



**UK Research
and Innovation**

UK Research and Innovation

UKRI Cross research council responsive mode pilot scheme - round 2

Guidance for applicants and research organisations

**June 2024 – version 1.0
Round 2 Outline stage pre-announcement**



**UK Research
and Innovation**

This is a living document that will be updated at appropriate intervals. A version control will be provided on future versions. This version of the guidance was published as part of the pre-announcement of round 2. UKRI reserves the right to make necessary changes to the guidance before the outline stage opens. The next version is expected to be in September 2024, with the opening of the round 2 outline stage.

Please note that this guidance should be read in conjunction with details found on the UKRI funding finder for the round and stage you are applying for and the [UKRI Standard Grant Terms and Conditions](#).



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1. Introduction

The purpose of this guide is to outline the policies and procedures to follow when applying to round 2 of the UKRI cross research council responsive mode scheme in the [UKRI Funding Service](#). It accompanies the details published in the [UKRI Funding Finder](#) for the opportunity.

This guide does not outline how to use the UKRI Funding Service. Following this link for further details of [how applicants use the UKRI Funding Service](#).

1.1 UKRI cross research council responsive mode scheme

This guide is for applicants to [round 2 of the UKRI cross research council responsive mode pilot scheme](#) (CRCRM).

This pilot scheme is designed to support interdisciplinary ideas emerging from the research community outside current disciplinary boundaries. We will support projects that transcend, combine or significantly span disciplines, involving different knowledge and methodological spheres. This scheme will power innovative conceptual thinking and research, and novel methodological approaches, to ensure UKRI supports a rich and diverse array of blue skies and applied research.

We know how important existing responsive mode council schemes have been in supporting research and innovation with transformative outcomes for knowledge, economy and society. This scheme will help do the same for research that does not fit the remit of current research councils' responsive mode schemes, helping ensure there is space for the convergence and divergence of new ideas across all fields of research.

We are piloting this scheme over two rounds of funding, allowing us to assess demand, and test and refine our processes. This is round two of the pilot scheme. Round 1 was well received by the research community with nearly 1000 outline applications submitted. UKRI will be using what it learns from the pilot scheme to consider CRCRM funding opportunities as part of future government spending review processes.

1.2 Scheme objectives

This funding is to support interdisciplinary research, including to:

- unlock new research, new approaches or new methods that would not emerge from established disciplinary thinking
- demonstrate reciprocal research benefits through the involvement of distinct disciplinary perspectives and spheres of knowledge
- support breakthrough or disruptive ideas and collaborations
- incentivise new and unexpected types of interdisciplinary research not routinely funded through existing UKRI responsive mode schemes
- encourage speculative, early-stage and high potential interdisciplinary research proposals, embracing new concepts, techniques, or technologies



We are seeking:

- high quality, and creative ideas that transcend, combine or significantly span research council remits
- new, unexpected and novel projects that have the potential to lead to breakthrough ideas and collaborations
- research that can only be addressed through interdisciplinary collaboration
- projects combining disciplines to create new approaches to a research question, new methodologies or new ways of working
- reciprocity across the disciplines, with the disciplines involved being changed or transformed by working together
- projects that catalyse new interdisciplinary research through co-creation and design
- ideas with no clear 'lead' UKRI research council for responsive mode funding, including applications that significantly span two or more research council remits

We are not seeking:

- applications where there is a clear alternative research council responsive mode scheme (see below) including interdisciplinary research that fits within a single research council remit.
- projects where the programme of work appears siloed and where interdisciplinary research outcomes are limited, for example, where work packages are discreet and discipline specific rather than integrating disciplinary knowledge
- projects where there is an imbalance of the intellectual content, and some disciplines appear 'bolted' on

For further information about the scheme, please see the [scheme webpage](#).

1.3 Interdisciplinary research

For the purposes of this scheme, we are using the following definition of interdisciplinary from the [REF 2021 Interdisciplinary Advisory Panel final report](#):

“Interdisciplinary research is understood to achieve outcomes (including new approaches) that could not be achieved within the framework of a single discipline. Interdisciplinary research features significant interaction between two or more disciplines and / or moves beyond established disciplinary foundations in applying or integrating research approaches from other disciplines.”

Multidisciplinary research is not within the scope of this scheme. Transdisciplinary research is not within scope on its own but interdisciplinary research could also be considered transdisciplinary if it involves non-academic stakeholders. We have defined these terms as follows:

- multidisciplinary research is where researchers work independently within their disciplines and there is little or no integration of disciplines. Work packages are discrete and discipline specific rather than integrating disciplinary knowledge and can result in distinct outputs. Some disciplines are not included from the start and are not involved in the project framing or the research design. In cases like this there are clear asymmetries of leadership within the project due to the project objectives. In these cases, the project is considered as multidisciplinary



- transdisciplinary research has various definitions but is often defined as research that transgresses boundaries between disciplinary knowledge or integrates different bodies of knowledge and actively co-creates knowledge between academic and societal partners such as policy makers or business

1.4 Existing UKRI funding mechanisms for interdisciplinary research

The existing research council responsive mode schemes remain open for a wide range of interdisciplinary research applications, both within council boundaries and across council boundaries through the Cross-Council Remit Agreement. Further information about these existing schemes and research councils' remits can be found on the ['if your research spans different disciplines'](#) UKRI webpages.

