



<b>Company / Organisation Name:</b>	Barbour ABI
<b>Team / Department:</b>	Economics Team
<b>Address:</b>	Hinderton Point, Lloyd Drive, Ellesmere Port. CH65 9HQ

**Provisional title for project:**

Has the lag between Construction New Orders and Output significantly changed ?

**Short description of the problem that would be addressed by the project:**

Improving the understanding of new orders in the construction industry and the gap between new orders and output.

Working alongside Barbour ABI and the Office of National Statistics and their data sets, an investigation into whether the current distributed lags between New Orders and Output are still relevant

- Currently the ONS use distributed lags to to assess New orders of a measure of when construction output occurs. These vary across the different sectors and also the different funding measures (public v private).
- Output measures the value of work that has already taken place within the construction industry ; New Orders estimates provides a forward looking snapshot of potential future activity
- Using Barbour ABI extensive database assess how projects have changed across time, looking at changes to start date, durations, and respective reasons across the various sectors the construction projects
- Display visually how regional lags may differ across the UK (access to skilled labour, materials etc)
- Why is there a difference between public and private models
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**Short description of the data sources that would be used in the project, and how they would be used**

- **Barbour ABI in house data** – Barbour ABI collects 100% of planning applications and makes over a million calls a year to report on every building project across the UK. We find out what's being built, when its being built and who is building it. We cover both private and publicly funded projects. Approx 1million projects per annum in database. All data is geo-spatial
- **Office of National Statistics** – Barbour ABI provide the ONS with the construction new orders data which is a national statistic. Other data sets from ONS would include Construction Output and Pricing Data
- **Previous ONS Investigations**
- **Various other publicly available data sets**

**Would any work by the student need to be carried out on site at the Company (with the exception of supervisory Meetings)?**

Student can work remotely on this project, Office will always be open for student to attend when they wish, and also guidance and training with data also available for duration of project

**Any issues of data confidentiality and IPR that would need to be resolved**

As with previous projects, data will be provided under an agreement to allow use and publication to complete this project. Any wider release requires prior approval from Barbour ABI. Previous students have already used our data within CDRC

**Essential skills**

Strong Analytical skills, geo-spatial knowledge.

**Desirable skills**

**Preferred degree programmes (if any)**

Ideally suited to economics, geography or mathematical student but not limited to

**Preferred selection method**

**Support and training offered by the company**

Access to Economics and research team including Chief Economist, Chief Analyst and GIS Data Scientist  
Named Mentor for project  
Free to use Barbour ABI office whenever they require

**Financial assistance offered by the company**

£500 bursary

**Any other comments**

If there are any questions about the 2023 programme, please contact Richard Arnold at [richard.arnold@ucl.ac.uk](mailto:richard.arnold@ucl.ac.uk)