Advocacy Research Network
Our project priorities

This document lays out some principles for how we prioritise our work.

The Advocacy Research Network (ARN) is committed to research for action, working with groups that are fighting for climate action, better public services, advocating for justice and promoting human rights.

In partnership with these groups, we want to make sure that we do research that will be used. Our researchers are volunteers with other commitments and limited time. To work effectively and protect our capacity, we assess projects based on:

A plan of action: Research requests should be clearly tied to a plan for how the information will be used and acted on. It's ok if you don't have a full campaign strategy mapped out yet!

A clear impact: When a project comes in, we consider its impact on wider community movement struggles. We are especially interested in projects that will produce useful data that can be used across movements, or actions that other groups can learn from. Ultimately, our aim is to build research infrastructure that will help workers, organisers, and activists everywhere be more strategic.

Feasibility: Sometimes the information you are looking for is heavily guarded or very difficult to find. Of course, some projects require speculative digging to see if the information can be found, so feel free to submit requests on that basis.

One project at a time: We only work on one project for each organisation / group at a time, except in urgent circumstances. We ask for feedback on how the information was used before taking on further projects from your group.

A range of issues: We want to effect change in multiple ways and lend a hand to a range of struggles, so if we are already working on lots of similar projects to the one you are proposing we might not take it on. However it's likely that our other projects will have the answer to the question you are asking and we can share the information with you!.