

## Summary details of NERC Policy Placement Fellowships October 2015

Partner Organisation / Department	Start / End Dates	Fellow Name & Institution	Email Address	Purpose / Scope
Scottish Government	01/11/2015 31/10/2016	Prof Lorraine Maltby University of Sheffield	<a href="mailto:l.maltby@sheffield.ac.uk">l.maltby@sheffield.ac.uk</a>	This appointment is jointly funded by NERC and the Scottish Government. Based in Scottish Government's Rural and Environmental Science and Analytical Services (RESAS), the Fellow will work closely with both the Chief Scientist, Rural Affairs, Food and Environment, as well as two key Policy Directorates - Environment & Forestry, and Agriculture, Food and Rural Communities, focussing on areas where NERC research and capabilities can be utilised to deliver the highest potential impact. The policy placement will also provide an important mechanism for Scottish Government policy needs to feed back into NERC strategy and will assist in NERC's strategic planning and scoping of partnership activities within the Scottish Government and its agencies.
Welsh Government	01/10/2015 30/09/2016	Prof Christopher Spray University of Dundee Centre for Water Law, Policy and Science	C.J.Spray@dundee.ac.uk	The Fellow acts as a conduit between NERC and the Welsh Government's Department of Natural Resources, working to improve knowledge exchange by developing and implementing processes to identify, translate and feed-in NERC's research to WG policy and evidence teams in a timely and appropriate manner, prioritising areas which will have most impact on policymaking and practice. The policy placement will provide an important mechanism for Welsh Government policy needs to feed back into NERC strategy and will assist in NERC's strategic planning and scoping of partnership activities within the WG and its agencies.
Go-Science	01/09/2015 31/08/2016	Dr Joanna House University of Bristol School of Geographical Science	Jo.House@bristol.ac.uk	This placement directly supports the Government Chief Scientific Adviser on climate change and develop strategic links between GO-Science and NERC to inform and deliver science and innovation policy. The Fellow will ensure that Ministers have access to the best possible science advice, engaging with research networks and consolidating the role of science advice and R&D within government
Environment Agency	02/02/2015 01/02/2016	Dr Magdalena Bieroza Lancaster University Environment Centre	m.bieroza@lancaster.ac.uk	The Nitrates Directive (91/676/EEC) is designed to protect waters against nitrate pollution from agricultural sources. It requires Member States to identify waters which are, or could become, polluted by nitrates and to designate as Nitrate Vulnerable Zones (NVZs) all land draining to those waters and contributing to the pollution. The placement will investigate

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				new approaches and their advantages and risks for identifying waters that are at risk of nitrate pollution and the land that drains to these. The work has potential to have a significant impact beyond academia by steering regulatory decision making across the country.
Environment Agency	19/01/2015 18/01/2016	Dr Christopher David Field Manchester Metropolitan University School of Science and the Environment	c.field@mmu.ac.uk	The aim of this fellowship is to pull together the latest research on how atmospheric pollutants, specifically those causing eutrophication and acidification, interact with protected habitats, and to explore how it might best be used to inform policy and regulatory practice. Specific objectives under this fellowship include working with the existing research community to further develop research on quantifying the range of contributions made by atmospheric sources to the total burdens of these pollutants on habitats; quantifying indirect contributions to habitats from atmospheric inputs elsewhere in a catchment; dynamic modelling as a supplement to, or an alternative, to assessment via critical loads; methodologies for interpreting biomonitoring data, and exploring possible explanations when these show unexpected harm, or lack of harm.
Environment Agency	15/12/2014 14/03/2016	Dr Gary Bilotta University of Brighton School of Environment and Technology	G.S.Bilotta@brighton.ac.uk	Low head hydropower schemes can be an effective way of delivering renewable energy, but there may be impacts on freshwater ecosystems, migrating fish, fluvial geomorphology and the long-term sustainability of schemes may be affected by climate change. In addition, competing demands for the way we use and manage river habitats can lead to conflict between stakeholders who may take a different view on how precautionary an approach is justified. The placement will undertake a study on the effectiveness of measures to mitigate hydropower impacts; the social, economic and environmental costs and benefits of hydropower development; impacts on ecosystems services, hydromorphology, weir pool form and function and flood risk.
Defra	04/11/2013 03/11/2015	Dr Alexandra Collins Imperial College London	alexandra.collins@imperial.ac.uk	The part-time placement will directly support the core Joint Water Evidence Group (JWEG) team primarily in the further development and dissemination of their Evidence Review (ER) methodology. The Fellow is engaged in revising JWEG's current ER Guidance document, incorporating feedback and comments from end-users together with lessons learned having completed a number of environmental ERs. More broadly it is expected that the fellow will develop a better understanding of NERC and

