



## Invitation to tender for a small-scale study on evidence for policy making in a 'post-truth' environment

The Governance and Public Policy Research Priority Area (GaPP) is launching a programme of work to commence in April 2019 and run to 2020 that, in addition to providing research evidence to help shape the strategy of the new Institute for Policy and Engagement, will generate original high quality research that will be presented at an international conference in Nottingham in 2020.

The focus of this research will be understanding engagement between academics and policy makers in an anti-science, post-truth environment. How in this context is the evidence-base formed for policy making?

The first stage of the work programme will run from April to the end of July 2019. The aim of this first stage is to identify an agenda and themes for the conference in 2020. To achieve this GaPP proposes to fund two studies. Both studies will be comprised of a state of the art literature review and interviews with key informants.

The research questions to be addressed are:

Study 1) How do policymakers evaluate the credibility of evidence in a post-truth age?

Study 2) Do policy influencers assess the quality of evidence they put into the public domain/present to government?

The approach will be for an academic member of staff to supervise either a current PGR student or a student who has recently been awarded their doctorate to carry out the study. The deliverable for each project is a report of circa 10,000 words based on the review of the current state of the art of the literature and 6-8 interviews.

For each project a maximum of 32 days (232 hours @ £16.07 (£14.34 + £1.73 holiday pay)\* per hour is offered plus reasonable travel and subsistence expenses. The working pattern is negotiable but the work must be complete, the report delivered and all pay and expenses claims submitted by 31 July 2019.

The two teams selected to undertake the studies will be able to work closely with the Institute for Policy and Engagement to identify and access policy makers and policy influencers in Whitehall.

*\* £18.07 (£16.12 + £1.95 holiday pay) per hour for postdoctoral researchers*

**If you have a suitable current or recently graduated doctoral student and would like to bid for one of the two studies please email [simon.roberts@nottingham.ac.uk](mailto:simon.roberts@nottingham.ac.uk) by Friday 12 April 2019 with Supervisor and PhD/Post Doc's names, which study you wish to carry out and half a page about your proposed approach.**