

Enquiries: Dr Phillippa Pearson, Catchment Manager, Dŵr Cymru Welsh Water
(email: phillippa.pearson@dwrwymru.com)

Dŵr Cymru Welsh Water is offering to host placements under the NERC-funded 2017 Innovation Placements Call.

Supplying over 800 million litres of high quality tap water to our customers every day is one of our most important responsibilities. Our drinking water supplies are sourced from 120 predominantly rural catchments covering almost 11,000km², most of which is not in our ownership. The placements will support the development of our [WaterSource](#) approach to catchment management, which we recognise as our *first line of defence* for the protection of our drinking water supplies.

A placement with us is an excellent opportunity to gain an understanding of the day-to-day operation of the water industry and in turn share scientific expertise in a way that influences management and thinking inside our organisation and potentially across the sector.

Researchers can expect to spend between 80% -100% of their time at the DCWW premises in Nelson, Treharris, but will need to be able to travel across Dŵr Cymru Welsh Water's operating areas as and when required. Placements are expected to start on 1 November 2017.

Placements could involve a range of activities such as:

- Payments for Ecosystem Services/ catchment management incentive schemes and engagement mechanisms;
- Developing landscape scale management approaches and associated governance structures;
- Identifying catchment management opportunities and threats;
- Sustainable agriculture and forestry;
- Behavioural change research;
- Quantifying the costs and benefits of catchment management;

Researchers will be involved in a range of activities which may include:

- Identifying key science areas of relevance and the data available to inform decisions on business needs
- Analysing and synthesising existing datasets;
- Identifying research translation opportunities and where tools may be developed to facilitate this translation

Researchers will be expected to produce a series of outputs for communication. These will be determined at the outset of the project but could include any or all of the following:

- A synthesis report to Dŵr Cymru Welsh Water on key findings and recommendations;
- Material for the Dŵr Cymru Welsh Water website and intranet (blogs, video);
- Scientific publications

Application Process:

All applicants interested in undertaking a placement with Dŵr Cymru Welsh Water are required to register their interest by contacting Dr Phillipa Pearson (Catchment Manager, Dŵr Cymru Welsh Water) phillippa.pearson@dwrcymru.com by **Friday 19 May 2017** (and preferably well in advance of this deadline). Before contacting us, please ensure that you have read and fully comply with the NERC placement eligibility requirements outlined in the main call document.

Placements proposals must be co-developed with Dŵr Cymru Welsh Water. Dŵr Cymru Welsh Water will hold an internal meeting to decide which placement applications to support and we will contact applicants by the end of May to confirm whether or not we can support their application. The chosen applicants will then need to work up a full funding application to be submitted to NERC by 16:00 on **29 June 2017**.