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				wider RC-funded research in area of land/water research; needs of policy makers, businesses and practitioners in this area; and complex issues relating to science-policy interface together with opportunity to develop ideas to improve interface.
Defra	18/11/2013 31/01/2016	Dr Alice Milner University College London Department of Geography	a.milner@ucl.ac.uk	The part-time placement will directly support the Chief Scientific Advisor of Defra through providing high quality, strategic analyses of high profile and/or challenging science-policy issues within the Department and helping to drive improvements in the evidence base in environmental science and its use. The second phase of the placement will focus on developing evidence statements for high-profile science policy issues for use in decision making and generating a vision of the future of farming by identifying emerging opportunities, challenges and innovations.
Defra	02/09/2013 01/09/2014	Dr Gary Bilotta University of Brighton School of Environment and Technology	G.S.Bilotta@brighton.ac.uk	The one-year placement will directly support the Chief Scientific Advisor of Defra through providing high quality, strategic analyses of high profile and/or challenging science-policy issues within the Department and helping to drive improvements in the evidence base in environmental science and its use.
Defra	18/02/2013 17/03/2014	Prof Lorraine Maltby University of Sheffield Department of Animal and Plant Sciences	l.maltby@sheffield.ac.uk	The one-year fellowship is awarded to a senior member of the environmental science community to take on a key role linking NERC science with Defra policymaking at the highest level. The fellowship will lead in developing and implementing processes to identify, translate and feed in NERC's research to Defra's policy teams in a timely and appropriate manner and prioritising areas which will have most impact on policymaking and practice.
Environment Agency	04/02/2013 03/02/2014	Dr Martina McGuinness University of Sheffield Management School	m.mcguinness@sheffield.ac.uk	Jointly funded by the Environment Agency and NERC Research Programmes 'UK Droughts and Water Scarcity' and 'Flooding from Intense Rainfall' the two-year part time fellowship based in EA will work on integrated approaches to managing floods and droughts in a changing climate. This includes both physical measures to manage extremes as well as human responses to coping during events.
Living with Environmental Change (LWEC)	01/01/2013 31/03/2015	Dr Sari Kovats London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine	Sari.Kovats@lshtm.ac.uk	The fellow will help deliver LWEC Health Challenge goals related to climate change adaptation and extreme weather events by improving access to knowledge and expertise in LWEC programmes and ensuring that decision-makers and end-users benefit from the widest and most

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				comprehensive evidence base through effective knowledge exchange. The fellow will work with LWEC programmes, policy partners and other key decision-makers and frontline practitioners at national, regional and local levels and beyond such as those taking decisions that will impact on climate resilience in the future, e.g. those involved spatial planning and building control. to develop an understanding of their requirements for knowledge and the potential of LWEC programmes to meet these needs. The fellowship is supported by LWEC partners NERC, HPA, Defra, SEPA and DH.
Environment Agency  Evidence Directorate	01/08/12 30/04/13	Dr Matthew Charlton University of Reading, Walker Institute	m.charlton@reading.ac.uk	Nine-month full time policy placement with the EA Climate Change and Resource Use will examine methods for making decisions about climate change adaptation through a series of case studies. In doing this, the research fellow will review current approaches through engagement with practitioners and literature review, consider the type of climate information that supports adaptation decision-making, and report the results of this work to practitioners. The fellowship is also linked to NERC activities related to the development of climate knowledge for adaptation decision-making with Living with Environmental Change and the Environmental Science to Services Partnership (ESSP)
Living With Environmental Change (LWEC)	29/03/12 29/03/13	Dr Roger Street Oxford University, UKCIP, Environmental Change Institute	Roger.street@ukcip.org.uk	LWEC partners NERC, Defra, DECC and ESRC are supporting this Fellowship to work across LWEC Programmes with a focus on adaptation in the context of a changing climate. The Fellow will provide strategic advice on activities and structures for effective knowledge exchange between researchers, LWEC policy partners and related user communities in society and business who are facing decisions related to climate change adaptation. A key feature of the fellowship will be to draw from across programmes, identify opportunities for them to work together and to increase the impact of LWEC investments by informing adaptation decision-making.
Living With Environmental Change (LWEC)	01/04/12 31/03/15	Dr Jeremy Phillipson Newcastle University, Centre for Rural Economy, School of Agriculture, Food and Rural Development	jeremy.phillipson@newcastle.ac.uk	The overarching goal of the fellowship is to encourage the development, exchange and use of knowledge, expertise and other outputs from LWEC to influence more sustainable land management practices, decisions and policies among stakeholders in the public, private and third sectors. The focus is cross-cutting on land based themes within the Ecosystems, Resources and Societal Challenges of LWEC, and also has relevance to the

