellent science advice at the heart of decision making.

We do this by ensuring:

- science advice mechanisms that are efficient, effective, speak truth to power and are embedded irreversibly in Government systems
- visible impact through both pro-active and demand-led science advice that is relevant, excellent, and delivered fit for purpose

Our priority areas of focus are:

Science for National Security & Resilience – We make sure that science advice underpins national security and resilience policy, strategy, planning and crisis response and that the [Scientific Advisory Group for Emergencies \(SAGE\)](#) is ready to stand up in the event of an emergency.

A More Scientific Civil Service – We work across government to develop our people, infrastructure, systems and networks – including delivering the Government Science and Engineering Profession and Chief Scientific Adviser (CSA) Networks. We also support wider government to deliver targeted and impactful investment in Research & Development and increase Departmental science capability.

Science for Strategic Advantage – We use our expertise to ensure that government has the best technology insights to draw on when developing strategies and policies in areas such as the economy and National Security. We are also equipping departments with strong [Foresight and Futures](#) tools and supporting delivery of the [Science & Technology Framework](#).

Science for Current and Future Challenges – We ensure government has access to timely, high-quality advice on key future issues such as climate change mitigation and synthetic biology, and that this scientific evidence supports the government's approach. This includes supporting the independent Council for Science and Technology.

You can find further information about our organisation on the [Government Office for Science website](#).

## Policy Internship Opportunities at GO-Science

Note: GO-Science does not write policy; we ensure that government policies and decisions are informed by the best scientific evidence and strategic long-term thinking.

Project Research Officers - opportunities in our National Security and Resilience; Council for Science & Technology (CST); Climate, Society & International; Futures, Foresight & Engagement; Technology & Science Insights; and Systems & Capability teams. You will be using your expertise to support projects such as: how science can improve HMG planning around major emergencies; supporting CST advice on the Prime Minister's science and technology priorities; contributing research and analysis to new and emerging technologies; supporting work on global climate, science, technology and innovation challenges; improving science capability across government, potentially including systems thinking.

Project Engagement Officers - opportunities focusing on cross-government collaboration and engagement with industry, academia and finance; and promoting the use of Public Sector Research Establishments, facilitating the use of transparent Research & Development expenditure data and improving connectivity of the Science & Technology ecosystem in the UK.



Analyst – an opportunity to contribute to research and analysis to understanding technologies and their potential impact for the UK.

## **Testimonials from Past Interns**

[Stepping from Science into Policy Blog](#) (Dorothea, Cambridge 2023)

“I hugely enjoyed my time in the R&D Strategy & Spend team. A few parts of my role included the chance to take part in roundtables with several CSAs hearing their view of the current state of UK R&D, and the chance to attend a large event between government departments and venture capitalists to discuss how to work best with them to adopt transformative technologies. During my placement I learnt a lot about the workings of government and the importance of science in policy decisions. Everyone was very friendly and I really enjoyed the chance to work in London a couple of days a week – I would highly recommend an internship at GO-Science!” (Emily, Leeds 2024)

“My three-month internship at GO-Science has been an amazing opportunity and one of the highlights of my PhD. I’ve worked in the social sciences team, and led a project looking into how organisations can engage and talk to the public about engineering biology. This work and internship have given me valuable understanding of how science advice is provided and used across government, which has changed how I approach research in my own PhD. In addition, I’ve appreciated how friendly and welcoming GO-Science is as a place to work.” (Daniel, Bristol 2024)

“I joined the Areas of Research Interest Engagement Team, who manage ARIs and guide x-HMG departments engagement with academics and experts. It has been a great experience to see how policy and academics can connect and make research impact government that I will take forward in my career.” (Alex, Manchester 2024)

## **How will we be Recruiting?**

GO-Science will be fielding applications and hosting interviews via Microsoft Teams.

We strongly believe diversity of experience, thought, perspectives, skills, and background makes us a more innovative and welcoming Department, enabling us to make better decisions and deliver our objectives.

We are actively seeking applications from every part of the community and particularly welcome applications from candidates of any age, background, disability, or from a global majority background and any other protected characteristic. This will help us move to a workforce that reflects the people we serve to deliver better policies.

Applications from part-time registered students are welcomed. If successful, part-time students who are eligible for studentship extensions will have these applied on a part-time basis.

## **Security Restrictions**

You will be expected to meet the [HMG Baseline Personnel Security Standard \(BPSS\)](#) prior to taking up post. Checks take approx. 8 weeks to complete.

For roles with the National Security and Resilience team you will also need to hold British citizenship.

## **Working Arrangements and Location**

You will be based in our Head Office in London, or our offices in Birmingham or Salford. We currently work on a hybrid model: 60% office, 40% home, this is subject to change.



**Contact**

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# His Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire and Rescue Services (HMICFRS)

2 internships available for AHRC, BBSRC, EPSRC, ESRC, MRC and NERC students

## About HMICFRS

His Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire and Rescue Services independently assesses and reports in the public interest, on police forces in England and Wales and fire and rescue services in England. Our PEEL programme of force inspections, which began in 2014, examines the effectiveness, efficiency and legitimacy of police forces in England and Wales. In 2018, we started a regular programme of inspections of England's fire and rescue services. We also publish a large number of inspection reports on specific topics, including child protection, custody, serious youth violence, violence against women and girls and counter-terrorism.

The internships will be embedded in one of three multi-disciplinary teams that work alongside each other, forming the Insight Portfolio:

Our FRS and JNPI Analysis, Research, Evaluation and Supercomplaints team is responsible for providing analysis and research in support of our inspection programmes and producing other bespoke analytical products for a range of users. The team commissions and conducts research, and advises on methodology and ethical considerations, including building in lived experience to our inspections as well as evaluating HMICFRS's inspection activity

The Analytical Insight, Monitoring and Policing Collaboration team, is responsible for providing high quality analytical insight in support of our inspection programmes. Currently the team is leading on Efficiency Analysis (VfM) of policing activity as well as the Early Warning System which identifies outlier forces in relation to their performance.

The PEEL Analysis and Monitoring Team is responsible for providing analysis and research in support of our PEEL inspection programmes tracking recommendations and causes of concern through our monitoring function. This includes the maintenance of the monitoring portal.

## Policy Internship Opportunities at HMICFRS

Interns with HMICFRS will join the 'Insight' portfolio, working with colleagues who undertake research and analysis to improve the methodology of inspections and who collect and analyse data from forces and services to assess different aspects of their performance. Examples of recent and current work include:

Surveys of public perceptions of the police and fire and rescue services.

Commissioning research with victims of crime to understand the aspects of their interactions with the police that were most important to them.

Rapid literature review of the activities and impact of fire and rescue services Research to find the most effective methods for including the views of victims in our inspections Analysis of demand for policing services using big data analytics.

Developing training in evidence gathering techniques for inspection.

Interns will be linked to a particular analyst or researcher appropriate to the allocated project, who will provide support and coaching. Interns will have an opportunity to develop and apply skills in research or statistical analysis to answer questions of importance to the inspectorate, which will help improve the delivery of both policing and the fire and rescue services. They will gain an insight into how police forces and fire and rescue services are held to account and will

see the challenges involved in finding out how different forces are preventing and tackling crime and how the fire and rescue service provide an emergency response service and promote fire safety education

### **Testimonials from Past Interns**

“During my internship I’ve gained invaluable experience of working and conducting research within HMICFRS and the wider civil service. I have been able to use my research and subject skills from my PhD to develop and work on a project that will have impact within the work that HMICFRS do.”

“I’ve really enjoyed getting to know everyone in the team. Even while working remotely, I’ve been able to meet a lot of people at various levels within the organisation, including the Chief Operating Officer, through introductory chats and wider team meetings. It’s been interesting to learn how easy it is to move across departments within the Civil Service which makes very dynamic teams and the potential for a varied career”

### **How will we be Recruiting?**

HMICFRS will assess the applications received and invite up to 6 candidates for interview. The interview will focus on the candidate’s analytical experience and ability to communicate their findings to a range of audiences. The interview will last for approximately 45 minutes. It will either take place in 10 South Colonnade (Canary Wharf) in London or use Teams video conference.

### **Security Restrictions**

Students will need to have security clearance before they start. Clearance will involve checks of identity, employment history, nationality, immigration status, right to work in the UK, unspent convictions, continuous residence in UK for past 3 years and checks against terrorism databases. The level of clearance required for this work will be ‘counter- terrorist check’. Please see the [HMG personnel security controls guidance](#) for further information.

Note security clearance can take up to 12 weeks to complete from confirmation of suitability and completion of the appropriate paperwork.

### **Working Arrangements and Location**

The placements will be undertaken in 10 South Colonnade in London. The office is located in Canary Wharf. Other locations include our head office in Birmingham (opposite Grand Central) or our other location in Salford (Soapworks). HMICFRS colleagues are currently working a minimum of 60% in the office, and it is likely that the intern will need to work in a similar way for their placement. Applications from part-time registered students and for flexible hours are welcomed.

### **Contact**

Name: Hannah Marriott

Email: [Hannah.Marriott@hmicfrs.gov.uk](mailto:Hannah.Marriott@hmicfrs.gov.uk)

Tel: Skype: 03001 055228 or Mobile 07765 445692

# Home Office

10 internships available for AHRC, BBSRC, EPSRC, ESRC, MRC and NERC students

## About the Home Office

The Home Office is the lead government department for immigration and passports, drugs policy, crime, counter-terrorism and police. The Department is responsible for:

- working on the problems caused by illegal drug use
- shaping the alcohol strategy, policy and licensing conditions
- keeping the United Kingdom safe from the threat of terrorism
- reducing and preventing crime, and ensuring people feel safe in their homes and communities • securing the UK border and controlling immigration
- considering applications to enter and stay in the UK
- issuing passports and visas
- supporting visible, responsible, and accountable policing by empowering the public and freeing up the police to fight crime

## Policy Internship Opportunities at the Home Office

Internships at the Home Office will see firsthand how we use science and analysis to address the complex challenges we face across the Department, helping us to develop and apply services and build the evidence base needed to better protect the public. Interns will have a great opportunity to undertake a placement at the interface between science/research/evidence and policymaking which will directly inform decisions. Students are welcomed to apply for a 3-month position within the following teams:

**Research, Development and Innovation Strategy (two roles):** Your role will help us implement the Home Office's Research, Development and Innovation (RDI) strategy: from understanding how we use RDI to address our Departmental challenges, to building communities of practice around our key science and technology capabilities (e.g., futures, behavioural science, forensics, life sciences, detection and Artificial Intelligence). This could include exploring how we partner more effectively, including with industry and academia. Critically, you will spend time engaging with teams across the Home Office, engaging scientists and non-scientists, and learning how policy teams and operational colleagues use science and technology to support their decision-making.

**Managed Migration Research Team (two roles):** Join the Managed Migration Research team as a PhD intern and be part of a dynamic, multi-analytical profession directorate. Our team focuses on evaluating high-profile UK migration routes, examining user experiences, motivations, and intentions, to shape policy and operational delivery. You'll collaborate directly with policy teams and employ a range of analytical methods. Contribute to impactful research projects and explore data-matching opportunities to maximise the value of migration data and enhance data capability and infrastructure. Publish your findings on GOV.UK and help to inform migration policy at the highest level in government.

**Police and Fire Analysis Unit:** The Policing Research team provides research and analytical support on all aspects of policing policy, on topic areas including policing reform, police powers, police integrity and the police workforce. This internship will provide an opportunity to be embedded into a team of policy-facing analysts, designing and advising on research and evaluation to provide evidence on which to base policy decisions. We commission, contract and manage research and evaluation both ourselves and through external providers, at our desks and out in the field with police officers.

**STAR Policy and Innovation Team ('CoLab'):** CoLab is a multi-disciplinary policy design team that uses innovative methods to deliver better outcomes. You'll be part of a team of designers, researchers, policy makers and operational colleagues, working on vital projects across crime and policing. You'll work closely with the public to understand the challenges they experience and rapidly design and test novel solutions. You may also be involved with running public

dialogues, reviewing evidence, evaluating key policies, and/or harnessing behavioural insights to develop effective policies. Past projects have included investigating how to better support survivors of modern slavery, evaluating our approach to organised crime and reviewing police handling of non-contact sexual offences.