You should consider carefully the degree to which your proposal meets the criteria set out for this scheme, or whether it could be accommodated through existing council-led responsive mode funding opportunities and submitted to a 'lead council' through the Cross-Council Remit Agreement. Interdisciplinary research applications that fall within a single research council boundary are ineligible for this scheme.

A small proportion of applications might be suitable for both this call and existing responsive mode schemes via the Cross-Council Remit Agreement. You must determine which scheme to make your submission to. Duplicate applications are not permitted.

1.5 Funding available

UKRI will invest a total of £65 million funding across two rounds of the UKRI cross research council responsive mode scheme. We anticipate making around 36 awards in each round. Academic-based applications are costed on the basis of Full Economic Costs (FEC).

The FEC of your project can be between £200,000 and £1.2 million, for up to two years. Exceptions to the £1.2 million cap will be allowed to enable use of specific UKRI facilities and should be requested at the outline stage and fully justified (see [section 5.1](#) for further details).

UKRI will fund 80% of the FEC (for exceptions see [section 4](#): Costs we fund).

1.6 Application stages

Applications to this scheme comprise of two stages:

- submission of an outline stage application
- invited submission of a full stage application

The timetable for both stages of round 2 is provided in [Annex 1](#).

The purpose of the outline stage is to identify and prioritise high potential ideas to progress to the full stage. Your application will be assessed against the scheme objectives and assessment criteria outlined in the opportunity when published. A more detailed assessment of your proposal will be undertaken at the full stage.



Full stage applications will not be accepted from any applicant who has not been invited to make a full application following the outline stage of this funding opportunity.

1.6.1 Changes between outline and full stage applications

Project co-leads or collaborators can be changed or added between the outline and full application stage with reasonable justification, however, please note that this funding opportunity is looking for co-creation and design of the proposal from all disciplines involved, and while project co-leads can be added at the full stage, UKRI encourages collaboration at project inception. If the project lead changes since submission of the outline stage application, please contact us, so that we can confirm eligibility to proceed with your full stage application.

2. Planning your application

2.1 Responsibilities of lead organisations

It is the responsibility of the lead organisations (organisation of the project lead) to ensure that all applicants are eligible for the scheme, following the eligibility rules for both UK and international applicants ([section 3.2](#)). Lead organisations should support applicants with their applications to ensure they are meeting the scheme objectives. Lead organisations should also support applicants with the submission of their application via the UKRI Funding Service, ensuring that approved applications are submitted to UKRI by the deadline. Late submissions, including the return of applications for amendment, are not permitted in the Funding Service, unless there were exceptional circumstances preventing the submission of the application.

By submission of an application, the lead organisation indicates:

- its formal acceptance of the application
- acceptance of the UKRI grant terms and conditions and any award-specific terms and conditions as specified on the award letter.
- the eligibility of the applicants and collaborating organisations.
- the approval of the salaries and resources sought.

2.1.1 Institutional caps for lead organisations

The UKRI cross research council responsive mode scheme is highly competitive, with nearly 1,000 applications submitted in round 1. An increase in submissions in round 2 would exceed the assessment capacity of the Interdisciplinary Assessment College. To avoid this, and ensure that applications are assessed and administrated in a timely and effective manner, UKRI are introducing institutional caps for round 2. Organisations will be given a cap and are asked to prioritise their applications to submit within this allocation limit. The allocation numbers have been calculated based on submissions to the 2021 Research Excellence Framework (REF) with the number of CRCRM applications permitted related to the FTE staff numbers included within each organisation's REF submission (see table below). This aligns with approach taken by the Future Leaders Fellowship scheme.



Organisation caps apply to applications being led by their organisation; they do not constrain the ability of their staff to be involved in applications as project co-leads being led by other organisations.

REF Group	Number of FTE Staff submitted to the REF 2021	Number of ROs	Number of applications permitted for R2	Total applications	Cumulative applications
1	>2000	5	20	100	100
2	1400-1999	8	16	128	228
3	1000 - 1399	9	12	108	336
4	600-999	19	7	133	469
5	400-599	21	5	105	574
6	200-399	31	3	93	667
7	<200	77	2	154	821

The table in [Annex 2](#) includes all research organisations that submitted to the REF 2021 and to round 1 of the CRCRM scheme. Eligible organisations who did not submit to the REF, including NHS bodies, public sector research establishments and independent research organisations, are permitted to submit a maximum of 2 applications to this funding opportunity. If your organisation is not listed in the table, please contact the team at ukriirm@ukri.org to confirm your eligibility.

