

Cambridge Judge Business School

MPHil in Technology Policy Final Group Project (FGP)

FGP CLIENT BRIEFING NOTES

2027



UNIVERSITY OF
CAMBRIDGE
Judge Business School

1. The Project

The Final Group Project (FGP) is an educational collaboration between a client organisation and Cambridge Judge Business School and is intended to be the capstone of the Cambridge MPhil in Technology Policy. For our students this is an important opportunity to operationalise the new ideas they have encountered on the MPhil.

Our clients benefit from an international team of bright, motivated and committed young professionals who are able to bring their considerable skills and experience to bear on a real technology policy issue that can provide tangible benefits to the client organisation.

The students are highly capable graduates with backgrounds in quantitative disciplines such as engineering and science. Many will have advanced degrees in other disciplines and may also have extensive employment experience in technology-based organisations in both the private and public sectors.

Clients meet all project expenses, but unlike other business schools we do not charge a fee for the project. As such we hope that clients will endeavour to provide substantial projects that touch on some of the key challenges faced by technology-intensive organisations today.

2. When does the project take place?

The students work on the FGP in teams of between 3 to 5 students primarily from **19 March-4 June 2027**.

Students are expected to be taking 2 short but intensive courses during Easter term and finishing coursework during their Easter Vacation, so you can expect about 150 project days from the team.

The final deliverables are a presentation to the client and academic supervisor of the findings and recommendations, which should be held by **4 June 2027**, together with a 12,000-word consulting project report, which the student team is required to submit to the Cambridge Judge Business School and client by **7 June 2027**.

Organisations wishing to participate should submit a proposal no later than **11 January 2027**.

Organisations will be notified no later than **29 January 2027** whether we have been successful in securing a team for their proposal. The student team will then work with their client over the next month to develop and refine the project brief and create a project plan.

3. What type of projects are possible?

The project may cover any aspect of technology policy broadly defined, which includes public policy, corporate strategy and technology development. The client organisation may be located in any commercial, industrial, public sector or not-for-profit organisation, either in the UK or overseas. Projects can include complete strategic reviews, benchmarking and best practice analysis, diversification assessments, new market strategies and policy analyses.

We draw on a truly global network of organisations, clients can include government departments, major multinationals, smaller technology firms, commercial and development banks, consultancies, charities, and NGOs.

The project can be conducted remotely but must involve some direct contact with the client organisation and other relevant stakeholders. The nature of this contact will vary from one project to the next.

4. Submitting your proposal

Proposals can come in many different forms and expectations of what the students can deliver vary enormously. As part of your project submission, we ask you to articulate why you would find the input of a team of MPhil students to be valuable.

Students who wish to initiate their own projects are encouraged to do so. In other cases, proposals will be submitted by organisations to the MPhil in Technology Policy Project office without having made contact with a specific group of students.

We ask that you submit your proposal using the attached Proposal Form or use the online form on our MPhil in Technology Policy Final Group Project (FGP) website:

www.jbs.cam.ac.uk/recruiters-organisations/student-projects/mphil-in-technology-policy-final-group-project/

We will invariably receive more proposals than we can use, so cannot guarantee that all submissions will be taken up, however we will do our best to accommodate you.

5. Getting started

Once submitted, suitable proposals will be put to the students. Teams are formed based on preferences for projects, aspects of team dynamics, diversity, and the relevant skills for the project.

Once a team has been assigned, the members will get in touch with you in early February to introduce themselves and to start work with you on developing the project plan (Project Initiation Document (PID)).

An important part of the students learning on the FGP is the development of the PID. We will provide the students with a standard Project Initiation Document (PID) template to facilitate this.

We encourage students to focus on one over-arching question and expect them to work with you to develop your proposal into a manageable brief.

During your discussions with the team in February, you should discuss your aims and expectations, so all are agreed on the parameters of the work, where it is to be conducted, the timetable, and interim and final deliverables. This discussion should include consideration of the resources available to the group – contacts, data sets, facilities etc. It should also cover the type of research necessary to fulfil the objectives of the project – primary or secondary mix – and where the primary data or sample frame will come from.

A list of databases and industry information available to CJBS students is available here:

www.jbs.cam.ac.uk/infolib

Please ensure you are able to provide all other relevant data or confirm where students can easily access the information when submitting your proposal to enable the project to proceed effectively.