**Accelerated Capability Environment:** The Home Office-owned Accelerated Capability Environment (ACE) champions innovation across the public sector. A public-private partnership, ACE delivers innovation through our community, which comprises 400 companies, mostly small-to-medium enterprises, and over 100 universities. While we can solve almost any 'problem', we focus on challenges and opportunities arising from data and technology. Join us to experience firsthand how collaboration between government, industry and academia can drive innovation across the public sector. Engage with teams across ACE – and wider government – bringing your academic speciality to help us improve our work and develop a flagship policy event bringing together government, industry and academia.

**The Migration Advisory Committee (MAC):** MAC is an independent public body that provides evidence-based recommendations to the Home Secretary on migration policy. It is supported by a permanent civil service secretariat of around 30 people. You'll join a multidisciplinary analytical team, working with the UK's leading migration and labour market academics on high-impact projects (a mixture of government commissions and self-commissioned evidence building work). We welcome interns from economics, statistics, and related disciplines to lead quantitative analysis, especially those interested in housing and the fiscal impacts of migrants.

**Advisory Council on the Misuse of Drugs (ACMD):** You will work in the Secretariat to the ACMD - an independent scientific advisory committee that provides evidence-based advice to Government. This is an exciting and fast-moving area with significant profile. The ACMD's advice is highly influential in shaping drug legislation, strategy and policy approaches in substance use. You'll work with over 20 senior experts in areas such as chemistry, pharmacology, neuroscience, social science, enforcement, as well as working with policy teams in multiple Government Departments. Your work will involve gathering of evidence and analysis to underpin the Council's recommendations to Government.

**Deputy Chief Science Adviser (CSA) Team:** Your work will assist the Home Office to understand the implications of complex connected systems. Working with a range of government, policing and security partners, to consider the threats and opportunities posed by the collection, storage and sharing of data enabled by new and emerging technologies in the mobility sector. Your role will see you explore these systems specifically in relation to future technologies including Autonomous Vehicles. Your expertise and advice will help further understanding of the way individuals, organisations and technologies interact, helping the UK to benefit from the opportunities and mitigate the risks posed in this transformative context.

## **Testimonials from Past Interns**

"Everyone made me feel very welcome and it really helped me to get over my initial nervousness. I really wish that I'd been able to stay longer."

"Every person I have met has been very friendly, and always eager to help or share information whilst maintaining professionalism. I was treated as an equal analyst and was welcomed in the team straight away."

## **How will we be Recruiting?**

Informal interviews will take place over Microsoft Teams prior to appointment and security clearance.

## **Security Restrictions**

There may be different requirements for different postings. Applicants must have spent the last 3 years living within the UK for a Counter Terrorist Check (CTC) or 5 years for Security Check (SC). Clearance is processed in approximately 30 days.

## **Working Arrangements and Location**

Most posts will be based at in Central London offices. Some posts may be available at our Croydon, Sheffield offices or Solihull. Currently we are working in a hybrid way, between offices and home. Applicants from part-time registered students and for flexible hours are welcomed. If successful, parttime students who are eligible for studentship extensions will have these applied on a part-time basis.

## **Contact**

Name: Mick Kelly

Email: [mick.kelly3@homeoffice.gov.uk](mailto:mick.kelly3@homeoffice.gov.uk) / [Science-and-Evidence-Ecosystem@homeoffice.gov.uk](mailto:Science-and-Evidence-Ecosystem@homeoffice.gov.uk)

# Joint Nature Conservation Committee (JNCC)

7 internships available for AHRC, BBSRC, EPSRC, ESRC, MRC and NERC students

## About JNCC

Established in 1991, we're the UK's statutory advisor on issues affecting the natural environment across the UK and internationally. Our primary role is advising all four Governments of the UK. We also work with private sector organisations to support decision making on the sustainable use of marine waters and natural resources around the UK. JNCC is led by the Joint Committee, which brings together members from the nature conservation bodies for England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland and independent members appointed by the Secretary of State for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs under an independent Chair. Support is provided to the Committee by approx. 270 people who bring together scientific and technical expertise, extensive knowledge of policy at global, European and national levels, and skills in working with other organisations. Staff are based in two main offices in Peterborough and Aberdeen. JNCC delivers the UK and international responsibilities to advise Governments on the development and implementation of policies for, or affecting, nature conservation in the UK and internationally.

In May 2023, we released our new strategy until 2030 - Together for Nature. It outlines the areas of work that JNCC will undertake, focusing on our role in terrestrial and marine nature conservation and recovery, at the UK level, working with the UK Overseas Territories and the Crown Dependencies, and inputting evidence and advice to global nature issues. To find out more or to read [our strategy](#) please visit [our website](#).

## Policy Internship Opportunities at JNCC

For over 30 years, JNCC has provided robust evidence and trusted advice on nature conservation. We are well-placed to synthesise evidence and provide advice relating to the natural environment, utilising our unique combination of strengths. We welcome the interest of internships for students with a passion for nature conservation and making a difference to the world we live in. We offer the opportunity to gather and assess evidence to inform decision making, engage with key stakeholders, give policy briefings, and identify potential recommendations for future projects, as well as the opportunity to work with senior members of the JNCC team. Internships are available across a wide range of project themes including:

- understanding the global environmental impacts of commodity production and consumption
- implementing decisions arising from the Convention on Migratory Species
- understanding and articulating the social impacts of land use change
- understanding habitat-prey-predator interactions in the marine environment
- improving realism in Population Viability Analysis, for a robust and fair assessment of the impact of offshore renewables on marine bird populations
- enhancing the impact of nature reporting
- data-Driven Insights into Environmental Pollution and Health: A Global Analysis

## Testimonials from Past Interns

"It has been a great experience undertaking a 3-month internship at JNCC. I have gained invaluable knowledge about how research is used to inform policy and it has improved my confidence knowing that the skills I have developed through my PhD transfer into a professional setting. The opportunity to work on a different project, with tangible policy impacts, has also provided a great change of pace towards the end of my PhD and I would recommend it to anyone!"

“I really enjoyed it. I felt useful and was heavily involved in an interesting, stimulating project. It was very satisfying to see the work you have done put into practice. Everyone in the Aberdeen office were very welcoming.”

“I enjoyed being part of a team, in contrast to the more solitary experience of doing a PhD. Most of the scientific work I was reading about and interacting with at JNCC I wouldn't have been aware of otherwise.”

“My placement allowed me to gain experience and mentoring in writing for policymakers and working with Defra civil servants and those in the Secretariats of multilateral environmental agreements. It was very useful to get an insider's insight into the organisation and what it is like working in an Arm's Length Body at the science-policy interface.”

“I've gained excellent experience in supporting evidence needs for policy development across the UK, including research and report writing as well as working collaboratively. I would highly recommend doing a JNCC placement.”

“Having the opportunity to undertake a placement within JNCC was a great experience. I was given the opportunity to work on a variety of different tasks which gave me a broader understanding of the implications of environmental research from a policy perspective. Furthermore, the placement gave me the opportunity to develop multiple professional and technical skills. Both the experience of undertaking the tasks and the skills I have developed will be invaluable when I return to completing my PhD. Overall, I had a brilliant experience, and I would highly recommend the placement to other PhD students.”

### **How will we be Recruiting?**

An initial sift will be conducted to ensure eligibility. An interview will then be offered to selected candidates.

### **Security Restrictions**

Should they be successful, interns will be required to complete a Basic Disclosure Certificate at least four weeks ahead of the placement commencement date. The cost of this we will reimburse. Successful interns will also be required to sign an Oath of Confidentiality as well as passing relevant right to work checks.

Interns working from a JNCC office will be issued with a temporary security pass to access the premises. It is likely that the intern will encounter confidential information. Training will be required to ensure that such sensitive documents and information remain secure. The intern will need to undertake a short online course for managing sensitive data.

### **Working Arrangements and Location**

Working arrangements/flexibility can be agreed at interview stage. Interns will be based at JNCC's Peterborough or Aberdeen office as well as working remotely. Applications from part-time registered students are welcomed. If successful, part-time students who are eligible for studentship extensions will have these applied on a part-time basis.

### **Contact**

Email: [JNCCPlacements@JNCC.gov.uk](mailto:JNCCPlacements@JNCC.gov.uk)

Tel: 01733 866848



# Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG)

8 internships are available for AHRC, BBSRC, ESRC, EPSRC, MRC and NERC students

## About the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG)

MHCLG is at the forefront of the government's mission to transform the UK by kickstarting economic growth and breaking down barriers to opportunity.

Our work spans a wide remit from investing in local areas to drive growth and create jobs, delivering the high quality, safe and affordable homes our country needs, supporting our community and faith groups, strengthening local government, and planning and building safety.

We lead on delivering a wide range of policies and programmes that support our 7 key priorities:

- making work pay and strengthening employment rights
- getting Britain building – including the commitment to 1.5 million net additional homes during this Parliament and fast-tracking planning decisions on 150 major infrastructure projects
- improving housing quality and security – including through strengthened renters' rights
- reducing homelessness and rough sleeping
- strengthening local government – including through improved and reformed funding
- delivering growth in every corner of the country – including by extending English devolution and by building stronger communities
- responding to the Grenfell Inquiry report – including by accelerating remediation of unsafe buildings

Our teams engage regularly with a variety of stakeholders from other departmental teams and government institutions, Ministers, No. 10 and HMT to local leaders, business developers, academia, and manufacturers.

## Policy Internship Opportunities at MHCLG

Interns will have the opportunity to work at the interface of research and policymaking to directly inform policy decisions. Potential activities could include analysing data to support key policy needs, gathering evidence from a range of cross-government or academic stakeholders, or organising workshops to facilitate policy discussions.

Interns could work on policy, legislation, strategy and / or operational delivery whilst being embedded in a policy team or within the Chief Scientific Adviser's team, working across the range of MHCLG's remit. Please note that at this stage of the bidding process we cannot guarantee which opportunities will be available for interns at the start of the internship, although we will endeavour to work with interns to align their experience with an appropriate policy area.

In previous years interns have worked in Planning reform and housing strategy (making access to justice in the private rented sector as quick, fair and robust as possible, covering court improvement and alternative dispute resolution services), Local Growth and Devolution (drives work to boost regional and national growth across the UK), and Resettlement Strategy, Governance and Comms (covers policy and strategic decisions relating to asylum resettlement and specific resettlement cohorts such as Ukraine, Afghan and Hong Kong.).

## Testimonials from Past Interns

“The UKRI Policy Internship was one of the highlights of my PhD degree. The programme allowed me to gain a better understanding of the policy-making processes as well as the government’s ways of working. The internship also became an opportunity to use my research skills and learn about how research findings may inform policy. My team was very welcoming and incredibly supportive in also allowing me to pursue my policy interests. Finally, the internship also encouraged me to think about careers outside of academia, including in the civil service. I would highly recommend it to everyone!”

“During my internship with the Central Strategy Unit, I had the opportunity to engage in a diverse range of projects; not only allowing me to apply my research interests to governmental work, but also providing me with valuable insights into the general workings of and day-to-day life in the civil service. This exposure is sure to be beneficial as I pursue future job opportunities within the civil service beyond my PhD studies-a career path which I am now much more certain of. I highly recommend the MHCLG internship to any and all prospective UKRI students- it has equipped me with both an understanding of how research can impact policy, and important skills and insights that will surely help with future career steps.”

## How will we be Recruiting?

MHCLG’s selection processes are set to be fair, open, transparent and based on merit to attract high quality candidates from diverse backgrounds. The department aims to both bring in and develop diverse talent, as well as build an inclusive culture within the department. We encourage applications from individuals studying a PhD in a topic related to the [MHCLG areas of research interest](#) and the 7 priority areas listed above, for example in; economic growth, communities, artificial intelligence, housing quality, job quality, local government, elections and homelessness, more broadly this could be a PhD in economics, planning, civil engineering, social science etc..

Shortlisted candidates will be invited for an interview conducted via MS Teams. Applicants will be assessed against the criteria set out in the call, and their ability to collaborate to influence policy outcomes and drive change. Please note that we will not be short-listing candidates who name MHCLG as their second choice department.

If you have any questions about the potential projects or undertaking your placement at MHCLG, please contact us via the details below.

## Security Restrictions

Successful candidates will have to undergo security vetting to Baseline Personnel Security Standard (BPSS) level, which requires a baseline Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check and the right to work in the UK.

