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The University of Manchester

Policy@Manchester

GM POLICY HUB

GM Policy Hub update February 2025

2025 GM Policy Fellows

We are delighted to welcome ten new fellows to the GM Policy Fellowship Scheme. This year's fellows come from across local, regional and national government, and their fellowships will help policy decision-makers to connect with world-class research from The University of Manchester.

Our Academic Co-Director Professor Cecilia Wong said: *“Last year’s fellows were fantastic. It was a brand new venture for the University but it exceeded all our expectations. Reflecting that success, we have doubled the number of fellows this year but the quality of applicant is every bit as high. I wish them well as they get fully immersed in the multitude of experiences and academic expertise that The University of Manchester is renowned for.”*

[Meet this year's fellows](#)





Manchester HDRC

Manchester is putting communities at the heart of policy to improve health outcomes in the city following a successful bid to establish a Health Determinants Research Collaboration (HDRC). This collaboration between the Council, University of Manchester researchers (led by Policy@Manchester Academic Co-Director Professor Arpana Verma), and partner organisations aims to better understand the factors affecting health inequalities, increase research capacity and use evidence to inform future policy.

Councillor Tom Robinson, Executive Member for Healthy Manchester, welcomed the announcement, saying: *“This is a wonderful opportunity for Manchester to lead the way in tackling health inequalities by ensuring that local people’s voices are at the heart of shaping policy. [...] This collaboration allows us to continue to shape the future of health and wellbeing in our city.”*

[Find out more](#)

Inclusive environmental policy seminar | 19 March

Behaviour change is central to discussions about achieving net zero and encouraging the adoption of the sustainable practices needed to get there. However, there are limits to focusing on individual behaviour change with a 'one-size-fits-all' approach, and it is essential that decision-makers take social and cultural differences seriously.

Join us on Wednesday 19 March at 1pm to discuss how environmental policy and action can take a place-based approach that works for all communities within an area and moves away from views that some people are 'hard to reach'.

Speakers:

- Sherilyn MacGregor, Professor of Environmental Politics
- Liz Atherton, Climate Action Now Programme Manager, Stockport Council
- Chaired by Professor Cecilia Wong, Policy@Manchester Academic Co-Director and Professor of Spatial Planning

[Find out more and register](#)



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