The Royal Academy of Engineering Policy Fellowships

Connecting policymakers with the nation’s leading engineers

As the UK’s national academy for engineering and technology, the Royal Academy of Engineering brings together the most talented and successful engineers, finest systems thinkers and outstanding talent in technology for the benefit of society.

Each year the Academy selects exceptional policymakers to become Policy Fellows. This intensive development programme builds stronger connections between policymakers and the technical community in support of better evidence-based policymaking.

We welcome applications from policymakers with a variety of insights, expertise and backgrounds from across the policy community.

NOTE: In light of COVID-19, we have adapted this programme so it can be delivered online, without compromising on the quality of engineering input and expertise.
Policy Fellowship Programme

Core Programme Month 1-4

Kick-off workshop & social:
An interactive online seminar, where you can share your policy challenges, meet your peers and explore how to apply systems approaches to policy.

One-to-one meetings:
Connect with up to twelve leaders in engineering, through a series of tailored one-to-one video calls, which have been matched to your policy challenge.

Knowledge sharing:
Publish your insights and share your experiences and reflections e.g. via a blog post

Reporting workshop:
Share your learning experiences with peers through an interactive online seminar.

Engineering policy panel:
An online event to explore how engineering thinking and expertise can be applied to policymaking, with guest speakers and alumni.

Alumni Programme Month 5+

Mentoring:
Strengthen your links with the engineering community through a unique mentoring opportunity with world leading engineers.

Events:
Regular access to a mixed programme of online and onsite activities, including engineering policy breakfasts, deep-dives into systems approaches, workshops and roundtables.

Alumni network:
Join with peers to nurture and grow a talented alumni network to foster stronger links between government and engineering.

Academy networks:
Expand your professional networks, and strengthen your evidence base, with special access to Academy's network of leaders and a selection of exclusive events.

Engineering policy work:
Influence and shape live policy work undertaken by the National Engineering Policy Centre (NEPC).
### Benefits of becoming a Policy Fellow

Policymakers confront increasingly complex and connected challenges, often with a strong technical element. The Policy Fellowships programme equips policymakers to meet those challenges in three ways:

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<th>Better policy</th>
<th>Networking</th>
<th>CPD</th>
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<td>• Identify blind-spots and make rapid progress through your policy challenge.</td>
<td>• Expand your personal network with our community of innovators and leaders.</td>
<td>• Learn how engineers solve problems and use techniques such as systems thinking.</td>
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<td>• Test different approaches to problem solving.</td>
<td>• Engage with and influence the work of the Academy and its partners.</td>
<td>• Leverage advice and support from the technical community</td>
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<td>• Source new insights to support your evidence base.</td>
<td>• Build contacts to support your future public policy challenges.</td>
<td>• Benefit from mentoring and engineering advice to rapidly develop your knowledge and skills.</td>
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<td>• Share and apply learning with your team and organisation.</td>
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### Who should apply

Successful Policy Fellows are senior civil servants or public servants with responsibility for policy design in any sector. The Academy is committed to diversity and inclusion, and we welcome applications from across the policy community, from a range of backgrounds for example: economics, politics, sociology, planning, science or engineering.

### How to apply

Policy Fellows are selected as part of a competitive process on the strength of their application. Successful Policy Fellows will have:

- A well-defined policy problem or technical challenge.
- Clear expectations for how they intend to apply their learning within their organisation.
- A commitment to play an active role as a Policy Fellow and future alumni of the programme.

Applications are reviewed on a rolling basis, and selected Policy Fellows will join the next available cohort, which typically run in January, May and September.

For more information, please visit: [www.raeng.org.uk/policyfellowships](http://www.raeng.org.uk/policyfellowships) or email policyfellowships@raeng.org.uk
“I was blown away by the quality of the experts I was able to share my challenges with... Their openness to help identify and talk through new ideas has been invaluable.”
Louise Owen
Head of Science and Technology, Home Office, Royal Academy of Engineering Policy Fellow

“I got so much from my Policy Fellowship... It really helped me solve a particular knotty policy challenge. It provided me with generous access to a set of experts, which allowed me to work through my team’s ideas and tap into their years of experience... It gave us a completely different perspective that we would not have otherwise had.”
Alex Holmes
Formerly DCMS, now Amazon Global Business Development, Royal Academy of Engineering Policy Fellow

Policy challenge:

- What lessons can be learnt about the analysis of infrastructure risks and resilience from the management of complex systems in sectors such as oil and gas or aerospace, or from the insurance sector?
- How does government develop a system-of-systems approach to identifying and analysing the costs and benefits of resilience measures across interdependent infrastructure systems comprised of energy, water/environmental, digital and transport systems?

Matt was matched with 13 leaders in engineering, from senior executives and innovators in defence, transports, energy storage and oil and gas industries, to expert practitioners in systems thinking, hydrology and flood forecasting, and climate change mitigation and low carbon economy.