## Working Arrangements and Location

MHCLG will accept interns full-time for three months or part-time over a longer period. If successful, part time students who are eligible for studentship extensions will have these applied on a part-time basis. MHCLG is well equipped for remote working and most policy teams are dispersed in offices around the country. Locations include; London, Darlington, Wolverhampton, Leeds, Belfast, Cambridge, Cardiff, Edinburgh, Hastings, Hemel Hempstead, Liverpool, Manchester, Bristol, Nottingham, Norwich and Plymouth. You may be based in an office, may be working remotely from home or a combination of the two depending on your matched policy team. If you are successful, we will discuss the hours and location with you.

## Contact

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# Ministry of Justice (MoJ)

15 internships available for AHRC, BBSRC, EPSRC, ESRC, MRC and NERC students

## About the Ministry of Justice

The Ministry of Justice (MoJ) is a major government department, at the heart of the justice system. MoJ work to protect and advance the principles of justice, with a vision to deliver a world-class justice system that works for everyone in society.

PhD placements in MoJ are facilitated by the Evidence and Partnerships Hub in Policy Group's Analysis Directorate. The Hub's successful academic engagement and partnerships programme enhances the use of evidence and expert collaborations to support decision-making.

Analysis is a multidisciplinary directorate of around 500 staff that sits at the heart of the MoJ, providing analytical support across a diverse and exciting agenda. Analysis Directorate is passionate about improving justice outcomes through innovative research, data and analysis. They provide high quality data and analysis to ensure strategic, policy, finance, corporate and operational decisions are based on robust evidence.

## Policy Internship Opportunities at MoJ

MoJ will have placement opportunities across a range of policy and operational-facing areas in Analysis Directorate. For each opportunity, the student will be responsible for the delivery of a project that addresses an evidence gap in the MoJ [Areas of Research Interest \(ARI\) publication](#). All projects are part of a wider portfolio of analytical work that supports policy development and operational decision-making across MoJ.

Each student will be embedded within a team and responsible for a discrete project requiring technical skills and research methods. Embedding gives students direct experience of working in a real-life role and rich insight into life in a fast-paced government department. Placements will culminate in an end-of-project report and student-led presentation/seminar to disseminate the findings to key stakeholders.

Students will be given the freedom to work independently on their project whilst actively contributing to the wider work of their team, with the day-to-day support of a line manager and team members. This will include balancing and prioritising multiple tasks through effective communication with their team.

## Policy and operational areas

These could include: sentencing, remand, and release; risk management and probation; prison estate and operation; prison safety and security; offender health; Criminal Justice System workforce; justice for victims and defendants, including victims of Violence Against Women and Girls; youth justice, including prevention and diversion; access to justice, legal aid, legal support and advice; civil justice and tribunals; family justice, in particular, outcomes for children; data science and data engineering; climate and sustainability; futures and emerging technology for the justice system; science and engineering applications across the justice system.

## Skills and research methods

These will vary according to the specific project but could include: evidence reviews and syntheses; descriptive analysis and statistics; qualitative research; evaluation and trialling; mathematical or econometric modelling; data science and data engineering.

## Learning and development

Students will benefit from wider support, networking opportunities, and learning and development available to colleagues in Analysis Directorate, giving them a richer experience during their placement.

## Testimonials from Past Interns

“My placement at the Ministry of Justice has been a valuable and enjoyable learning opportunity. I got to work on an interesting project that allowed me to both apply my existing knowledge and develop new skills. In addition to that, the placement provided me with a good understanding of what it can look like to work in the civil service.

Working in a team at the Ministry of Justice has been an invaluable learning experience. During my placement, I have established my own individual project whilst also making wider contributions to the work of my team. Researching a topic area outside the typical scope of my PhD topic area has been fascinating and has significantly broadened my interests. I also feel as though the connections I have made during my team here have assisted in my professional and personal development. My time here will stand me in good stead for my post-PhD career and I would highly recommend working with the Ministry of Justice.

I have really enjoyed taking part in the internship scheme with the MoJ. During the scheme I was able to take ownership of a small-scale evaluation project. This has enabled me to build on the research skills I have developed during the PhD and apply these within a policy context. The work I have been involved in at the MoJ has opened my eyes to how research is used beyond academia. The team were incredibly welcoming and supportive, and I would thoroughly recommend participating in the internship scheme with the MoJ!”

## How will we be Recruiting?

Students from any academic discipline are welcome to apply, there is no requirement to have prior knowledge of the justice system or MoJ policy and practice (although this would be welcome). Recruitment will be based on the professional skills and personal behaviours required to be an effective government analyst.

Essential criteria; ability to:

- analyse a wide range of evidence and data, drawing evidence-based conclusions that drive decision-making
- work collaboratively, and build relationships, with key stakeholders
- communicate work effectively and translate complex analytical findings to non-analytical colleagues

Shortlisted candidates will be invited to an interview via Microsoft Teams where they will be expected to demonstrate their abilities in line with the above criteria; the interview may involve a short presentation. Successful interview candidates will be matched to projects based on the skills and research interests demonstrated and discussed at interview – we will aim to factor in student preferences during this process. PhD placements usually run March/April-June/July, but there is some flexibility.

## Security Restrictions

Baseline Personnel Security Standard (BPSS) is required. This can take four to eight weeks. Please see [National security vetting: clearance levels](#) for more information. Students on visas are welcome to undertake placements, but it is the responsibility of individual students to ensure they are eligible to do so under the conditions of their visa and their specific circumstances.

## Working Arrangements and Location

Placements can be conducted on a part-time basis if required, providing all UKRI eligibility conditions are met. MoJ offers hybrid working arrangements that allow placement students to work from their base location, [different MoJ offices and sites](#), and from home, or a combination, subject to adherence to information security at all times. Please be aware that placements can only be undertaken in England, Scotland, and Wales. Occasional travel to Leeds, London, or other locations may be required, dependent on the team and project.

## Contact

Please contact Ben Hepworth if you have any questions, or to sign up for a webinar to find out more about PhD placements at MoJ: [Evidence\\_partnerships@justice.gov.uk](mailto:Evidence_partnerships@justice.gov.uk).

# National Library of Scotland

1 internship available for AHRC, BBSRC, EPSRC, ESRC, MRC and NERC students

## About the National Library of Scotland

The National Library of Scotland is Scotland's largest library and one of Europe's major research libraries. The Library is a national, legal deposit and research library with significant published, archival and digital collections. The Library has a preservation, archival and coordination role, particularly for Scottish material. Collections, outreach and readership are global. We employ 300 staff and have sites in Edinburgh and Glasgow. The National Library of Scotland is celebrating the centenary of its foundation in 2025.

The Library is a non-departmental public body reporting to the Scottish Government as the National Library of Scotland Act 2012. The Library works with bodies such as the Scottish Government, Research Libraries UK, the Legal Deposit Libraries, Chartered Institute of Library and Information Professionals, International Federation of Library Associations, Archives and Records Association, Scottish Library and Information Council, and the Scottish Confederation of University and Research Libraries.

The Library's curators and specialists undertake research and collaborate in research projects. Our staff co-supervise UKRI-funded PhD students, particularly through AHRC Collaborative Doctoral Partnerships and Awards. Staff mentor University of Glasgow James McCune Smith PhD students. We participate in various UKRI, Royal Society of Edinburgh and Wellcome projects. See our [Research review 2023](#).

## Policy Internship Opportunities at The National Library of Scotland

The Library is open to applications from students from all research councils. Students may propose a policy area they would like to work on. Proposals should relate to libraries, archives, cultural heritage, heritage science, information science, data management, or information literacy. Policy areas might include collecting, collection management, restitution, preservation, heritage science, open access, outreach, intellectual property, income generation, digitisation, metadata, freedom of information, data protection, use of Artificial Intelligence, research, and equalities and diversity.

The internship may involve a combination of desk research, investigation of standards, consultation of internal and external stakeholders, analysis, report drafting and organising workshops.

Previous students have worked on policies relating to web-archiving, access to archives, medieval manuscripts, safeguarding, data protection, and the Library and its climate action. See page 11 of our [Research review 2023](#).

## Testimonials from Past Interns

Our most recent intern wrote:

"My time at the NLS was an extremely valuable and enjoyable experience. It allowed me to use my skills I learned from the PhD in a non-academic context, I learned new and important skills during the internship and discovered exactly what I want to do coming out of the PhD. Everyone I worked with was incredibly kind and helpful, the working environment was extremely supportive, and I think this is a valuable experience for anyone considering it. I would definitely do it again if I could!"

A previous intern wrote:

“My internship at the Library has been absolutely invaluable. It has provided me with experience that qualifies me for so many more jobs than before these three months, and has opened my eyes to a number of career options post-PhD. I have had an excellent balance of responsibility and flexibility, and there has been plenty opportunity to learn from and work with colleagues from right across the organisation.”

### **How will we be Recruiting?**

We will assess written applications, then invite short-listed candidates to interview.

Interviews will be held in Edinburgh or Glasgow or by MS Teams in late October or early November 2025.

Potential applicants may wish to contact Chris Taylor for an informal discussion before applying [c.taylor@nls.uk](mailto:c.taylor@nls.uk).

If you are an international student, please ensure with your university office that your visa allows you to undertake the placement at the Library.

### **Security Restrictions**

The successful applicant must provide a Disclosure certificate before starting the internship.

The intern will be required to follow Library guidance regarding the security of the collections, data, IT and buildings.

### **Working Arrangements and Location**

This is a three-month placement. It can be undertaken part-time over a longer period within the UKRI policy intern scheme timeframe. Exact dates for the internship will be agreed with the successful applicant.

Depending on the topic, the internship may be undertaken onsite, as a virtual offsite placement or with a hybrid model. If onsite, the intern will be hosted by the relevant team in Edinburgh or Glasgow, Mondays to Fridays. The Library is located at Kelvin Hall in Glasgow, and at Lawnmarket, George IV Bridge and Causewayside in Edinburgh.

[Link to maps of National Library of Scotland locations.](#)

### **Contact**

Name: Chris Taylor (Collections and Research Specialist)

Email: [c.taylor@nls.uk](mailto:c.taylor@nls.uk)



# Natural England

5-10 internships are available for AHRC, BBSRC, EPSRC, ESRC, MRC and NERC students

## About NATURAL ENGLAND

Natural England is the government's advisor on the natural environment. We provide practical advice, grounded in science, on how best to safeguard England's natural wealth for the benefit of everyone. Our remit is to ensure sustainable stewardship of the land and sea so that people and nature can thrive. It is our responsibility to see that England's rich natural environment can adapt and survive intact for future generations to enjoy.

The government's ambition is for England to be a great place to live, with a healthy natural environment on land and at sea that benefits people and the economy. Our new Strategic Direction for 2025-203 sets out our priorities, but our vision is of thriving nature for people and planet and our mission is to achieve this through building partnerships for nature's recovery. Our ambition is not just to improve nature, but to see it thriving everywhere, because a healthy natural environment is fundamental to everyone's health, wealth and happiness. Our long-term goals provide the threads that bind our everyday work to the long-term vision in support of the 25 Year Environment Plan and net zero commitments. They are:

To restore and enhance the health of our ecosystems (across land and sea) and the natural beauty of our landscapes by increasing the area and improving the character, quality, resilience and connectivity of wildlife-rich places.

To increase the abundance of species that are indicative of the wider health of the natural environment and reduce the number under threat of extinction.

To increase the number and representation of people engaged with nature and nature recovery in a way that supports socio-economic and health benefits for local communities.

To work with a wider range of local partners and diverse communities to create wildlife-rich, accessible, characterful places for people to live and work underpinning economic sustainability.

To be an evidence-led organisation, using evidence to inform our advice and leadership to drive positive changes in the natural environment.

## Policy Internship Opportunities at Natural England

Natural England accesses and uses the best available science and evidence to provide sound, practical advice to government (with specific responsibilities as part of the Defra Group), customers, partners and members of the public. We would welcome interest for internships covering key topics set out within our Strategic Direction. We offer opportunities to work on the analysis and use of science in decision making and encouraging greater knowledge exchange, including the preparation of briefing notes (some of which might become peer-reviewed publications), and attending meetings with stakeholders and policy makers. Interns will become a full part of the relevant team and will gain experience of the practicalities of working within an Arms Length Body. Example projects include:

- generating Impact from our science
- birds and renewable energy projects
- carbon in Beaver Sets
- the use of Passive Eco-acoustic Monitoring
- the impact and effectiveness of Agri-environment schemes
- nature-based Solutions and drought resilience
- the potential for a new designation for Heritage Trees (including ancient and veteran trees)
- how to make the concepts of natural capital and ecosystem services work practically
- the implementation of the Net Gain principle and use of the Biodiversity Metric



- the way people engage with and use the natural environment
- climate change adaptation in the marine environment
- enhancing urban environments
- the conservation of Landscape and Geological features
- performance payments to land managers in English conservation

### **Testimonials from Past Interns**

Student 1: “Completing this placement has further cemented my desire to work in policy/ the civil service after the completion of my PhD, as I have seen first-hand how the work undertaken in this context can have real immediate impact, making it feel at times more dynamic than an academic environment.”

