



Fund research that answers only to the evidence.

Empowering the next generation of policy leaders
through completely independent, non-partisan student
think tanks.





WHY GIVE

Research with no strings

Independent, non-partisan policy research is a public good, and students produce a great deal of it — if they have the time, training and means to publish.

Your gift funds that work directly, while our model keeps it genuinely independent of the people who pay for it. Philanthropic gifts pay for bursaries, training, events and publication — never for influence.

Support student researchers

The Fellowship Network is a community of supporters who believe in the power of student-led research. By joining, you directly enable students across the UK to access the training, resources, and platforms they need to shape national policy discussions, while gaining exclusive access to our network of emerging talent.

£250+ Annual Gift

Join an involved track of individual donors contributing directly to the broader mission of student-led policy research across the United Kingdom.

Speaker & Mentor Database

Inclusion in a dedicated directory that our student think tanks access directly for guest speakers, professional advice, and mentorship opportunities.

Networking Dinner

Receive an exclusive invitation to our yearly networking dinner, connecting you with Trust alumni, fellow partners, and current leading student researchers.

Social Impact

Your contribution directly strengthens the long-term legacy and financial viability of independent student policy research, ensuring future talent is discovered.

Case Study: Leeds Policy Institute

Leeds Policy Institute (LPI) is a UK-based, student-led think tank affiliated with Leeds University Union. Founded in 2023, it demonstrates the massive potential of student-led policy research when given the right platform.

Our mission is to engage the student body in meaningful and rigorous policy discourse. We do this through the publication of annual flagship research reports, policy briefs, and student-authored opinion pieces. In addition to our written output, we host regular speaker panels and events that bring together professionals and thought leaders.

LPI aims to create an inclusive and intellectually vibrant space for students to explore policy and political issues. We empower students by encouraging critical engagement, providing opportunities to build marketable skills such as data collection and policy analysis, and fostering an open environment for debate.

Operational Overview

- Publishes 6 yearly flagship research reports and policy briefs.
- Conducts empirical research across distinct policy areas.
- Hosts regular speaker panels with political and policy professionals.

Leeds Policy Institute is overseen by an elected student committee responsible for the day-to-day management of the organisation and implementation of its strategic vision. To support the integrity and accuracy of our research, LPI employs an Academic Advisory Council consisting of experts and professors based at the University of Leeds who review our yearly publications.

Key Achievements

Media Reach

Featured in major national publications and broadcasters, including the Financial Times and the BBC.

Readership

Attracts a substantial public audience of over 8,400 yearly website sessions.

Alumni Success

Alumni have gone on to work at Amazon, Barclays, King's College London, and the Civil Service.

YOUR GIFT, THEIR INDEPENDENCE

Ethical Funding

You may restrict a gift to a specific think tank. What a donor can never do is direct, preview or influence the research itself.

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*You can choose the cause, never the conclusion.
Our non-influence rules apply equally to all gifts.*

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No Donor Influence

No donor may attempt to influence the content, methodology, or conclusions of funded research. You cannot request access to research before its formal public release.

Excluded Sources

We strictly decline funding from fossil fuels, gambling, tobacco, alcohol manufacture, weapons & defence, and political parties to protect the Trust's public confidence.

Proportionate Checks

We run standard Know Your Donor checks for gifts under £1,000, and enhanced reputational and legitimate-source checks for larger, anonymous, or overseas gifts.

Transparency

We publish an Annual Transparency Report. To respect the privacy of our supporters, individual donor names remain strictly confidential and are never published.



Get Started Today

Register Your Interest

To discuss a strategic grant or join the Fellowship Network, visit nspt.org.uk/contact and we will arrange a call.

This brochure is provided for informational purposes. The Trust is currently awaiting Charity Commission registration. Contact details shown are placeholders pending the securing of official mailing suites.