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				other three Challenges (Health, Infrastructure and Climate Change). One of the objectives of the fellowship is to establish a multi-disciplinary community of land use stakeholders and researchers in the UK and support opportunities for knowledge exchange within this. LWEC partners NERC, ESRC, BBSRC and Natural England are supporting this two year part-time policy placement fellowship.
Defra Atmosphere and Local Environment Programme (ALE)	16/04/12 15/10/13	Dr Michelle Cain University of Cambridge, Department of Chemistry	Mc692@cam.ac.uk	Six months full-time equivalent placement over 18 months with Defra ALE programme in a role that provides the technical lead for Defra's air quality modelling. Defra's ALE programme works to control and manage air quality across the UK, including an extensive programme of atmospheric pollution science and research. The fellowship will also assist with the implementation of a modelling strategy for Defra and create links across the organisation to promote the profile of air quality and enable access to data where it could be of use to other evidence managers or policy makers.
Environment Agency Evidence Directorate	01/01/12 31/03/13	Dr Jim Rouquette University of Sheffield, Department of Animal and Plant Sciences	j.r.rouquette@sheffield.ac.uk	Twelve month full time equivalent placement with the EA: Ecosystem Services and Flood and Coastal Risk Management. The Government's increased focus on ecosystem services will have an impact on a wide range of environment related work. But what will this mean for those working in the Flood and Coastal Risk Management (FCRM) sector? This fellowship will look at how ecosystem services thinking could impact on the broad range of FCRM activities ranging from planning through to construction and maintenance. This fellowship will closely align with the UK National Ecosystem Assessment work and provide an opportunity to specifically focus on what the findings from the National Ecosystem Assessment work mean for FCRM practitioners.
Environment Agency Evidence Directorate	01/12/11 30/11/12	Dr Megan Klaar University of Birmingham, School of Geography, Earth & Environmental Sciences	m.j.Klaar@bham.ac.uk	Twelve month full time placement with the EA: Understanding the impacts of water abstraction and river flows on aquatic ecology. The purpose of this fellowship is to support the Environment Agency's work on dealing with water abstraction and other flow regulation pressures which lead to failure to achieve Water Framework Directive requirements. It will also help to set the scene to meet future water abstraction challenges, such as the effects of climate change on future licensing policy.

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				Much of this work will also be relevant to the Water White paper which is due to be published in December 2011. The Water White paper will focus on securing sustainable water supplies, and modernising the current regulatory system.
SEPA  Science & Strategy Directorate	16/08/11 15/05/12	Dr Helen Taylor British Geological Survey	helen.taylor@sepa.org.uk	A six month placement with SEPA (part time over nine months) with the Science & Strategy Directorate in Stirling. The purpose of this policy placement is, in conjunction with SEPA's Human Health Working Group, to promote SEPA's understanding of the Environment and Human Health research 'landscape' in the UK, including the dissemination of research outputs and translation of evidence into robust environmental policy & regulatory practice.
Defra  Environment & Rural Group	07/12/10 06/06/11	Dr Alfie Gathorne-Hardy Imperial College London, Centre for Energy Policy and Technology	alfred.gathorne-hardy03@imperial.ac.uk	Six month, full time policy placement fellowship with the Defra Environment & Rural Group working alongside an economist and policy officials as part of a small team leading the gathering and analysis of evidence to determine how bio-energy can contribute sustainably to the government's renewable energy and climate change goals for 2020 and 2050. The purpose of this placement was to contribute to the project, gathering and analysing evidence to help develop a Government strategy on the sustainable use of bio-energy. This activity was part of a wider portfolio of work being undertaken in conjunction with DECC and other government departments to help determine the role that bio-energy can play in the UK's future low carbon energy mix.
Defra  Atmosphere and Local Environment Programme (ALE)	11/11/10 31/03/11	Dr Carly Stevens Open University Leverhulme Fellow Now at University of Lancaster	c.j.stevens@open.ac.uk	A six month, part time policy placement fellowship with DEFRA's Atmosphere and Local Environment Programme (ALE) The purpose of this policy placement was to lead a strategic review of the Atmosphere and Local Environment Programme's portfolio of recent and current research on the impacts of air pollution on ecosystems. The objectives were to ensure that future evidence needs for national and international policy development are met as well as strengthening science to policy processes between Defra and NERC.
Defra  Atmosphere	18/10/10 17/11/10	Dr Andrew Smith University of Oxford, Dept of Atmospheric,	smith@atm.ox.ac.uk	A one month, work shadow placement opportunity based with DEFRA within its Atmosphere and Local Environment Programme (ALE) Defra's Atmosphere and Local Environment Programme reviewed its air