Student 2: “Overall, I enjoyed the internship despite the challenge of tackling a completely new topic and found it a useful opportunity to think about possible careers outside academia. I would definitely recommend the scheme to other PhD students.”

Supervisor 1: “She was brilliant, she very quickly got to grips with the natural capital framework, login chains, beaver context and what we wanted to achieve from her placement. The main output was a paper setting out the cultural benefits of beaver reintroduction in England, which we plan to use as a framework for case studies to build the evidence around the cultural benefits of beaver. She was keen to get some stakeholder engagement experience, so we involved her in an external workshop with key stakeholders and she helped facilitate one of the breakout sessions and fed back the results.”

Supervisor 2: “She’s been working on a Rapid Evidence Review of agri-environment arable option impact and has delivered a significant amount of high-quality work for us. She’s also feedback that she’s very pleased with the way she’s been able to integrate into our immediate team, as well as the opportunities for work shadowing across a wide range of NE work areas, and with Defra colleagues.”

### **How will we be Recruiting?**

If you are interested in becoming an intern at Natural England, please complete an application following the scheme guidance and we will select candidates for interview on that basis.

### **Security Restrictions**

Successful candidates must pass basic security checks.

### **Working Arrangements and Location**

Natural England has a number of offices and field stations located across the country. Where you will be based is dependent on your current location and that of your host team in Natural England, but we will look to minimise travel requirements. Natural England is happy to accommodate flexible/part-time working and working from home – although the full benefits of the internship will be realised by spending at least some time in the office/field station where the student can interact with other staff and engage with Natural England ways of working. We will look for opportunities to attend meetings relevant to the project, especially when there is the opportunity to observe or participate in meetings with stakeholders or Defra policy staff.

### **Contact**

Name: Dr Rachel Collins

Email: [Rachel.collins@naturalengland.org.uk](mailto:Rachel.collins@naturalengland.org.uk)

# Office of Health Improvement and Disparities

45 internships available for AHRC, BBSRC, EPSRC, ESRC, MRC and NERC students

## About OHID

The Office for Health Improvement & Disparities (OHID) focuses on improving the nation's health so that everyone can expect to live more of life in good health, and on levelling up health disparities to break the link between background and prospects for a healthy life. OHID works across the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC), the rest of government, the healthcare system, local government and industry to be creative about how we shift our focus towards preventing ill health, in particular in the places and communities where there are the most significant disparities.

Cross-cutting analytical support is provided across OHID by two divisions— these are the Strategic Evidence and Analysis Division (SEAD) and Health Improvement and Disparities Policy Analysis (HIDPA). These divisions work closely together to provide cross-disciplinary strategic insight to support public health policy development and analysis at the local and national level. Teams within these divisions have specific briefs and areas of expertise, and are made up of data scientists, epidemiologists, health economists, mathematical modellers, operational and social researchers, behavioural and social scientists, and statisticians.

## Policy Internship Opportunities at OHID

A variety of internship opportunities are available across the SEAD division as follows:

Behavioural and Social Sciences Team (BeSST; up to 8 placements available) offers candidates with a research background in the behavioural and social sciences (e.g., psychology, anthropology, sociology, business studies etc.) to apply their skills to the improvement of public health policy, through activities such as evidence review, behavioural analysis, trial design and analysis, and compilation of reports and briefings. Strong written/oral communication skills, the ability to work on multiple projects simultaneously, and expertise in health disparities and behaviour change intervention design are desirable.

The Non-Communicable Diseases (NCD) Modelling Team (up to 4 placements available) offers candidates the opportunity to apply their skills within a cross-disciplinary team tasked with using innovative and advanced analysis (e.g., agent-based microsimulation models) to inform NCD-related policy and decision making within the department and across wider government. Mathematical modelling interns are required to have a background in a relevant quantitative subject (e.g., maths, science, economics), experience in programming language such as R, C/C++, Python, and application of mathematical modelling to solve real-world problems. Epidemiology interns are required to have a research background in a relevant area (e.g., epidemiology, biostatistics, public health or biological sciences) with a significant analytical component, experience analysing epidemiological or complex health data, and will ideally have knowledge of NCD epidemiology and programming experience (e.g., R, C/C++, Python, STATA, SQL).

The Evidence & Evaluation Team (up to 3 placements available) offers candidates the opportunity to contribute to a rapid evidence review on a priority public health topic. Candidates will learn how to establish a review question, conduct scoping work, write a review protocol outlining the review methodology, conduct the review using specialist software and critical appraisal tools, and write up the findings, and will be supported to produce outputs such as plain language summaries, presentations and academic papers. Candidates may also contribute to other aspects of our work, including very rapid evidence support and capacity building, and will have the opportunity to work with policy teams. Candidates should have a background in the

health or social sciences, a good understanding of research design and/or statistics, and accurate and clear writing ability under tight turnaround times.

The Health Economics Team (up to 8 placements available) helps to build the evidence based for investment in prevention and wider initiatives aimed at improving health and reducing health inequalities (e.g., assessing the cost of ill health, identifying the most cost-effective interventions, and calculating return on investment). Candidates will support the development and use of analytical evidence as well as supporting in the application of economic principles and techniques to provide input to a range of projects, including pressing policy questions. Candidates should have a research background in a relevant quantitative subject (e.g., economics, maths, science), have strong data synthesis, analytical and presentation skills, have strong teamwork skills, be able to explain technical concepts clearly and succinctly, and be able to adapt to changing priorities and short-term requests.

Opportunities within the HIDPA division are as follows:

The Healthy Weight and Diet Policy Analysis Team (up to 12 placements available) offers candidates the opportunity to contribute to the team's analytical work, providing evidence and analysis to inform policy decisions that aim to reduce obesity and meet government commitments to improve healthy life expectancy. Modelling & cross-cutting analysis interns should have a research background in a relative quantitative subject (e.g., maths, science, statistics, economics), and experience applying data analysis/statistical modelling/econometrics to real-world problems, and ideally will have experience of programming and/or using data visualisation tools (e.g., R, Power BI). Healthy weight analysis interns should have a research background in a relevant topic area (e.g., health, sociology, economics, public health etc.), and ideally will have experience of any of the following: evidence review, policy evaluation, public health economics, applying analytical skills to solve real-world problems, and behaviour change intervention design.

The Early Years, Children and Families Policy Analysis Team (up to 8 placements available) offers candidates the opportunity to apply research and analytical skills to all stages of the policy cycle to tackle real-world challenges in the areas of early-years intervention, child health, safeguarding care experienced people, speech, language & communication, and violence & abuse (all ages). Typical outputs include evidence reviews, intervention options analysis, economic appraisal, risk/benefit analysis, and production of evidence briefings. Candidates should have a research/analytical background that can be applied to at least one of social research, operational research, statistical, economic or data science work. Knowledge of the policy area is also desirable.

Tobacco, Alcohol and Gambling Policy Analysis (TAGPA) Team (up to 2 placements available) offers candidates the opportunity to produce analysis on addiction behaviours (e.g., tobacco, alcohol and gambling) to support policy design and spending decisions. Candidates will engage closely with policy and analytical teams on tasks such as evidence reviews and secondary data analysis to investigate the health and wider societal impacts of addictive behaviours, and impact and value for money of current initiatives. Candidates must have relevant experience (research or work) in a relevant topic area (e.g., public health, health behaviour, addiction), and the ability to engage and communicate with a range of stakeholders.

### **How will we be Recruiting?**

Please indicate which team(s) you are applying to on your application. Applications will be shortlisted, and interviews will be conducted to select successful candidates

### **Security Restrictions**

Students will have to undergo civil service security clearance upon successful application

## **Working Arrangements and Location**

Start dates are flexible and can be agreed between candidates and host teams. Full-time, flexible-working and part-time placements are available. Placements are offered on a remote-working basis only. Expenses will be offered for any face-to-face events or meetings, and any occasional visits to our offices in London.

## **Contact**

Name: Harry Heyburn

Email: [harry.heyburn@dhsc.gov.uk](mailto:harry.heyburn@dhsc.gov.uk)

# The Parliamentary Office of Science and Technology (POST, UK Parliament)

25 internships available for AHRC, BBSRC, EPSRC, ESRC, MRC, NERC and STFC students

## About POST

[POST works in the House of Commons and the House of Lords](#) to make the best research evidence available for MPs and Peers. These decision-makers use POST to help them to examine the work of Government and to represent the people.

Our work is trusted as we are independent, non-biased and non-political. We cover everything from energy and climate change to education and child welfare, to economics and crime, to digital technologies, artificial intelligence and beyond.

We, and the interns we work with, make scientific research accessible to Parliament in several exciting ways:

- we publish respected and influential briefings. You can see these [on our website](#)
- we advise groups of MPs and Peers
- we hold seminars and events in Parliament
- we create links between Parliament and the research community
- we work with and support other parliaments around the world

## Policy Internship Opportunities at POST

Research students (who we call POST Fellows) have told us that their experience with POST can be life-changing. By the end of their time in POST, fellows will have developed a unique understanding of policy making, created important relationships with key stakeholders, and have conducted new and exciting research. They will also have developed new communication and relationship skills that are valuable for their future careers.

Fellows normally help us to research, write, publish and publicise a briefing for Parliament. However, our Fellows may also work directly with MPs and Peers on select committees, or work in other exciting research teams in Parliament, such as the House of Commons or House of Lords Libraries. Fellows may also get involved [in the organisation of events](#), they may produce content for [other high profile publications such as the House Magazine](#), and they may participate in outreach activities with the expert community.

We work hard to make all our Fellows feel welcome and positive about their experience. When you join us, we provide training, supervision, support and mentoring to enable you to make the most out of the opportunity. We normally have multiple fellows with us at any one time, so you will also have a network of peer support.

We are committed to increasing diversity, so we welcome and encourage applications from underrepresented groups. Look at the [Work with us](#) section of our website to see what it's like to work in POST and for information on our values and people.

## Testimonials from former POST research fellows

"It's been an incredible experience." Frankie Boyd, [Early Interventions to Reduce Violent Crime](#), POSTnote 599.

"The POST fellowship was one of the best experiences of my PhD. I learnt a lot about communicating in a policy context, in a really supportive and friendly working environment. The writing skills and policy experience I have gained are already helping me in my new research job, working in climate policy research. I would wholeheartedly encourage anyone interested in science policy to apply for a POST fellowship, I can pretty much guarantee you won't regret it." Heather Plumptre, [Climate change and agriculture](#), POSTnote 600.

“I took a step away from the lab to explore the world of science policy, and it was the most insightful experience of my PhD so far! Working as a Postgraduate Fellow at POST was a wonderful opportunity and I'd highly recommend the Policy Internships scheme” Alana Dowling, [Reservoirs of Antimicrobial Resistance](#), POSTnote 595.

You can learn more about the experiences of some of our previous Fellows, and where they ended up in their careers, in the [POST Fellowship Spotlights](#) and in this [video interview](#).

### **How will we be recruiting?**

We work with similar teams in the Welsh Parliament, Scottish Parliament and the Northern Ireland Assembly to select candidates.

Please inform us which team you would prefer to join in your application. Allocation of candidates to each team is determined by your preference and the number of places in each team.

Interviews will be held remotely from mid-October to mid-November.

If you require any additional support for any stage of the recruitment process (this could be application, testing or interview stages), please contact us to discuss how we can meet your needs.

### **Security Restrictions**

You must be eligible to work in the UK. If you are an international student, discuss whether you are eligible to work with your institution. POST cannot advise.

All Fellowship offers are conditional on obtaining [security clearance](#), which includes security vetting to Counter Terrorist Check (CTC) level.

You must have resided in the UK for at least three of the last five years from the date of your fellowship offer to pass security vetting.

All successful candidates are required to pass these checks before an offer will be confirmed.

