

General Information

Title: Implementation of the UK Plan for tackling roadside Nitrogen Dioxide concentrations

Non-Academic partner: Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra)

Role/Sector: Policy/Evidence Role in JAQU: The delivery of a UK plan for tackling roadside Nitrogen Dioxide concentrations.

Location: Joint Air Quality Unit, Nobel House, 17 Smith Square, London SW1P 3JR

Duration: 3-4 months

Start date: Preferably Autumn 2017 but negotiable

Full or Part time: Preferably full time but with some flexibility

Who are you going to work with

The Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs (Defra) is responsible for safeguarding the natural environment, supporting a world-leading food and farming industry, and sustaining a rural economy. It plays 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. Its purpose is to unleash the economic potential of food and farming, nature and the countryside, champion the environment and provide security against floods, animal and plant diseases and other hazards. Defra's priorities are:

- a cleaner, healthier environment, benefiting people and the economy
- a world-leading food and farming industry
- a thriving rural economy, contributing to national prosperity and wellbeing
- a nation better-protected against floods, animal and plant diseases and other hazards, with strong response and recovery capabilities
- an organisation continually striving to be the best, focussed on outcomes and constantly challenging itself

How do you expect to spend your day

As part of the implementation of the UK Plan for tackling roadside Nitrogen Dioxide concentrations, to produce a 'what works' guidance for JAQU which considers how to turn existing evidence/experience in relation to specific traffic interventions into compelling messaging which will lead to behavioural change by the wider public, working through the following stages:

Stage 1: Project set up

Stage 2: Desk study of evidence on selected interventions e.g. stopping idling vehicles or transport mode switches, taking into account behavioural evidence research, existing work that is being undertaken by Global Action Plan and cities such as London, Southampton, Leeds, Sheffield and Leicester.

Stage 3: Field study/experiential learning: liaising with local authorities to see what works/doesn't work, capturing best practice.

Stage 4: Compile evidence of best practice for specific interventions and any associated case studies, which could be shared more widely.

Stage 5: Undertake a gap analysis.

Stage 6: Compile recommendations and produce a final report.

The interns day to day tasks will include:

- Assisting JAQU in the development of communications that Local Authorities can use to encourage behaviour change.

CAMBRIDGE SOCIAL SCIENCE PARTNERSHIP – INTERNSHIP PROJECT

- Specifically, developing ‘what works’ guidance in relation to a small number of traffic interventions, collecting robust evidence of ‘what works’ and turning that into compelling guidance on how to engender behaviour change.
- Building strong relationships within Defra and DfT particularly with their behavioural insights and communication teams to agree and deliver the ‘what works’ guidance, identifying potential issues early and facilitating swift resolution.
- Working with Local Authorities to build an understanding of the specific delivery challenges they are facing and how the ‘what works’ guidance can help them.

The ideal intern’s personality and qualifications

An individual who is able to work largely unsupervised, working collaboratively with other members of JAQU as well as with external stakeholders. He/she should be able to communicate confidently at all levels of authority, and be able to work at pace. Defra is committed to having a diverse workforce that brings in the widest range of talent, ideas and approaches (Defra group equality, diversity and inclusion strategy 2017 to 2020: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/defra-group-equality-diversity-and-inclusion-strategy-2017-to-2020>).

Essential skills:

- Knowledge of behavioural insights and messaging/communications principles
- Leadership and innovation in helping build new ways of communicating compelling messaging that will help address poor air quality
- Ability to make a strong personal impact
- Drive and adaptability
- Strong written and verbal communication skills

Desirable skills:

- Prior knowledge of communications around environmental behaviours
- Project management skills

What are the benefits of Interning at this project

You would be working in the innovative joint Defra/DfT unit which is driving delivery of a national air quality plan for Nitrogen Dioxide. Working in this unit will be demanding and exciting, with the potential to have a real-world impact. Air quality is a high profile and challenging cross-Departmental issue for the Government.

The role will offer opportunities to make a strong personal impact, applying your academic knowledge to resolve real issues whilst working alongside Air Quality experts. You will play an integral part in addressing poor air quality, following new evidence that shows diesel vehicle emissions are more polluting than originally thought.

This internship is a unique opportunity to network and gain a better understanding of the Civil Service by being involved in the development of a new national policy, gaining relevant professional experience to enhance your skills and future employability.

Apply for this role

If you are interested in applying for this opportunity, please email the completed [application form](#) and a CV to esrcdtc@admin.cam.ac.uk.

Please note that all applications must be approved by the applicant’s PhD supervisor.

The application deadline is **September 20 2017**. Results will be announced early October 2017.