

Doctoral Training Policy and Evidence Placement

Project: PIPS – PhD Student Placement

Title: Reducing Single Use Plastics and Litter Prevention

Background:

The Environmental Protection Division in the Welsh Government is seeking a PhD student for a placement opportunity within its Local Environment Quality policy team. The team is responsible for delivering a programme of work which focuses on improving the local environment of communities, targeting issues such as single use plastics and littering reduction, fly-tipping, dog fouling and other forms of environmental anti-social behaviour. The team is currently in the process of implementing legislation to tackle single-use plastics and other single-use products and developing policies to reduce litter.

Key Tasks

The post holder will work within the team, supporting one or more of following high profile work streams:

- Development/ implementation of legislation to prohibit the sale and/or supply of single-use plastic products
- Development of key priority policies to prevent litter and fly-tipping (Including evidence gathering, monitoring and measures to support a more circular economy)
- Communications and behaviour change
- Support evidence gathering to understand emerging technologies and materials, particularly those marketed as “environmentally friendly”.

The post holder will benefit from a range of development opportunities including supporting Ministers; working at pace within a high-profile policy area and engaging with a wide range of stakeholders and departments across Welsh Government; building valuable working relationships; broadening their knowledge and understanding of Welsh Government policy work and have the opportunity to identify areas to add value to the delivery of evidence-based policy.

With support from their Welsh Government supervisors, the post holder will be expected to take responsibility for management and delivery of work commitments, providing opportunity to develop team working and project management skills.

Details

Skills required:

Key Skills

- Excellent research skills
- Ability to analyse complex information and data
- Ability to write clearly and concisely
- Ability of presenting technical material in an accessible format
- Presentation skills
- Creative thinking
- Ability to apply an innovative approach

Available Posts:

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Host Organisation:

Welsh Government

Placement Start Date

September 2024

Development Opportunities

The placement provides an opportunity to gain insight into the functioning of Welsh Government and evidence-based policy development at the highest level. The post-holder will work in an interesting and diverse team, contributing to the shaping of a future policy direction. The post-holder will be expected to work independently within parameters and guidelines provided by the Welsh Government. Working closely with a wide range of colleagues the successful candidate will build valuable working relationships, broaden their knowledge of public policy-making and enhance their existing transferable skills.

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	<p>The student will join an analytical team managing a diverse evidence-base and delivering technical and advisory support to the Local Environment Quality policy programme. This is an interesting and diverse role, working on a high-profile programme across Welsh Government portfolios which will allow the student to gain a broad knowledge and understanding of Welsh Government policy work. With support from their WG supervisor, the student will be expected to take responsibility for managing and delivery of work commitments during the placement period.</p>
Duration, location, working arrangements and environment:	<p>The role will be full-time and is normally based with the policy team in one of Welsh Government's regional offices. In line with the flexible working policy, the post-holder will be able to work from home, and office working will also be an option.</p> <p>Post-holders will be provided with a laptop to facilitate regular contact with the policy team members and line management, other policy teams and external partners. Due to the remote nature of working, the policy team will ensure that the post-holder is fully supported during the placement and will endeavour to ensure that the placement is as close to the in-team office-based experience as possible.</p> <p>The placement will be for a 3-month period and will focus on delivering the objectives set out in the job specification. The option to extend for a further 3 months is possible if the project team feel there is merit in doing so and if it is compatible with the post-holder's university research schedule and DTP/CDT arrangements.</p> <p>The Welsh Government is a bilingual organisation and Welsh language skills are considered an asset to the organisation. We encourage and support staff to use their Welsh language skills during a placement.</p> <p>Exact start date will be agreed following successful Welsh Government security clearance.</p>
Application criteria	<p>Welsh Government can only accept applications to the PhD student placement programme from registered students. All applicants must seek approval from their academic supervisor before applying.</p> <p>This placement is only available to applicants with a placement as an integral part of their PhD programmes</p>
Funding	
<p>Funding for this placement is expected to be covered by the research council as per the applicant's programme. Welsh Government will pay the cost of hotel, subsistence, travelling and any other additional expenses incurred by the PhD candidate in connection with the Project Support Services, subject to the limits in Welsh Government's travel and subsistence policy.</p>	
Contact	
Name:	<p>Contact Stephany Aymerich (Research & Academic Engagement Manager) via researchplacements@gov.wales</p> <p>The Welsh Government takes the protection of your data seriously. If you contact the Welsh Government then our Privacy Notice explains how we use your information and the ways in which we protect your privacy.</p>
Application process	
<p>Please submit CV and covering letter to Stephany Aymerich. NOTE: All applicants must confirm that they have received authorisation to undertake a placement from their programme manager.</p> <p>We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding</p>	

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If you have an impairment or health condition, or use British Sign Language and need to discuss reasonable adjustments for any part of the placement programme, or wish to discuss how we will support you if you are to be successful, please contact Stephany Aymerich as soon as possible to discuss your requirements and any questions you may have.