Title of Request: Environment & Health Law and Regulatory Overview.

Commissioning body: Nuffield Council on Bioethics.

Duration: 6 weeks.

Key Dates (extended):
- Closing date for applications: 5pm, Monday 10 June 2024
- Expected start date: Monday 17 June 2024
- Deadline for final submission: Monday 8 August 2024

Fee: £5,000 (inclusive of VAT).

Project overview and background

The ‘environment and health’ 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.

As part of this work, we want to identify the current (national and international) law and regulations that apply to the UK (including the devolved nations) in relation to climate change, the environment and health.

The legal and regulatory overview

This legal and regulatory overview aims to create a comprehensive map of law and regulation that govern climate change, the environment and health in the UK. This is to identify what legal obligations exist and in relation to which duty bearers, such as governments, public bodies and others.

The overview could also identify policy relevant to climate change, the environment and health, acknowledging this would be less comprehensive.
This work will inform a short report for policymakers and other audiences exploring the regulatory landscape of climate change, the environment and health, the contextual background of this area and demonstrating how ethics can support practical responses to climate change, the environment and health.

For the purpose of our work in this area health is multi-species focused. We are not limiting our focus to human health and are interested in how regulation might apply to the non-human world (through a multispecies lens), including animals, plants and other organisms.

The scope:

The overview should be concise and include the following:

- Law and regulation applying to the UK (including the devolved nations) from national and international sources relating to climate change, the environment and health.
- A short summary of each of the laws and regulation identified.

Regulation includes sector-specific binding documents.

The output:

The findings from the review would be included within a report published on the NCOB’s website. The overview will be appropriately credited to the author(s).

The overview should be brief, concise and written as accessibly as possible. We expect that this will be presented as a stand-alone legal and regulatory overview within our report, rather than the overview being integrated into the report itself.

As well as a narrative text describing and explaining the legal and regulatory context, we would like to develop a visual representation to help readers understand the landscape. This visual could be co-developed with the NCOB.

Timescale

We would like this legal and regulatory overview to be completed within 6 weeks, with some, but limited flexibility.

We anticipate the work will involve:

- Undertaking the research.
- Drafting iterative version 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.
Applications:

Applications should come from self-motivated individuals with relevant expertise.

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
- A good understanding of the legal and regulatory landscape

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

The deadline for applications has been extended to Monday 10 June 2024.

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