### **Working Arrangements and location**

Fellowships are full-time for three months or part-time over a longer period. We are based in Parliament, London. We are happy to agree remote or hybrid working arrangements, subject to discussion about the nature of your placement and if this can be accommodated successfully.

Applications from part-time registered students are welcome. If successful, part-time students who are eligible for studentship extensions will have these applied on a part-time basis. If you are successful, the working arrangements will be discussed with you, and a Parliamentary laptop and desk space allocated.

POST is bicameral and strictly non-partisan. Fellows will need to abstain from any political activity for the duration of their Fellowship and to uphold the principles of parliamentary service, including impartiality and confidentiality. [See our FAQs](#) for further information.

### **Contact**

#### **AHRC and ESRC**

Name: Natasha Mutebi and Laura Webb (Social sciences)

Email: [postfellowships@parliament.uk](mailto:postfellowships@parliament.uk)

#### **NERC**

Name: Jonathan Wentworth (Energy and environment)

Email: [postfellowships@parliament.uk](mailto:postfellowships@parliament.uk)

#### **EPSRC and STFC**

Name: Lydia Harriss and Simon Brawley (Physical sciences and digital)

Email: [postfellowships@parliament.uk](mailto:postfellowships@parliament.uk)

MRC and BBSRC

Name: Clare Lally and Jenny Chapman (Biology and health)

Email: [postfellowships@parliament.uk](mailto:postfellowships@parliament.uk)



# Northern Ireland Assembly Research and Information Service

8 internships available for AHRC, BBSRC, EPSRC, ESRC, MRC and NERC students

## About the Northern Ireland Assembly Research and Information Service (RalSe)

The [Northern Ireland Assembly](#) is the devolved legislature based on the principle of cross-community [power-sharing](#) under the [devolution settlement](#) in Northern Ireland. Its remit, roles and responsibilities are specified under the [Northern Ireland Act 1998](#). Routine Assembly business encompasses policy, legislation and public finance, arising within the areas devolved to Northern Ireland by the United Kingdom (UK) government. The Assembly is to: (i) hold the Northern Ireland [Executive](#) and individual [Departments](#) to account for their decisions; (ii) enact legislation to make new laws or to amend existing ones; and, (iii) debate and decide on issues raised. It does so via its 90 elected Members of the Legislative Assembly ([MLAs](#)), who work in three distinct capacities – [plenary](#), [committee](#) and [constituency](#).

The [Research and Information Service \(RalSe\)](#) is the Assembly's in-house, independent research and information provider, currently comprising: The Assembly Library; five Research Teams; and, Knowledge Exchange. RalSe provides a range of services in a timely manner, including undertaking research to design and compile [outputs](#) (written/digital/oral) that are evidence-informed, non-partisan, objective and accessible. RalSe users include: individual MLAs; [Assembly committees](#); Assembly officials; UK Parliament's Northern Ireland Affairs Committee; and, [North South Inter-Parliamentary Association](#). Consequently, RalSe regularly engages with a range of sectors and stakeholders - for example: government departments across the UK, the Republic of Ireland and elsewhere; non-departmental and arm's length bodies; non-governmental organisations; local government; voluntary/community groups; think tanks; academia; labour unions; private firms from industry and business; and, the general public.

## Policy Internship Opportunities at the Northern Ireland Assembly RalSe

RalSe management and staff address a wide breadth of issues impacting diverse sectors and stakeholders. Its work is relevant to the remits of all the above-stated Research Councils. For the duration of the internship, the intern will be assigned to one of RalSe's five Research Teams, and will be required to:

Provide research on policy issues of interest to MLAs, Assembly officials and/or others, by contributing to various aspects of the Team's work, including replying to MLA, Assembly committee or other queries;

Produce at least one written research briefing on an agreed topic and at least one blog article for Research Matters or one Topical Digest;

Undertake opportunities to develop greater awareness and understanding of the unique research and information needs arising from policy and law-making processes relating to Northern Ireland; and,

Enhance/acquire skills to: distil research findings in short timeframes; write concisely for non-specialists in an accessible, non-partisan and balanced manner, including infographics/data visualisation; and, deliver research briefings - written and, if possible, oral - in a formal setting.

The intern will be required to undertake the internship in a manner that assists, and does not hinder, the Assembly Commission in achieving its strategic priorities. The intern also will be required to comply with relevant Assembly policies, procedures and practices, including equality-related and RalSe-specific, as will be discussed during the intern's induction programme and every day learning on-the-job.



## Testimonials from Past Interns

A former Imperial College London PhD student reflected on his internship experience in the Assembly's RalSe as follows:

"Completing a policy internship in the Assembly's RalSe was an eye-opening and enriching experience that will have a huge impact on how I approach the rest of my PhD and how I view my options beyond my PhD. Throughout my time, I joined a Research Team and contributed to it work as a valued team member, not "just the intern". I gained broad experience, including developing my written and oral communication skills and undertaking research in new fields. This experience has served to expand how I think about my PhD research and its potential impact in policy and law-making contexts and beyond. I would strongly recommend such an internship to others."

View RalSe [Written Briefings](#), [Blog Articles](#), [Topical Digests](#) and [Constituency Profiles](#) – including recent examples of those co/delivered by past interns hosted by RalSe: Briefing papers/notes for Assembly Committees – such as [Management of Algal Blooms](#) and [The Small Business Research Initiative and Innovate UK Contracts for Innovation](#); Blog articles – for example [Algal Blooms and Lough Neagh](#), [Wind in a Bottle: how can Northern Ireland maximise its wind energy potential?](#); and, [Women's Gynaecological Health in NI](#); and, Topical Digests - such as [Large-scale energy storage methods for wind energy](#) and [Gambling regulation and gambling-related harm](#).

## How will we be Recruiting?

RalSe, along with the UKRI and individual Research Councils, will disseminate this Call for Applications, using various networks. Thereafter, in accordance with the Scheme Guidance issued by UKRI, RalSe - alongside its parliamentary/assembly host partners will:

- consider and sift applications from doctoral students funded by AHRC, BBSRC, EPSRC, ESRC, MRC and NERC
- advise applicants whether they are and are not eligible for interview
- remotely interview those eligible, using Microsoft Teams
- select from the successful candidates post interview (including a maximum of 8 for RalSe)
- notify those successful and unsuccessful

## Security Restrictions

For security vetting purposes. before starting their internships for the agreed period in RalSe, each intern will be required to provide the Assembly with: a copy of their [current Access NI basic level certificate](#) (must be valid for the duration of the internship); or, [an equivalent of the above](#). Interns who do not provide the above in a timely manner will not be issued security passes and will not undertake their internships (You can check for [information regarding costs and turnaround times for an Access NI basic level certificate](#)). Interns also must be eligible to work in the United Kingdom; this opportunity is not available to international students on a Tier 4 visa.

## Working Arrangements and Location

RalSe will host internships under the 2025/26 Scheme at its offices located in Parliament Buildings, on the Stormont Estate located in East Belfast, Northern Ireland. There, the interns will be assigned to a RalSe Research Team, fully integrated, with a line manager and "buddy". Each intern will be allocated a work station, including desk, chair, laptop, headphones, webcam and access to both relevant internal systems and the Assembly's intranet. They will be expected to work in accordance with the Assembly's Hybrid Working Policy; currently two days a week in Parliament Buildings and three from home, unless business requires other. And they will be welcome to work on-site in Parliament Buildings for the entire work week, if they prefer. Working arrangements will be in accordance with relevant Assembly policies, practices and procedures for: flexible working (such as compressed hours); and, part-time - part-time students eligible for studentship extensions will have them applied on a part-time basis for internship purposes.

**Contact**

Name: Eileen Regan

Email: [eileen.regan@niassembly.gov.uk](mailto:eileen.regan@niassembly.gov.uk)

Tel: 028 905 21615

# Senedd Research

6 internships available for AHRC, BBSRC, EPSRC, ESRC, MRC, NERC students

## About Senedd Research

The [Welsh Parliament/Senedd Cymru](#) is the devolved parliament for Wales. Its elected Members make laws, check and challenge the actions and spending of the Welsh Government, and represent citizens of Wales.

Senedd Research is the in-house research service in the Senedd. It is one of the four parliamentary hosts of the UKRI Policy Internship Scheme.

Senedd Research provides impartial, independent, and expert research and analysis to support all Members of the Senedd in their roles as elected representatives, and to help them conduct high quality scrutiny of policy and legislation.

Senedd Research consists of:

- four research teams providing specialist advice on specific areas of policy: economy, communities and local government; education and lifelong learning; environment and transport; and health and social policy
- a Financial Scrutiny Unit providing finance and statistical information
- a team providing advice on the Senedd, the constitution, UK and EU legislation, elections, referendums and EU withdrawal
- a Library and Digital team providing a full range of reference and information services, alongside data visualisation and AI expertise
- a Knowledge Exchange Unit, which works to connect the Senedd with the research community in Wales and beyond to help improve the quality of evidence available to the parliament

You can find out more about us and our work on [our website](#).

## Policy Internship Opportunities at Senedd Research

Interns based with Senedd Research will get first-hand experience of a fast-paced political environment. Engaging directly with Members of the Senedd and their staff you will develop a good knowledge of policy-making, law-making and scrutiny processes, and with that, an understanding of political sensitivity.

You will join one of our teams, depending on your subject knowledge and areas of interest. You will provide information on policy issues of interest to Members of the Senedd and will contribute to all of a diverse work of the team they join. This will include producing at least one research briefing and writing research articles on topical issues. You will be involved in the fast paced, day-to-day work of the Senedd by contributing to briefings for Senedd committees and helping to answer research enquiries from Members of the Senedd. You will see how academic research is used in parliamentary business and have the opportunity to engage with a variety of stakeholders including NGOs, academics, industry representatives and others.

You will participate in a programme of induction about the work of the Senedd, including attending First Minister's Questions. You will engage with other services including Senedd lawyers, clerking teams, translation services and communications & engagement to maximum the impact of their project.

For many interns, their Senedd Research experience has been the start of a new career in policy and parliamentary research.

## Testimonials from Past Interns

Nearly 80 PhD students have undertaken internships with Senedd Research since 2006. Among 14 of the most recent interns, 100% said that their experience greatly exceeded or exceeded their expectations.

Thomas Mitcham, who carried out the internship in 2020, said: “I couldn’t have asked for a better experience at Senedd Research. I felt a part of the team from the first day and received great training and support from colleagues. I had the opportunity to sit in on ministerial scrutiny sessions, write research briefings and blogs on fast-moving events and respond directly to enquiries from politicians. The internship gave me a real insight into how legislative bodies work on a day-to-day basis, and allowed me to be a part of that process from the beginning. The Welsh language classes were also a real highlight! I would highly recommend applying for a policy internship at Senedd Research.”

Articles by former students describe their experience: [Charlotte Lenton](#), [Hayley Moulding](#), [Eleanor Warren-Thomas](#), and [Piotr Węgorowski](#).

Here are a few examples of outputs produced by our interns: [Tackling homelessness; Anti-microbial resistance; Bovine Tuberculosis; Nature recovery; Batteries and net-zero; Accessible tourism in Wales](#).

## How will we be Recruiting?

We will be working together with the other parliamentary hosts; the Parliamentary Office of Science & Technology (POST), the Scottish Parliament Information Centre (SPICe) and the Northern Ireland Research & Information Service (RaISe) on the selection and interviewing of potential candidates for placements with one of the four parliamentary offices. Interviews will be held in October/November.

## Security Restrictions

Students must have resided in the UK for a minimum of three years. The successful candidates placed in Cardiff will have to undergo security vetting. The security vetting will be to Counter Terrorist Check (CTC) level and will require the candidate to complete an online security questionnaire with United Kingdom Services Vetting (UKSV). Placements are subject to the successful completion of this level of security vetting.

## Working Arrangements and Location

Students placed with us will be based at the Senedd Commission offices adjoining the Senedd building in Cardiff Bay. Hybrid and remote working is also possible.

The Senedd is committed to [equality, diversity and inclusion](#) principles

## Contact

Chloe Corbyn  
[Chloe.Corbyn@senedd.wales](mailto:Chloe.Corbyn@senedd.wales)  
0300 200 6313

# Ymchwil y Senedd

Mae hyd at chwe interniaeth ar gael i fyfyrwyr AHRC, BBSRC, EPSRC, ESRC, MRC, NERC

## Gwybodaeth am Ymchwil y Senedd

[Senedd Cymru](#) yw senedd ddatganoledig Cymru. Mae ei Haelodau etholedig yn llunio deddfau, yn gwirio ac yn herio gweithredoedd a gwariant Llywodraeth Cymru, ac yn cynrychioli dinasyddion Cymru.