Based on your discussions, the student team will draw up the PID, which all parties will sign off. The aim is to create a brief that both answers a real need and makes the best possible use of the individual team members own specialist skills and experience.

A final PID, with full project plan should be signed off by all parties **by 12:00 noon on 9 March 2027**.

The consultancy advice of the MPhil in Technology Policy students is offered to the client organisations in good faith and free of charge (beyond expenses). No liability for any errors, omissions or consequential problems can be assumed by the University or its students. Organisations are advised to conduct their own independent assessments before implementing any suggestions made by the MPhil in Technology Policy students.

6. Supervision

For each project, academic supervisors are arranged, who will help and guide the student teams in their work.

7. Deliverables: Presentation and Report

Presentation:

The students will deliver a formal presentation of their findings and recommendations to their client and academic supervisor on a mutually agreed date during the final week of the project work. The students will normally deliver their final presentation at the Judge Business School in hybrid format. You are welcome to attend in person and are encouraged to invite other colleagues from your organisation to the presentation, as the students will benefit from a lively Q+A.

Please allow 90 minutes for delivery of the presentation. As a guide the students will spend 45 minutes presenting and 45 minutes on Q&A. Students should discuss with their client and academic supervisor preferred arrangements.

The presentation is a key deliverable which forms an important part of the assessment of the project, clients are required to please ensure their attendance.

Presentations are to be held no later than 4 June 2027.

Follow-up and feedback:

Following the presentation clients will be asked to provide formal feedback to the academic project supervisor on the performance of the students and the quality of their work and findings, including their professionalism and efficiency. A Client Company Assessment Form will be sent to you towards the end of the project. The completed form should be returned to the academic project supervisor. The academic supervisor will be formally responsible for marking the presentation, as part of the overall academic assessment of the project.

Project Report:

The students will deliver a final 12,000-word consulting project report to their client and Cambridge Judge Business School by **7 June 2027**.

8. Expenses

If your project is chosen, you are expected to meet all student expenses associated with the project, including travel, accommodation and subsistence, if applicable. You and the student team must agree in writing the expenses you are prepared to meet and include these in the PID. Although these may change, students should not incur expenses without your prior written approval.

9. Time commitment

Client organisations are required to allocate a named project sponsor, who will be available to the team throughout the project for advice and guidance. A committed project sponsor is, in our experience, essential to the success of the FGP and we are reluctant to work with clients unless an internal champion for the project is identified.

The time students spend on the project will obviously vary depending on its nature and scope. We recommend as a minimum establishing weekly update meetings to ensure that the project is on track and to identify early any outstanding issues or difficulties – this can be by email, video call, phone or in person.

10. Confidentiality

All students sign our standard Cambridge Judge Business School Confidentiality Agreement in which they agree to keep confidential all information that is shared as part of the MPhil in Technology Policy Final Group Projects (FGP).

Students are expected to abide by ethical guidelines in the consultancy projects and for this reason are required to identify themselves and their client company when seeking to obtain information from third parties.

Attached please find a copy of the Confidentiality Agreement together with a copy of our Project Terms for clients. We ask you to confirm acceptance of these terms when you submit your proposal.

11. Key dates

11 January 2027 (17:00)	Final date to submit client proposals to Cambridge Judge Business School
29 January 2027	Confirmation of projects
February 2027	Team, client and academic supervisor develop Project Initiation Document (PID)
9 March 2027 (12:00 noon)	Sign off Project Initiation Document (PID)
19 March – 4 June 2027	Students work on project with client and prepare and present their findings and recommendations
4 June 2027	Date by which final presentation to project clients must be held
7 June 2027	Project report submitted

For further information please contact:

Ms Juliet Wilson
MPhil Principal Projects Leader
MPhil in Technology Policy
Cambridge Judge Business School
Trumpington Street
Cambridge
CB2 1AG

Tel Direct: +44 (0)1223 760521

Reception: +44 (0)1223 339 700

Email: juliet.wilson@jbs.cam.ac.uk or mstmphilprojects@jbs.cam.ac.uk

Website: www.jbs.cam.ac.uk/recruiters-organisations/student-projects/mphil-in-technology-policy-final-group-project/

Cambridge Judge Business School
University of Cambridge
Trumpington Street
Cambridge
CB2 1AG
United Kingdom

T +44(0)1223 339700
F +44(0)1223 339701
enquiries@jbs.cam.ac.uk
www.jbs.cam.ac.uk

