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**RAC Foundation**

**Open Topic Project Brief (2020-21)**

**RAC Foundation Advisor for MSc Student:**

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| Ivo Wengraf  Research & Data Manager | Email: ivo.wengraf@racfoundation.org |

**RAC Foundation background:**

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| The RAC Foundation is a transport policy and research organization which explores the economic, mobility, safety and environmental issues relating to roads and their users. The Foundation published independent and authoritative research with which it promotes informed debate and advocates policy in the interest of the responsible motorist. |

**Project title:**

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| Open to proposals, project with a transport/motoring focus |

**Project description:**

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| This project offers the opportunity for a student to define and shape the scope of their research within the context of the RAC Foundation’s agenda and the wider transport sector. Students are encouraged to familiarise themselves with challenges relating to transport and ideally motoring in the UK.  **Questions provided by the RAC Foundation that can be developed into a project proposal include:**   * Are cities in the UK becoming less car dependent?   **Datasets provided by the RAC Foundation that can be developed into a project proposal include:**   * MOT database – this dataset can be retrieved from the DVSA MOT history API and contains MOT test history information for all vehicles in the UK going back to 2005/6. * HE breakdown data – geolocated, time-stamped incident descriptions. * Motorway traffic speeds/flow – per minute, or per 15 minute, speed/flow/count data for all motorways per section of motorway, along with changes to overhead signage. * STATS19 (including contributory factors) – STATS19 is a police spatial database of road crashes. Our access includes contributory factors (factors identified at the scene that may have contributed to the cause of a crash). * SCANNER/pothole data – these datasets are made up of HMDIF files that come from specific local highways authorities in England showing road condition data down to 10m sections of road. * Detailed wholesale and retail fuel price market data. |

**Deliverables:**

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| * Dissertation in full * Executive summary for policy and practitioner audience (with possible scope for media release) * Access and sharing of code on RACF GitHub |