Ymchwil y Senedd yw gwasanaeth ymchwil mewnol y Senedd. Mae'n un o bedair swyddfa seneddol sy'n rhan o'r Cynllun Interniaeth Polisi UKRI.

Mae Ymchwil y Senedd yn darparu gwasanaethau ymchwil a dadansoddi diduedd, annibynnol ac arbenigol i helpu'r holl Aelodau o'r Senedd yn eu gwaith fel cynrychiolwyr etholedig ac i sicrhau eu bod yn gallu craffu'n effeithiol ar bolisi a deddfwriaeth.

Mae Ymchwil y Senedd yn cynnwys:

- pedwar tîm ymchwil sy'n rhoi cyngor arbenigol ynghylch meysydd polisi penodol: yr economi, cymunedau a llywodraeth leol; addysg a dysgu gydol oes; yr amgylchedd a thrafnidiaeth; ac iechyd a pholisi cymdeithasol
- uned Craffu Ariannol sy'n rhoi gwybodaeth ariannol ac ystadegol
- tîm sy'n rhoi cyngor ynghylch y Senedd, y cyfansoddiad, deddfwriaeth y DU a'r UE, etholiadau, refferenda a'r broses o ymadael â'r UE
- tîm Llyfrgell a Digidol sy'n darparu ystod lawn o wasanaethau cyfeirio a gwybodaeth, ynghyd â delweddu data ac arbenigedd AI
- uned Cyfnewid Gwybodaeth, sy'n gweithio i gysylltu'r Senedd â'r gymuned ymchwil yng Nghymru a thu hwnt i helpu i wella ansawdd y dystiolaeth sydd ar gael i'r senedd

Mae rhagor o wybodaeth amdanom ni a'n gwaith ar [ein gwefan](#).

## Cyfleoedd Interniaeth Polisi gydag Ymchwil y Senedd

Bydd interniaid gydag Ymchwil y Senedd yn cael profiad uniongyrchol o amgylchedd gwleidyddol cyflym ei natur. Gan weithio'n uniongyrchol gydag Aelodau o'r Senedd a'u staff, byddwch yn dysgu am y broses o ddatblygu polisiau, deddfu a chraffu a, thrwy hynny, yn dod i ddeall sensitifrwydd gwleidyddol.

Byddwch yn ymuno ag un o'n timau, gan ddibynnu ar eich gwybodaeth bwnc a'ch meysydd diddordeb. Byddwch yn darparu gwybodaeth am faterion polisi sydd o ddiddordeb i'r Aelodau o'r Senedd ac yn cyfrannu at bob agwedd ar waith amrywiol y tîm y byddwch yn ymuno ag ef. Bydd hyn yn cynnwys cynhyrchu o leiaf un papur ymchwil ac ysgrifennu erthyglau ymchwil ar faterion cyfoes. Byddwch yn rhan o fwrwm gwaith y Senedd o ddydd i ddydd, drwy gyfrannu at bapurau briffio ar gyfer pwyllgorau'r Senedd a helpu i ateb ymholiadau ymchwil gan Aelodau o'r Senedd. Byddwch yn gweld sut mae ymchwil academiaidd yn cael ei defnyddio mewn busnes seneddol ac yn cael cyfle i weithio gydag amrywiaeth o randdeiliaid, gan gynnwys cyrff anllywodraethol, academyddion, cynrychiolwyr diwydiant ac eraill.

Byddwch yn cymryd rhan mewn rhaglen gynefino i ddysgu am waith y Senedd, gan gynnwys mynd i sesiynau Cwestiynau i'r Prif Weinidog. Byddwch yn ymgysylltu â gwasanaethau eraill gan gynnwys cyfreithwyr, timau clericio, gwasanaethau cyfieithu a chyfathrebu ac ymgysylltu yn y Senedd er mwyn sicrhau bod eich prosiect yn cael yr effaith fwyaf posibl.

I lawer o interniaid, mae eu profiad gydag Ymchwil y Senedd wedi arwain at yrfa newydd ym maes polisi ac ymchwil seneddol.

## Tystebau gan interniaid blaenorol

Mae bron i 80 o fyfyrwyr PhD wedi ymgymryd ag interniaethau gydag Ymchwil y Senedd ers 2006. Ymhlith yr 14 intern mwyaf diweddar, dywedodd 100% ohonynt fod eu profiad wedi rhagori neu ragori'n sylweddol ar eu disgwyliadau.

Dywedodd Thomas Mitcham, intern yn 2020: "Ni allwn fod wedi gofyn am brofiad gwell yn Ymchwil y Senedd. Roeddwn i'n teimlo fy mod i'n rhan o'r tîm o'r diwrnod cyntaf un a chefais hyfforddiant a chefnogaeth wych gan fy nghydweithwyr. Cefais gyfle i fod yn bresennol mewn sesiynau craffu ar waith weinidogion, ysgrifennu sesiynau papurau ymchwil ac erthyglau am ddigwyddiadau a oedd yn datblygu'n gyflym ac ymateb yn uniongyrchol i ymholiadau gan wleidyddion. Rhoddodd yr interniaeth ddealltwriaeth i mi o'r modd y mae cyrff deddfwriaethol yn gweithio o ddydd i ddydd, ac mae wedi caniatáu i mi fod yn rhan o'r broses honno o'r dechrau. Roedd y gwersi Cymraeg hefyd yn uchafbwynt! Byddwn yn eich cynghori'n gryf wneud cais am interniaeth polisi yn Ymchwil y Senedd."

Mae erthyglau gan gyn-fyfyrwyr yn disgrifio eu profiad: [Charlotte Lenton](#), [Hayley Moulding](#), [Eleanor Warren-Thomas](#), a [Piotr Wegorowski](#).

Dyma rai enghreifftiau o'r hyn y mae ein interniaid wedi'i gynhyrchu:

[Mynd i'r afael â digartrefedd; Ymwrthedd gwrth-ficrobaidd; Twbercwlosis Buchol; Adferiad natur; Batris a sero net; Twristiaeth hygyrch yng Nghymru.](#)

## Sut y byddwn yn recriwtio?

Byddwn yn gweithio ar y cyd â chanolfannau seneddol eraill: y Swyddfa Seneddol Gwyddoniaeth a Thechnoleg (POST), Canolfan Wybodaeth Senedd yr Alban (SPICe), a Gwasanaeth Ymchwil a Gwybodaeth Gogledd Iwerddon (RAISE) i ddewis a chyfweld ymgeiswyr posibl i'w lleoli yn un o'r pedair swyddfa seneddol. Cynhelir y cyfweiliadau ym mis Hydref/Tachwedd.

## Cyfngiadau diogelwch

Rhaid i'r ymgeiswyr fod wedi byw yn DU am o leiaf dair blynedd. Bydd yn rhaid i'r ymgeiswyr llwyddiannus a gaiff eu lleoli yng Nghaerdydd gael eu fetio gan y gwasanaeth diogelwch. Rhaid cael cliriad diogelwch hyd at lefel Gwiriad Gwrthderfysgaeth (CTC) a bydd gofyn i'r ymgeisydd gwblhau holiadur diogelwch ar-lein gyda United Kingdom Security Vetting (UKSV). Mae'r lleoliadau'n amodol ar gwblhau'r lefel hon o fetio diogelwch yn llwyddiannus.

## Trefniadau gwaith a lleoliad

Bydd myfyrwyr a gaiff eu lleoli gyda ni yn gweithio yn swyddfeydd Comisiwn y Senedd drws nesaf i adeilad y Senedd ym Mae Caerdydd. Mae gweithio hybrid ac o bell hefyd yn bosibl.

Mae'r Senedd wedi ymrwymo i egwyddorion [cydraddoldeb, amrywiaeth a chynhwysiant](#)

## Cysylltwch â

Chloe Corbyn

[Chloe.Corbyn@Senedd.Cymru](mailto:Chloe.Corbyn@Senedd.Cymru)

0300 200 6313

# Scottish Parliament Information Centre (SPICe)

3 internships available for BBSRC, ESRC and NERC students

## About SPICe

SPICe is the Scottish Parliament's in-house research unit, providing information and research to 129 Members of the Scottish Parliament (MSP), and their staff.

SPICe provides impartial and accurate advice and briefings to individual MSPs and parliamentary committees. This is an exciting time to be an intern in SPICe; analysing the overarching themes of Climate and Constitution across all of the devolved subject areas, as well as many reserved subjects where there is a devolved policy interest.

Our research is relied upon by MSPs from all sides and shared widely. SPICe Research consists of three units:

The Environment, Rural, Constitution and International Relations Research Unit covers a wide range of areas, including: Planning, Rural Affairs, Environment, Transport, Climate Change, Energy, Agriculture and Fisheries.

The Financial Scrutiny Unit scrutinises public finances and the economy.

The Justice, Health and Social Affairs Research Unit covers a wide range of areas, including: Health, Social Care, Civil and Criminal Justice, Parliament and Constitution, Culture, Children's Services, Education, Lifelong Learning, Housing, and Equal Opportunities.

Further information is available from [SPICe's Website](#), and in a [recently published blog](#) on how the scheme works, and what former interns have gone on to do.

## Policy Internship Opportunities at SPICe

Interns based in SPICe will join one of our Research Units and will focus on providing at least one proactive Research Briefing. You are also expected to contribute to all aspects of the work of the unit that you join, and you will have the opportunity to get involved in the day-to-day work of the Parliament by contributing to briefings for Committees and helping to answer enquiries from MSPs. Interns undertaking this placement will have an opportunity to get first-hand experience of working in a political environment and will develop a good knowledge of policy-making, law-making and scrutiny processes. Examples of the projects of previous interns include:

- [Artificial Intelligence and Healthcare in Scotland](#)
- [A public health approach to gambling harms](#)

## Testimonials from Past Interns

Karri Heikkinen (AHRC): "I spent three months working with the Health, Social Care and Sports team at SPICe, and I thoroughly enjoyed my time. As my main project, I produced a briefing on Artificial Intelligence and Healthcare in Scotland. I also wrote three SPICe Spotlight blogs based on the report and organised a breakfast seminar around the topic for MSPs. Finally, I also got the opportunity to sit in meetings of the Health, Social Care and Sport Committee and contribute to a background briefing for one of these meetings. I was given considerable freedom to plan my own work, while also receiving lots of help and support from my team throughout the project. Overall, my time with SPICe gave me an outstanding opportunity to put the analytical skills I have developed studying Philosophy into use in a policy environment. I also learned a lot about how



politics and public service work, and how policy is done in real time. I think many PhD students in the humanities might not at first see themselves working in these kinds of roles, but I would really recommend trying it out - your skills are well suited for it, and you never know where an internship like this might take you after your PhD."

Ben Walton (NERC): "During my time with SPICe, I worked on a briefing on the harms of gambling from a public health perspective. This gave me an opportunity to work in an area very different to my PhD (wildlife conservation and behaviour). It provided a valuable insight into working in policy and research communication, something that I am interested in doing after my PhD. Work on the briefing was highly independent, which gave lots of flexibility as to the direction of the work. This was guided by discussions with experts and stakeholders, which was really valuable and rewarding. I also had the opportunity to invite some of these stakeholders to speak to MSPs and staff at a breakfast seminar, which raised the profile of the briefing and issue. It was also great to be in the Scottish Parliament, to see how SPICe works to inform MSPs and their staff, through observing the day-to-day work of my friendly colleagues in SPICe. There were also a range of opportunities to sit in on other processes, such as the Health, Social Care and Sport Committee. My time at SPICe was a great learning experience and provided a really useful insight into how research can be used to inform policy."

### **How will we be Recruiting?**

We will be working with Parliamentary Office of Science & Technology (POST), Senedd Research, and the Northern Ireland Assembly on the selection and interviewing of potential candidates for placements with the parliamentary offices. Interviews will be held online in the autumn.

### **Security Restrictions**

Full Parliamentary security vetting required.

N.B. You must be eligible to work in the UK, this opportunity is not available to international students on a Tier 4 visa.

### **Working Arrangements and Location**

We are predominantly based in the Scottish Parliament building at Holyrood, Edinburgh. However, remote working arrangements may be made, depending on circumstances. Applications from part-time registered students will be considered. If successful, part-time students who are eligible for studentship extensions will have these applied on a part-time basis.

