This Summer I participated in a Q-Step internship as a Data analyist for my host organisation, The Northern Powerhouse Partnership. NPP is a business-led think tank representing the voices of business and civic leaders across the north of England.

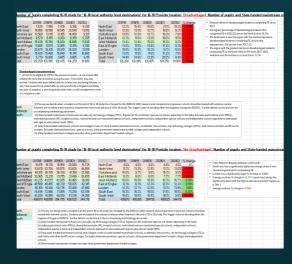


The photo above is of NPP's Net Zero Report launch as forgemasters in Sheffield. It was an great ooportuiny to meet policitcal leaders such as Oliver Coppard (Mayor of South Yorkshire) and Anne Handley. The Net Zero report was written prior to my internship, but I was able to help work the event.



NPP collaborates with the public and private sectors to advocate for increased investment and broader devolution throughout the north.

Although originally set out as an economic project, NPP's ambition of transforming the northern economy is shared by companies, mayors, local politicians, and universities rather than being a central government economic policy. During my 8 weeks at NPP, I worked on a research project centred around



further education. Although we did not have a clear vision of what we were looking to discover, this project was primarily data-driven, in



which we allowed the data to guide us. This included searching data plavgrounds, The OECD data

sets, and most frequently the govern-

ment website. The Data Set I looked into most was the enrollment rates across regions for further education. This included specifics like whether students were going into apprenticeships, vocational courses, or A-Levels and B-TECs. Other Variables included whether these students were of disadvantaged/ NON-disadvantaged status, Sex, ethnicity, etc.

The Excel Sheet to the left shows the number of non-disadvantaged/ disadvantaged students completing FE across regions. This was one of the first pieces of work I completed during my tenure.

As NPP operates across the north, they have a primarily work-from-home structure, with monthly in-office meetings in any of NPP's offices. So although many of my days working looked like the image to the left, in which I would take my laptop and work from my local park, some of them also included visiting office buildings like Arcadis in Manchester and Addleshaw Goddard in Leeds.



worked with NPP on their further education report.

Adapting from university to 9-5 life was tricky but I found the structure helped

> me manage my mental health in a positive way. As a history and politics student, raised in Bradford, this work is not only intellectually motivating but also personal.

Through my Q-Step experience, I've learned that although data research probably isn't the career for me, I've found a plethora of careers during my internship. After questioning my colleagues, I think I would thrive in a communications role, such as public affairs/ public relations in the political sphere. Overall, I had a lovely summer working on such a worthy cause and I feel very grateful to have

