# Analysis of international trade data

# Summary

This is an exciting opportunity to do a paid work placement on a project for the Welsh Government. The project would sit within the Trade Analyst team, a multidisciplinary team of researchers and statisticians. The successful applicant will work closely with Welsh Government officials and stakeholders to research and develop a varied range of research outputs and support the Welsh Government in their research process. The applicant will have the opportunity to apply research skills in a policy environment, further develop generic skills (such as report writing or making presentations), and to enhance their knowledge of research outside academia.

# The Organisation

The Welsh Government is the devolved Government for Wales with responsibility for the economy, education, health and the Welsh NHS, business, public services and the environment of Wales.

Specifically, the internship will be based within Knowledge and Analytic services (KAS). KAS provides the collection, analysis and presentation of research and data for policymakers and the public in keeping with professional standards. They offer independent evidence to understand, develop, implement, monitor and evaluate government policies. KAS also supports policy colleagues with policy development, implementation, and delivery.

# The Internship

The intern will be part of the team working on International Trade. The internship will provide an exciting opportunity to work at the heart of Welsh Government. The internship will require working closely with policy officials and researchers and will provide an opportunity to apply research skills in a policy environment, further develop generic skills (such as report writing or making presentations), and to enhance policy knowledge.

The successful candidate will benefit from development opportunities offered centrally by the Welsh Government, potentially including mentoring, shadowing, peer support and training.

Interns will benefit from the experience of working closely with the Welsh Government:

* Gaining a better understanding of the world outside of academia and increasing employability, using their knowledge and skills to contribute to the work of the Welsh Government.
* The intern’s colleagues at the Welsh Government can offer an insight into the intern’s PhD project that can contribute to the success of their thesis,’ as well as networking opportunities within the policy arena linked to their research area
* Transferable skills and knowledge
* Time management skills
* Report writing skills

# The Project

This placement will primarily focus on analysis from the Wales perspective from UK-wide surveys:

* National Survey of Registered Businesses,
* Public Attitude to Trade Tracker and
* Longitudinal Small Business Survey

Dependant on the intern’s skills, there could be alternative projects – such as the development of indicators and an evaluation framework for an existing action plan, or to aid with defining specific sectors to aid with data analysis.

Anticipated project outcomes:

* High quality analysis to aid an understanding of the data available project
* Topic specific ‘Insight Reports’
* Analysis of policy documents to help understand the usefulness of the above datasets to policy colleagues
* A technical report which would include the following:
  + A review of what the data can tell us
  + A summary of the results of the analysis.
* Annotated syntax for carrying out the analysis, including any data preparation work (e.g., recoding of variables)
* A presentation to analytical colleagues and policy officials on the findings of the report

# Internship responsibilities and requirements

The internship will last for a minimum of three months, with the option of extension, during which time the students PhD project will be paused by their home institution. The student will be paid the equivalent of their stipend during their internship. Over and above leave policies, time for existing PhD commitments can be arranged on discussion with line managers. E.g. research groups meetings and conference presentations. Applications are encouraged from part-time students.

It is anticipated that the successful applicant will work in a hybrid way between home and a Welsh Government office during their internship. This may change depending on Welsh Government policy. Any changes to working arrangements will be discussed with successful applicants.

The internship will last for a period of three months full-time or the part-time equivalent. For students registered on a part-time studentship, this internship is available on a part-time basis over a longer period (at least three days a working week), this would be negotiated between the WG (Welsh Government) and the successful applicant. If you would like to be considered on a part-time basis, please specify your preferred working hours on the application form.

**Student specification**

## The student must have:

* Ability to analyse quantitative data with experience of working with quantitative survey data.
* Experience in handling/manipulating data, e.g., with Excel, Stata, or SPSS.
* The ability to produce cross-tabulations, well designed charts and to produce concise, professionally written documents presenting technical material in an accessible format.

# Start date of internship

2023 (exact date to be negotiated). There may be some flexibility dependent on individual circumstances.

# Funding and costs

Reasonable travel and accommodation costs for students not normally based in Cardiff can be met. Requests should be consistent with Wales DTP guidelines. Applications from students requiring additional funding for travel and accommodation will not be treated less favourably. For any queries on this please contact Carole Baker at the Wales DTP on: [enquiries@walesdtp.ac.uk](mailto:enquiries@walesdtp.ac.uk)

# Security

The Welsh Government’s vetting procedures (which apply to temporary as well as permanent staff) involve the completion of a Baseline Personnel Security Standard (BPSS) application form and a Security Questionnaire for the purpose of security vetting.

This process requires the applicant to produce in person three original forms of identification documents, one of which should be photographic (passport, new driving license), one document should show their current address, plus one of: a utility bill, birth certificate, P45 or P60.

**Queries**

Any queries relating to the position or application process should be sent to [cerys.ponting@gov.wales](mailto:cerys.ponting@gov.wales)