### **Contact**

Name: Alasdair Reid (Senior Researcher)

Address: Environment, Rural, Constitution and International Relations, Research Unit, Scottish Parliament Information Centre, EH99 1SP

Email: [alasdair.reid@parliament.scot](mailto:alasdair.reid@parliament.scot)

# Select Committees, House of Commons

3 internships available for AHRC, BBSRC, EPSRC, ESRC, MRC and NERC students

## About Select Committees, House of Commons

The House of Commons a unique and exciting place to work right at the heart of the UK's thriving democratic system.

Behind the scenes, the House of Commons Service is made up of more than 3,000 employees who support and facilitate the smooth day to day running of the House. They provide professional services to Members of Parliament, their staff, and the wider parliamentary community. As an UKRI Intern you would be part of this community, supporting the work of one or more of the House of Commons' Select Committees.

Select Committees play a vital role in the work of the House of Commons, engaging people from all sectors of public life in the country in debate about the most important political, economic and social issues of the day. Their work is cross-party and evidence-based. Their reports create daily headlines and form significant links between Parliament, Government and the electorate.

You can find out more about Select Committees on this page from [Parliament's website](#).

## Policy Internship opportunities at the House of Commons

You will spend your time at the House of Commons assigned to the staff of a specific select committee. You will be given a particular task or tasks which are likely to involve one or more of the following:

- policy and evidence analysis
- research using both primary and secondary sources
- preparation of written briefing materials for Members serving on a Committee
- briefing MPs orally, and responding to their questions

You will be assigned to a committee before you arrive and can expect to research and prepare written briefings and possible questions for that committee on areas of public policy relevant to that Committee's work. We will ask whether any committees particular interest you at interview and do our best to match that as closely to your specific interests as possible. At the same time, the research and writing skills that post-graduate students have are relevant to all committees, whatever the subject matter, and we cannot guarantee that you will work in a particular subject area.

The work is likely to involve attending committee meetings, briefing MPs directly and advising on the future direction of a Committee's work. At the same time, our need to be responsive to political developments and changing scrutiny priorities means it is not possible to say with certainty precisely what work you will be tasked with until you arrive.

## Testimonials from past interns

"The work has challenged me at an appropriate level and I have been managed in a way that allows me to work independently whilst knowing I can ask my manager or colleagues on the team for advice or guidance when required".

"The placement has been a welcome break from my PhD, and the distance from it and the experience I have gained over the 3 months has given me new perspectives on my own research".

"Everyone's feedback on parts of briefings I wrote was also invaluable...It sounds like a minor point, but this feedback just doesn't exist in academia...I'm definitely a better researcher for it,

and am now keen to work in policy research, so two very significant successes of the scheme, I'd say".

### **How will we be recruiting?**

The people we are looking for will be able to demonstrate: an excellent command of the English language both orally and in writing ; academic knowledge in a field related to politics, parliament, public policy, social science or public expenditure; good oral and written communications skills; an ability to research and prepare written briefing suitable for non-expert audiences and to tight deadlines; high level drafting skills; good general IT skills (word processing, internet, email etc); strong interpersonal skills and the ability to work as part of a team.

### **Security restrictions**

The successful candidates must:

Be prepared to submit to and clear security checks to Counter Terrorist Check level before taking up the placement. You will need to have resided in the UK for at least 3 of the last 5 years;

Sign and adhere to a confidentiality agreement governing the use that can be made of information gained during the placement;

At all times during the placement work and be seen to work with absolute political impartiality, demonstrating tact and respecting confidentiality.

### **Working arrangements and location**

The House of Commons operates a hybrid working policy. Permanent staff are required to spend a minimum of 40% of their working time in Westminster. They may work the rest remotely if they choose and business need allows.

Committee meetings take place on the Estate and you will need to attend these and other committee events in person.

If you would like to discuss these arrangements, please get in touch.

### **Contact**

Name: David Slater, Deputy Director of Select Committee Scrutiny and Analysis

Email: [slaterd@parliament.uk](mailto:slaterd@parliament.uk)

Tel: 020 7219 8051

# The Royal Society

11 internships available for AHRC, BBSRC, EPSRC, ESRC, MRC and NERC students

## About The Royal Society

The Royal Society is the oldest science academy in continuous existence and the UK's national academy of science. Our fundamental purpose is to recognise, promote, and support excellence in science and to encourage the development and use of science for the benefit of humanity.

With a fellowship comprising eminent scientists, engineers, and thinkers globally, the Society fosters collaboration, innovation, and discovery through conferences, publications, and grants. Its role encompasses advising governments, shaping policies, and advancing public understanding of science. The Society has played a part in some of the most fundamental, significant, and life-changing discoveries in scientific history and Royal Society scientists continue to make outstanding contributions to science in many research and policy areas.

Living sustainably is the greatest challenge of the 21st century, uniting our central missions of mitigating climate change, tackling over exploitation of the biosphere, and balancing practical land management trade-offs between food, biodiversity, and carbon management against a growing population and technological advances including AI.

These challenges also translate into opportunity, most notably through the enormous innovation, growth and skilled jobs potential created by the development of new technologies and delivering low carbon, sustainable futures. Policy urgently needs to drive this transition, capitalising on the UK's vast potential and positioning ourselves as a destination for leading edge R&D investment in forward leaning sectors.

To achieve this, the Society is focused on championing long-term stability over short-termism to ensure this as it is not just valued by researchers, innovators, and the investors the UK is seeking to attract, but also necessary as we face some of the biggest global-scale challenges ever seen by the human race.

## Policy Internship Opportunities at the Royal Society

As an intern you would join one of five teams in our Science Policy section:

**Data:** work seeks to create the conditions that enable the responsible use of data and digital technologies, for the benefit of science and society. Its major programmes focus on artificial intelligence, digital assistive technologies, disinformation, and privacy enhancing technologies.

**Education:** aims to support the development of a broad, balanced and connected curriculum in UK schools in order to ideally prepare young people for the jobs of the future. Current work focuses on STEM skills, educational research, practical learning, climate science in education and the future of maths education.

**People and Planet:** focuses on the challenges of living sustainably including aspects of biodiversity, climate change, future energy, human health, food, land use and other environmental needs.

**Public Affairs:** works with others across the Society to develop and implement strategies to effectively communicate the Society's priorities to decision-makers and shape the Society's engagement with key political events and discussions, as well as to facilitate government access to science advice.

**Research and Innovation:** seeks to achieve the optimal policy environment for science in the UK and globally. The team works on a range of topics from funding, visas and immigration and research culture, to emerging technologies and pandemic preparedness.

You're welcome to express a preference, but we reserve the right to allocate you according to business need.

A wide range of opportunities are available to interns at the Royal Society, including but not limited to:

- being involved in a project team and supporting the development of a policy report
- learning to write policy documents for a policy audience
- writing articles on topical issues for the Royal Society's blog
- organising and attending science policy events, including with leading scientists and the general public
- meeting and working with senior scientists and decision makers
- learning how academic research contributes to policy development
- developing a good understanding of science advice in the UK and internationally

Join us and find out how to take science to decision makers and what it means to provide quality science advice.

### **Testimonials from Past Interns**

"I'm really glad I decided to pause my PhD to take on this internship. It's been such a shift, going from a very specialised, intense research environment to one where every day brought something new. The fast pace of the work meant I was constantly learning and adapting. One of the real highlights was seeing how the work we do can directly shape policy conversations. Having one of my briefings read by members of the House of Lords was definitely a standout moment. It's rare during a PhD to feel like your work has that kind of immediate impact. The team in Public Affairs were brilliant: supportive, open to my interests, and always encouraging me to get stuck into a wide range of projects. I really valued how flexible the role was; no two days were the same. I've also gained confidence working in a more formal office setting and, crucially, learnt how to communicate complex scientific ideas in a clear and accessible way (something that's rarely called for or developed through a PhD). And finally, the people. Everyone at the Royal Society is working on something different, and it creates a really vibrant and welcoming environment. Overall, it's been an incredibly worthwhile experience, and I'm heading back to my PhD with a fresh perspective and a new set of skills."

"Doing this internship has been the highlight of my PhD so far. Although I knew I would be challenged with new experiences, the sheer variety in my days was a refreshing surprise. Being split into two departments meant that my "desk work" was always changing. One day I would be reading about the latest developments in hydrogen technology and the next I was in an inter-departmental meeting discussing social media marketing strategies. It made the work itself interesting as well as broadening my knowledge. There was also the bonus of weekly events that I could attend, from internal crash courses on politics by leading experts to large forum gatherings with some of the world's leaders in science and policy. From Nobel prize winning scientists to Royalty, walking through that front door I truly never really knew what the day would bring".

### **How will we be Recruiting?**

Candidates should apply according to the policy internships scheme applicant guidance document. Successful applicants will be invited to interview in October/November 2025. Interviews will take place via Teams. and will be competency based.

### **Security Restrictions**

The Royal Society requires no security vetting for interns. The Society will require interns to undergo the usual process for new employees, which includes completing and signing an internship agreement and data protection policy, and show original documentation which evidences their right to work in the UK.

### **Working Arrangements and Location**

The start date of the internship is flexible according to the Royal Society's and your requirements. The internship will be full time (35 hours per week, worked over 5 days, Monday to Friday) for three months. The Royal Society's Science Policy Section operates an 'in-person first' approach to meetings and collaboration, and interns are expected to attend the office (on the Mall) at least two days per week. Interns will be provided with a laptop and access to all software and drives necessary to allow hybrid working.

### **Contact**

Name: Alice Bergin, Programme Coordinator (Education)

Email: [science.policy@royalsociety.org](mailto:science.policy@royalsociety.org)

# The Royal Society of Biology (RSB)

2 internships available for AHRC, BBSRC, EPSRC, ESRC, MRC and NERC students

## About the Royal Society of Biology

RSB policy activity encompasses the work of our [education](#) and [science](#) policy teams across the biological sciences.

The Society's policy [teams](#) work to support and guide the development of policy outputs from the Society. This includes synthesising and communicating evidence-based advice from our community to decision- and policy-makers, as well as developing knowledge exchange workshops, events, and policy communications such as our weekly [Science Policy Newsletter](#), which has several thousand subscribers.

Our policy work spans the biological sciences. Our [education policy work](#) focuses on the 5-19 curriculum and qualifications across the UK, teacher training, recruitment, and retention, and subject-specific CPD for teachers. Our [science policy work](#) focuses on policy issues relevant across and beyond animal, biomedical, plant, and environmental sciences, such as the use of genetic technologies, climate change, and biodiversity loss, or biological security. Our policy work also has a focus on knowledge exchange and advice to support development of research culture, equality, diversity, and inclusion (EDI), and the research landscape (research funding, infrastructure, workforce, and communication).

We regularly respond to government and national level [consultations and inquiries](#) and engage pro-actively with policy development through the work of our Fellows, [Committees](#) and Groups. Our individual members and [Member Organisations](#) represent a valuable network of expertise and policy interest.

## Policy Internship Opportunities at the Royal Society of Biology

An internship with the Society will involve the combination of a specific project to be substantially delivered within the period of the placement, along with involvement in ongoing projects and activities of the RSB team. For example, this may involve background research and working with our staff team and members to generate a [response to a government consultation or Parliamentary inquiry](#), or the development of one of our [policy events](#). Opportunities will also be available to get involved in other policy projects and activities (e.g. surveying our membership, assembling one of our newsletters, researching and writing a [report, briefing or statement](#), or organising a workshop or meeting) and to join the wider RSB team in organising events such as [Voice of the Future](#) and [Parliamentary Links Day](#).

In addition to delivering a defined project, the Society will aim to encourage and support our interns' attendance at relevant Parliamentary and charitable [events](#), as well as participation in appropriate internal and external science-policy workshops, meetings, and discussion groups. Our interns will also be offered opportunities to produce written outputs for publication, such as authoring an RSB [news story](#). The Society has a busy calendar of committee, task force, and steering group meetings so some experience of working with networks and committees, preparing papers for discussion, and recording committee proceedings, would also be on offer. interests of the individual. We take particular care to ensure that interns maintain a balance across their activities and feel well supported by the team during their time with us.

## Testimonials from Past Interns

"I have really enjoyed my internship with the RSB. They made me feel totally part of the team, and I was able to work on projects spanning my interests. The team were very responsive in



allowing me to take on some additional projects that I was excited about, and I have developed skills outside of those I could have worked on during my PhD!" Rosie Mundy, 2024.

