



# Data Fellowship Project 2024

Centre for Local Economic Strategies – Economic Mapping:  
Bridging data and policy for regional and local transformation

## Organisation and Team

CLES – Research and Analysis

## Application Criteria

### Essential:

- Proficiency in the analysis of quantitative data arising from multiple sources of insight.
- Advanced Microsoft Excel skills.

### Desirable:

- An interest in putting theory into practice and applying learning to a real-world problem.
- An interest in regional and local governance and policymaking.
- Knowledge of data analytics and visualization tools such as SQL, R, Python, Power BI.

## Project Outline

This project will involve addressing issues of national, regional, and local importance, contributing to a project aimed at generating tangible outcomes. The specific project will be tailored to the fellow's skills and interests.

General tasks may include:

- Formulating a precise research question with accessible data.
- Collaborating with the CLES team to pinpoint pertinent data sources and enhance existing literature reviews.
- Conducting primary and secondary research to compile relevant datasets.
- Analysing collected data to derive insights and conclusions.

Types of data analysis at CLES:

- Descriptive statistics (e.g. wealth and income inequalities).
- Mapping the economy (e.g. regional GVA, employment).
- Spend analysis (e.g. local authority procurement spend).
- Dashboards (e.g. showing wealth inequality by region).

Data sources:

- Anchor data (e.g. NHS Trusts, local/combined authorities)
- Firm level data (e.g. SMEs, social enterprises)
- ONS – e.g., employment statistics

Note: Although this is a quantitative role, there are mixed method elements, and it is expected that there will be some qualitative work involved too.



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## Practical Considerations

The work will be carried out in a hybrid manner, with options for both office and remote working but you would be expected in the office 2 days minimum.

CLES operates on a four-day workweek from Monday to Thursday, with team members working 30 hours but being paid for 37.5 hours, the fellow would be expected to adhere to this format.

## Support and Training

The fellow will be allocated a dedicated line manager or mentor who will provide ongoing guidance, support, and feedback throughout their fellowship. This individual will serve as a reliable point of contact for addressing questions, concerns, and professional development needs.

CLES will ensure the fellow's full integration into the team dynamics by including them in relevant meetings, discussions, and events.

The fellow will be actively encouraged to participate in both internal and external events relevant to their role and interests. Additionally, they will have continued access to CLES training sessions conducted throughout the fellowship period.

## Selection Method

In person interviews held at the University of Manchester

## Supporting Information

CLES is the organisation for local economies. Established in 1986, we are a Manchester-based thinktank, with charitable status. Our work focuses on inclusive local economic development and includes events, workshops, training, research, and economic analysis. We work with people across the UK, Ireland and beyond, including national governments, councils, the third sector, health organisations and many other partners. We have an international reputation for our pioneering work on community wealth building and are the lead organisation for the movement in the UK.

Find out more about CLES's mission, values, aims and objectives at <http://www.cles.org.uk>.

Reading to pursue ahead of the interview:

On community wealth building:

- [The story in Preston](#)
- [The history of CWB more generally](#)

For some short snappy opinion pieces:

- [Economic growth](#)
- [Local economic change](#)

Longer pieces:

- [A light in the dark](#)
- [Healthy places](#)