



**Senedd Cymru
Welsh Parliament**

WGSSS Research in Practice Placement: Senedd Cymru/Welsh Parliament

About Senedd Research

The [Welsh Parliament/Senedd Cymru](#) is the devolved parliament for Wales. Its elected Members make laws, check and challenge the actions and spending of the Welsh Government, and represent citizens of Wales.

Senedd Research is the in-house research service in the Senedd. Senedd Research provides impartial, independent, and expert research and analysis to support all Members of the Senedd in their roles as elected representatives, and to help them conduct high quality scrutiny of policy and legislation.

Senedd Research consists of:

- four research teams providing specialist advice on specific areas of policy: economy, communities and local government; education and lifelong learning; environment and transport; and health and social policy;
- a Financial Scrutiny Unit providing finance and statistical information;
- a team providing advice on the Senedd, the constitution, UK and EU legislation, elections, referendums and EU withdrawal;
- a Library and Digital team providing a full range of reference and information services, alongside data visualisation and AI expertise, and
- a Knowledge Exchange Unit, which works to connect the Senedd with the research community in Wales and beyond to help improve the quality of evidence available to the parliament.

You can find out more about us and our work on [our website](#).

Policy Internship Opportunities at Senedd Research

Interns based with Senedd Research will get first-hand experience of a fast-paced political environment. Engaging directly with Members of the Senedd and their staff you will develop a good knowledge of policy-making, law-making and scrutiny processes, and with that, an understanding of political sensitivity.

You will join one of our teams, depending on your subject knowledge and areas of interest. You will provide information on policy issues of interest to Members of the Senedd and will contribute to all of a diverse work of the team they join. This will include producing at least one research briefing and writing research articles on topical issues. You will be involved in the fast

paced, day-to-day work of the Senedd by contributing to briefings for Senedd committees and helping to answer research enquiries from Members of the Senedd. You will see how academic research is used in parliamentary business and have the opportunity to engage with a variety of stakeholders including NGOs, academics, industry representatives and others.

You will participate in a programme of induction about the work of the Senedd, including attending First Minister's Questions. You will engage with other services including Senedd lawyers, clerking teams, translation services and communications & engagement.

For many interns, their Senedd Research experience has been the start of a new career in policy and parliamentary research.

The WGSSS Research in Practice placement scheme will run alongside our UKRI PhD placement scheme, and will be structured in the same way. For more information about our PhD placements, [read our short research article](#).

Testimonials from Past Interns

Nearly 80 PhD students have undertaken internships with Senedd Research since 2006. Among 14 of the most recent interns, 100% said that their experience greatly exceeded or exceeded their expectations.

Thomas Mitcham, who undertook the internship in 2020, said: "I couldn't have asked for a better experience at Senedd Research. I felt a part of the team from the first day and received great training and support from colleagues. I had the opportunity to sit in on ministerial scrutiny sessions, write research briefings and blogs on fast-moving events and respond directly to enquiries from politicians. The internship gave me a real insight into how legislative bodies work on a day-to-day basis, and allowed me to be a part of that process from the beginning. The Welsh language classes were also a real highlight! I would highly recommend applying for a policy internship at Senedd Research."

Some of our former students have written articles about their experience: [Charlotte Lenton](#), [Hayley Moulding](#), [Eleanor Warren-Thomas](#), and [Piotr Wegorowski](#).

Here are a few examples of outputs produced by our interns: [Nuclear Energy in Wales](#); [Who speaks for Wales? How could the 2026 Senedd election be more representative?](#); [Bovine Tuberculosis](#); [Batteries: A vital industry for achieving net zero](#);

How will we be recruiting?

Senedd Research will be leading the application and interview process for the placements. **Applications are now open and will close on 29 May 2026.** We will then shortlist applications, with interviews to be held in June/July.

We will have three placement intakes per year – in September, January and April. You will have the opportunity to specify your preferred start date on the application form. We will endeavour to accommodate these preferences, but cannot guarantee this.

Placements will be offered across all Senedd Research teams, subject to capacity within those teams to host and support students. Unfortunately we are not able to accept requests to join specific teams.

Due to our existing UKRI PhD placement commitments, there may be limited placement opportunities commencing in September 2026. Applications for the September 2026 intake will be considered taking into account our existing UKRI commitments.

To apply, please complete this [online application form](#).

Security Restrictions

Students must have resided in the UK for a minimum of three years. The successful candidates will have to undergo security vetting. The security vetting will be to Counter Terrorist Check (CTC) level and will require the candidate to complete an online security questionnaire with United Kingdom Services Vetting (UKSV). Placements are subject to the successful completion of this level of security vetting.

Working Arrangements and Location

Students placed with us will be based at the Senedd Commission offices adjoining the Senedd building in Cardiff Bay. Hybrid and remote working is also possible.

The Senedd is committed to [equality, diversity and inclusion principles](#)

For more information about the application, process, or placement please contact the Senedd's Knowledge Exchange Lead (and placement scheme lead) Chloe Corbyn (Chloe.Corbyn@Senedd.Wales)