See more testimonials on [RSB's UKRI policy internships webpage](#).

### **How will we be Recruiting?**

The post will be advertised through website and social media channels. Interviews will be held virtually via Zoom.

The Royal Society of Biology is committed to embedding and communicating EDI strategies throughout the organisation and its activities. We acknowledge the importance of diversity at all learning and career stages to ensure equal opportunities and create an inclusive environment that welcomes, attracts, and benefits from a variety of experiences, skills, qualities, and perspectives. We strive to tackle barriers and create a life science community that is representative of the wider society we serve. We welcome applicants from diverse backgrounds.

### **Security Restrictions**

Prospective interns will be asked to sign a volunteer agreement with the Society before commencing their placement.

This agreement specifies details of the placement including working hours, claiming expenses, supervision, on-boarding (including health and safety), and provision of training (in data protection, for example).

The RSB will be leaving our offices in favour of fully remote working in 2025. Interns will be provided with IT equipment and access to the RSB's email and online communications platforms, in order to work fully remotely (e.g. from home or from their university).

### **Working Arrangements and Location**

Interns will work standard hours (Monday to Friday, 9am – 5pm), and we can accommodate part time and flexible working upon agreement. Interns will work fully remotely, with the opportunity for funded travel to join in-person events. Some RSB events are held in London but many are held around the UK.

### **Contact**

Name: Lauren McLeod, Head of Education Policy and Dr Laura Marshall, Head of Science Policy  
Email: [laura.marshall@rsb.org.uk](mailto:laura.marshall@rsb.org.uk) and [lauren.mcleod@rsb.org.uk](mailto:lauren.mcleod@rsb.org.uk)  
Tel: 07739 754485 | 020 3925 3469

# UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA)

18 internships available for AHRC, BBSRC, EPSRC, ESRC, MRC and NERC students

## About UKHSA

UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) is an executive agency, sponsored by the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC). At UKHSA, our mission is to protect people's health by preventing and responding to threats—whether that's a new pandemic, everyday infections like influenza, or environmental dangers like radiation or extreme weather. We save lives, protect livelihoods, and work with partners across the NHS, care systems, and globally to keep communities safe.

We're a hub of scientific and operational expertise, tackling health challenges at every level—local, national, and international.

The Chief Data Officer (CDO) group is the analytical powerhouse of UKHSA and plays a key role in making sure data is used safely, legally, and ethically. We support every step of the data journey—from collecting and managing information to analytics and delivering insights that drive real-world action.

If you're passionate about using data to make a difference and want to help solve big health challenges, there's a place for you here in the CDO group.

## Policy Internship Opportunities at the Chief Data Officer Group, UKHSA

As part of the CDO family, you will be matched with one of our teams to gain hands-on experience with data analytics in public health, observing how UKHSA delivers evidence-based insights to the government. You'll learn how our teams collaborate to protect public health, gaining insights into daily operations such as policy drafting, strategy, data analysis, and project management.

We work hard to make all our interns feel welcome and positive about their experience. When you join us, we provide training, supervision, support and mentoring to enable you to make the most out of the opportunity. We normally have multiple interns with us at any one time, so you will have access to a network of like-minded peers for support that meet and chat frequently.

Join us and be part of a dynamic and diverse range of impactful projects shaping public health responses and strategy. As part of our Infectious Disease Modelling team, you could be leading epidemiological modelling and analysis on COVID-19, Mpox, climate-related vector-borne diseases, and Chemical, Biological, Radioactive and Nuclear threats. Opportunities also exist within our Health Analytics and Automation Team, where you might assess the use of AI tools like MS Co-pilot or lead strategic work on operationalising open-source coding across government. We have an exciting opportunity to work in the buzz of the CDO Private Office. Here you will learn so much, from strategy to stakeholder engagement with senior civil service members such as our Director General, Professor Steven Riley, working not just across the agency but across government.

We continually develop and strengthen our infectious disease surveillance tools across an array of public health areas so it's a great opportunity to join us and contribute towards meaningful public health policy. Wastewater surveillance is fast becoming valuable for tracking public health threats like COVID-19 and poliovirus. You could join this pioneering team interpreting complex data and helping shape clear policy guidance.

Our Emerging Hazards team offers roles in forecasting global disease scenarios and evaluating overseas health system capabilities, while the AI Delivery Team is driving pan-agency transformation in AI adoption—perfect for those skilled in project management, policy development, and stakeholder engagement. Join our Geospatial team with some hands-on research into health disparities and the effects of extreme weather on vulnerable populations. Join the Epidemiological Insight Team, providing critical epidemiological evidence, supporting

analytical tools, and enhancing the quality and impact of UKHSA publications. Finally, collaborate with a multidisciplinary team to conduct user research and inform the design of data products like the UKHSA dashboard.

### **What are we looking for?**

Background or interest in one or more of the following areas is advantageous: Public health policy, Genomics, Epidemiology, Infectious diseases, Health inequalities, Geospatial data, Statistics or Social and Behavioural Sciences.

Enthusiastic, self-motivated individuals passionate about making a difference and driving change for public good.

Experience with data analysis, including skills for data manipulation, data merging and analysing data to identify trends.

Good communication skills.

Quantitative and qualitative or mixed methods skills in data analysis, vaccines or epidemiology. This may include coding skills, e.g., R, Python, or SQL.

### **Testimonials from Past Interns**

"The internship with the UKHSA exceeded all my expectations. The internship presented me the unique opportunity to experience scientific work in policy making context and understand the pros and cons of working, when compared to academia. From the moment I started my project, I had very clear understanding of the importance of my work and how the produced insights can be utilised in the nearest future to improve the strategies for coping with ongoing health crisis." UKRI Policy Intern, 24-25 cohort.

"I had some many highlights at UKHSA but the biggest was organizing and co-facilitating a 5-day workshop series with the World Health Organisation to review UKHSA's respiratory surveillance systems. We had over 25 attendees from across the agency, in-person, and the positive feedback received was immense." UKRI Policy Intern, 24-25 cohort.

### **How will we be Recruiting?**

Applications will be shortlisted, and interviews will be conducted via MS Teams to select the most appropriate candidates and match to a team.

Successful candidates will then be asked to sign an agreement after security checks have been completed. Please allow 4-6 weeks for the whole onboarding process, at the higher end if you are an international student.

### **Security Restrictions**

Candidates will have to undergo [civil service security clearance](#) upon successful application. We welcome applications from international students but all candidates will be subject to meeting [civil service nationality rules](#). Civil Service [eligibility criteria will apply](#).

### **Working Arrangements and Location**

The position will be remote based although your team will arrange occasional days to meet up, attend related events or meetings. Our head office is based in Canary Wharf, London, so if you live nearby and wish to work in the office frequently, we can arrange a government pass. We also have other offices in Bristol, Birmingham and Liverpool which you can attend. UKHSA supports flexible working, if you complete your set weekly hours, you can work with your line manager to find a suitable working pattern for you.

## Contact

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# WRAP

3 internships available for AHRC, BBSRC, EPSRC, ESRC, MRC and NERC students

## About WRAP

WRAP is a global environmental action NGO transforming our broken product and food systems to create Circular Living for the benefit of climate, nature and people. Food, textiles and manufactured products account for nearly 50% of global greenhouse gas emissions. We offer a new way of doing things. By examining sustainability challenges through the lens of people's day-to-day lives, we design transformative solutions. We call this approach Circular Living. We are a non-governmental organisation rooted in technical expertise, impartial evidence base and independent convening power. For over twenty years, WRAP has delivered programmes to benefit the environment — from reducing CO<sub>2</sub> emissions and waste to restoring nature and enhancing people's lives.

Our experts generate the evidence-based solutions we need to protect the environment, build stronger economies and support more sustainable societies. A key part of our role is to generate insights and tools to support the case for change. WRAP works closely with its funders and partners – including UK Governments, Governments of other nations, various parts of the United Nations and the European Commission – to influence the policy landscape. Therefore, WRAP will provide an exciting opportunity to undertake novel research in a stimulating environment and to see this research influencing prominent initiatives that bring about real change.

## Policy Internship Opportunities at WRAP

The exact nature of the policy internships at WRAP will depend on the work we have available at the time and the skills and interests of the successful applicants. For past internships, we have tailored the projects to the intern so that they are working on something that they are interested in, harnesses their skills, and is of current importance so that their work makes a real difference in the world.

Projects could focus on WRAP's work relating to any of the following areas: food systems and food waste, clothing and textiles, plastics and recycling, greenhouse gases and circular economy (reuse, repair and refill).

The type of work you could do in these areas includes:

- work alongside WRAP researchers and economists to assess policy options for the UK to deliver a reduction in the environmental impact of clothing, food and plastics
- work with WRAP's business and international teams to influence decisions on sustainability in international businesses working in food, clothing and packaging
- review literature and primary research findings to identify key evidence to support WRAP's work influencing policy nationally and internationally

We are looking for pro-active researchers with good communications skills who are keen to work on these areas. We would provide additional training on the subject matter and on any new skills required for interns to complete their placement.

## Testimonials from Past Interns

WRAP has hosted interns through UKRI since 2018, here are some of their experiences:

"I had the opportunity to do an internship at WRAP as part of my masters. During my time working as an intern, I had the opportunity to work on multiple projects focusing on ecolabels across the food and textiles industries, which helped me to further develop my research and presentation skills. I thoroughly enjoyed my time at WRAP, everyone is deeply passionate about their job, incredibly friendly, welcoming, and open to help. I could not recommend enough the experience." Alberto Iranzo – Sustainable Development Msc at University of Surrey

"I greatly appreciated my internship at WRAP, so much so that I returned permanently! I had studied Materials Engineering so it was great to delve into the world after the research, how to deal with materials at their end of life when they become waste. In fact, I got to work with colleagues alongside Defra towards a Plastic Waste Hierarchy informed by UK waste reprocessing capacities and Life Cycle Analysis - it was enriching to have a whole new world opened up to me." Thomas Baker – Materials Engineering PhD at Loughborough University

"I loved my PhD placement with WRAP. Over three months, I worked alongside the Policy and Insights team and gained valuable experience in writing technical reports, reviewing EU, UK, and US textile policies, and delivering presentations. I was well supported throughout, and by working on a diverse range of projects I was able to develop key transferable skills valuable for careers both within and beyond academia. I highly recommend WRAP for anyone looking to gain experience in the field of sustainability." Bethany Sugg – Sustainable Business Management and Marketing PhD at University of Bristol/University of Exeter

"I really enjoyed my internship at WRAP! it was a great transitioning role from academia into the world of work and it provided me with a diverse skill set for conducting specialist research (including policy research) on a variety of environmental subject areas. I particularly enjoyed the exposure and opportunity to attend meetings with the likes of government, industry, academia and trade associations. As an aspiring researcher, this internship taught me how to generate insights and produce well-balanced written reports for a public audience. If you want your work to make a difference, to inspire positivity and actions for change, then WRAP's a great fit!" Heather Portbury - International Fashion Management at The University of the Arts London

### **How will we be Recruiting?**

WRAP will follow its usual recruitment process to select the most suitable intern(s) for the available positions. Potential interns will be shortlisted by 2 appropriate employees at WRAP, who will subsequently meet to agree a shortlist for interview. Successful candidates will be invited to attend an interview where they will be required to answer appropriate competency-based interview questions. Candidates will also be required to complete an interview task relevant to the internship. The internship opportunity will be offered to the candidate(s) who most effectively demonstrate their suitability through this and the interview. Feedback to unsuccessful candidates will be available on request. Our people are what make WRAP unique. We want to help you be your best, so please contact us if you require any [assistance or adjustments during the recruitment process](#).

### **Security Restrictions**

WRAP requires no security vetting for interns. WRAP will require interns to undergo the usual process for new employees: complete and sign an application form (e.g. to advise about any criminal records) and interns may also be required to produce original documentation which evidences their right to work in the UK.

### **Working Arrangements and Location**

The internship will be full time (35 hours per week, worked over 5 days, Monday to Friday) for three months. However, WRAP can be flexible if changes are required to this due to visa restrictions, accessibility needs or other personal circumstances. It will be based flexibly from home with the option to come into one of WRAP's offices (Banbury, London, Cardiff & Belfast). Exact time in the office will vary according to the candidate's preference, and the projects and teams the internship works on/with. Find out more about [life at WRAP](#) on our website.

### **Contact**

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