

North West
Social Science
Doctoral Training
Partnership



Economic
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Research Council

Breathe Easy North Staffordshire Community Group – Student Consultant

Air Pollution, Health Inequality, and
Community Advocacy in Staffordshire

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Project Outline

Breathe Easy North Staffordshire is one of the patient volunteer-run community groups spread across the UK that support local people who suffer from lung conditions. They are affiliated to Asthma and Lung UK, the national charity for lung health, although the charity is independent in their activities.

One of Breathe Easy's objectives is to represent the voice of their members in campaigns and other actions, to try to help make their environment better for everyone, concerning lung conditions. One of the key topic areas for Breathe Easy is Air Pollution.

This research placement will support Breathe Easy North Staffs (BENS) in understanding and addressing the intersection between air pollution, respiratory health, and social inequality in the North Staffordshire region. The student will conduct a spatial and policy analysis to identify disparities in air quality and health outcomes, map decision-making structures, and recommend targeted advocacy approaches for local campaigning.

Key Objectives

- Analyse air pollution exposure in Staffordshire in relation to socio-economic indicators and respiratory health prevalence
- Map relevant policy actors and assess local/national clean air strategies
- Identify community engagement models for equitable environmental advocacy
Synthesise case studies from other cities & counties.
- Draft a policy brief or campaign strategy tailored to BENS' advocacy priorities
- Develop a stakeholder engagement plan

Required and Desired Skills

This is a very current topic and challenge for everyone in the community. There is a wide range of disciplines that could add value to, and find interest in doing, the research.

Perhaps most suitable for PhD students in Health and Wellbeing (Public Health), Geography and Environment, Social Studies / Policy, Political Science.

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Timeframe

Full-time or part-time working will be available for this opportunity.

Delivery of the project

This will be a remote placement.

Ethics Approval

Not applicable.

Equality and Diversity commitments

“We confirm our alignment to your commitments. We are not aware of any EDI barriers to this study.”

How to apply

To apply for this role, please complete the ‘Expression of Interest form’ available on the NWSSDTP website (<https://nwssdtp.ac.uk/ripps/>), using the job title mentioned in the NWSSDTP advertisement

Once completed and discussed with your supervisor, return the completed form to Ellie Sandman (ripps@liverpool.ac.uk)

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