

# NUFFIELD COUNCIL <sup>ON</sup> BIOETHICS

## Invitation to Tender

### Environment, Health & Ethics Literature Review

March 2024

**Title of Request:** Environment, Health & Ethics Literature Review.

**Commissioning body:** Nuffield Council on Bioethics.

**Duration:** 8 weeks.

**Key Dates:**

- Closing date for applications: **5pm, Thursday 30 May 2024**
- Expected start date: **Thursday 6 June 2024**
- Deadline for final submission: **Thursday 1 August 2024**

**Fee:** £8,500 (inclusive of VAT).

## Project overview and background

The 'environment and health' is a priority area for the Nuffield Council on Bioethics (NCOB), as set out in our [new strategy](#). Within this priority area, we are focussing on how ethics can support policy and practice addressing climate change and health.

A recent 2023 landscape review identified that the intersection between ethics, climate change and health is 'fragmented, unfocussed and underdeveloped.'<sup>1</sup> The review also noted that there is a gap in the ethics commentary on the environment and health.

To address this gap, and to inform our work, we want to identify ethical approaches across different disciplines active at the intersection between climate change, the environment and health. This will enable us to better understand how to embed ethics in health-focused responses to climate change across the UK.

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<sup>1</sup> Sheather J, Littler K, Singh J and Wright K (2023) Ethics, Climate Change and Health – A Landscape Review, Wellcome Open Research. Accessed at: <https://wellcomeopenresearch.org/articles/8-343>.

For the purposes of our work health is multi-species focused. We are not just interested in human health and are interested in the health of the non-human world, including animals, plants and other species.

## **The literature review**

This literature review aims to identify and summarise ethical issues arising at the intersection between climate change, the environment and health. Although there is limited ethics commentary on the 'environment and health' together, there are a number of established ethical approaches that learnings could be taken from. These include, but are not limited to, bioethics, public health ethics, One Health, planetary health, animal rights ethics, indigenous ethics, environmental ethics and relevant human rights approaches. We are interested in bringing together different disciplines to ensure that we are not working in a silo. We are particularly interested in identifying how ethics are framed in relevant areas, what they have in common and where they diverge.

This will build on our previous 2023 publication, '[Health, Climate Change and Ethics: An Overview](#).' This report focused primarily on justice, solidarity, intergenerational justice and extending moral concern to the non-human world.

This new literature review will inform a short report for policymakers and other audiences to support ethically informed policy making in climate change, the environment and health.

### *The scope:*

The literature review should address the following question:

- What ethical approaches arising at the intersection between climate change, the environment and health can help inform policy and practice addressing climate change and health?

The following sub-questions should also be explored:

- What do these ethical approaches have in common?
- Where do these ethical approaches diverge, or conflict?

### *The output:*

The literature review should be concise and limited to between 7000-10,000 words (excluding references). The review should include the following:

- A short (1-page) summary of the review at the start of the document
- Analysis of the quality of evidence and identification of any gaps in the literature
- An overview of the literature

The review will be published on the NCOB's website and should be written as accessible as possible for a broad audience. The published review will be appropriately credited to the author(s).

#### *Sources of information:*

We expect most of the reviewed literature to be written in English. However, effort should be made to include a diverse range of sources, that represents relevant ethical approaches globally.

### **Timescale**

We would like this legal and regulatory overview to be completed within 8 weeks, with some, but limited flexibility.

We anticipate the work will involve:

- Undertaking the research
- Drafting iterative draft versions of the output to share with the NCOB
- Liaising with NCOB staff to ensure that relevant information is included and organised appropriately (this may include weekly meetings with staff)
- Delivering a final output

If your application is accepted, we would anticipate the following milestones:

- Week 1: The literature reviewer will prepare a proposal on the approach to the work, and the NCOB will provide feedback and approve the proposal
- Week 2: Literature reviewer to commence research
- Weeks 2-4: Iterative meetings between the literature reviewer and the NCOB
- Week 4: Literature reviewer to deliver the first draft to the NCOB
- Weeks 4-6: Iterative meetings between the literature reviewer and the NCOB
- Week 6: Literature reviewer to deliver the second draft of the review
- Week 8: Literature reviewer to deliver the final draft of the review

### **Applications:**

Applications should come from self-motivated individuals with relevant expertise and a strong and demonstrable interest in ethical issues at the intersection between climate change, the environment and health.

Applications should contain the following as a minimum:

- Your CV
- A cover letter (no more than one page explaining your interest in and suitability for this position)

- A proposal setting out how the literature review will be carried out
- A sample of recent, relevant work (this should be an existing piece of work but need not have been published) and
- Names of two referees (we won't contact them without telling you first)

Skills and qualifications required:

- A relevant degree. PhD students, post-doctoral researchers, or individuals with equivalent relevant work experience are particularly encouraged to apply
- Research skills, particularly desk-based research
- An ability to write clearly and concisely

Applications and questions about the brief in advance of application should be directed to Maili Raven-Adams, Researcher, at [mraven-adams@nuffieldbioethics.org](mailto:mraven-adams@nuffieldbioethics.org)

The deadline for applications is **Thursday 30 May 2024**.

**There will not be interviews for this application process, but we may hold informal conversations with applicants to discuss the commission.**