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and Local Environment Programme (ALE)		Oceanic and Planetary Physics		quality modelling capacity to ensure that the scientific evidence base is fit for purpose for policy makers. The internship provided an opportunity for a student to work closely with Defra scientists and policy makers to understand how evidence is used in policy making. It provided an insight as to how Defra scientists work with external experts in the field, both consultants and researchers, to ensure they have a fit for purpose evidence base for policy making.
DECC Climate, Energy, Science and Analysis Team (CESA)	08/10 31/07/11	Dr Emily Shuckburgh British Antarctic Survey (BAS)	emsh@bas.ac.uk	Part- time policy placement fellowship in the Climate, Energy, Science and Analysis (CESA) Team at the Department of Energy & Climate Change (DECC). The objectives were to develop a closer working relationship between the NERC science community and DECC; to improve the communication of climate science from the UK scientific community to the public on climate change; and to identify critical gaps in the science and propose ways to address them.
LWEC DECC Defra NERC	05/10/09 07/12/11	Dr John Holmes University of Oxford	John.Holmes@earth.ox.ac.uk	A part time 24 month "Living With Environmental Change" Policy Placement Fellowship working with NERC, DECC & DEFRA: "Enhancing LWEC's Capacity To Support Policy Making And Regulation"
EA Horizon Scanning Team	07/09/09 06/03/10	Dr Nic Bury Kings College London	nic.bury@kcl.ac.uk	Nic is a Senior Lecturer at King's College London with a research interest in aquatic ecotoxicology and ecophysiology. He completed a 6 month part-time Policy Placement Fellowship between NERC and the Environment Agency (7th September 2009 – March 2010) For this placement Nic worked within the Environment Agency's Horizon Scanning Team and has explored ways in which the issues raised by horizon scanning activities that affect the current or future Environment Agency corporate strategy and policies are best considered. Part of the Fellowship also considered the research needs that may be required to aid these difficult decisions and how this may translate into support from NERC.
DECC Climate, Energy, Science	14/09/09 31/05/10	Dr David Frame Smith School of Enterprise and the Environment &	david.frame@smithschool.ox.ac.uk	Six month (subsequently extended) Policy Placement Fellowship appointment from 14th September 2009 – May 2010. With Dept of Environment & Climate Change (DECC) Climate & Energy: Science & Analysis (CESA). The purpose of the placement was to strengthen links

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and Analysis Team (CESA)		Department of Physics, University of Oxford		between NERC climate science and policy and to provide scientific advice on climate change to inform development of international and domestic climate policy.
GLA	May – July 2009	Dr Richard Dawson University of Newcastle	richard.dawson@newcastle.ac.uk	A Tyndall Centre researcher on a NERC Workshadow placement with the Greater London Authority (GLA) has applied the Tyndall Centre's Urban Integrated Assessment Facility to explore the climate impacts and energy implications of the London Spatial Development Plan. Richard was funded by NERC for four weeks to work with the London Plan Team on adapting the Tyndall Cities assessment model to test the scenarios and policy implications of the London Plan. This included exploring the proposed spatial development strategy, as well as testing the adaptation and mitigation options identified within the plan. Dr. Dawson continues this work on sustainable planning in cities, with the GLA as stakeholder advisors, through an EPSRC funded fellowship.