2.1.2 Inclusive selection process statement and supporting data

The UKRI cross research council responsive mode scheme supports the ambitions set out in both [UKRI strategy](#) and the [Government’s People and Culture strategy](#) to create an open and inclusive research and innovation culture that attracts a diversity of people to enhance UK research and innovation capabilities and boost productivity and growth. Solving the most complex research and innovation challenges requires a diversity of approaches, skills, and perspectives as this supports collaborative and creative problem-solving, fostering novel ideas and innovations. Research and Innovation outputs and impacts are strengthened when people with different expertise, experiences, approaches and ways of thinking work together.

UKRI recently commissioned the Careers Research and Advisory Centre (CRAC) to [review](#) the preparation and selection processes which have been undertaken in research and innovation organisations who have submitted applications to the UKRI Future Leaders Fellowships (FLF) scheme, a pan-UKRI scheme which has also introduced institutional caps per round. The review makes several recommendations which UKRI responded to in this [report](#).

Following the recommendations of the report, the FLF scheme, and now the CRCRM scheme, are collecting data on how lead organisations select applications for submission. As Higher Education Institutions have a responsibility under the Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED) to advance equality of opportunity, the collection and reporting of data at a scheme level will provide lead organisations with evidence to demonstrate compliance with this duty alongside providing insights into how effective their selection policies and procedures are. Data collection is an early and vital step in the process of designing



initiatives to tackle issues related to inequality, checking that an initiative is having the desired effects and making changes to an initiative, if required.

As part of the selection process for submissions to round 2 of the UKRI cross research council responsive mode scheme, lead organisations must provide a statement describing the inclusive process they used to identify and select the applications for submission. It should not include personal details of potential applicants nor any details that may enable them to be identified. The statement should be no more than 1000 words. Please refer to [Annex 3](#) for guidance on what to consider.

Lead organisations must also provide anonymised information on the number of prospective applications with details of the sex and gender, ethnicity and disability of the applicants and the broad interdisciplinary group of the application subject area (see [section 7.1](#) for details on how the scheme groups applications into “interface panels”). A summary of the data requested is provided in [Annex 4](#).

Lead organisations are required to complete both the statement form and data tables in the Excel template provided in the Additional Section of the [opportunity](#), and submit it to the Interdisciplinary Responsive Mode (IRM) team at ukrim@ukri.org by the opportunity deadline (**19 November 2024, at 4.00 pm UK time**). Research offices should consider how they will be selecting applications early and it is the lead organisation’s responsibility to ensure that applicants and research support staff have adequate time to work on their submissions.

Information provided will not be used in the assessment or outcome of this funding opportunity. Applications submitted by lead organisations that have not reported on this process will be rejected prior to panel assessment.

2.2 Resubmissions

If an application was unsuccessful at the outline stage of round 1 of this scheme, it can be resubmitted to round 2 subject to the selection of the application by the lead organisation for submission within the institutional cap on the number of applications.

For this scheme the same resubmission rules apply for applications that have been previously submitted to research council responsive mode opportunities. If your application has been unsuccessful after peer review assessment at full stage, you cannot resubmit your application to this scheme.

This means, if the application was invited through to the full stage of round 1 but was unsuccessful after panel assessment, it will not be eligible to resubmit the same application to round 2. This includes applications that met the quality threshold but were not awarded funding as part of the partial randomisation process (see [section 8](#) for more information on the allocation of funding). To be considered as a new submission, the application should overall represent a substantially different package of work, such as a different research idea, with different aims and objectives.



2.3 Responsibilities of applicants

2.3.1. Application submission

It is the responsibility of the applicant to ensure you apply to the correct funding opportunity and to submit your application with adequate time to allow your research organisation to complete the necessary checks and complete the final submission to us by 4 pm on the advertised closing date.

Late submissions, including the return of applications for amendment, are not permitted in the Funding Service, unless there were exceptional circumstances preventing the submission of the application.

2.3.2 Conditions of awarded grants

If successful in securing an award from the CRCRM scheme, [the UKRI terms and conditions for research grants](#) apply. Scheme specific terms and conditions also apply, which will be included in the Offer Letter for successful applicants. This includes engagement with UKRI on the evaluation of the pilot scheme, including any third-party provider commissioned by UKRI for this activity. Successful applicants will also be requested to attend 3 UKRI scheme events during the duration of the grant (see [section 4.1.2.3](#)).

We encourage applicants to hold discussions with their organisations early on to discuss eligibility and contracts in the event of the award. UKRI are unable to contribute to support discussions between applicants and organisations in regard to their contract of employment which includes salary and benefits.

We expect all funded researchers to adopt the highest achievable standards in the conduct of their research. This means exhibiting impeccable research integrity and following the principles of good research practice. The [Good research resource hub](#) on the UKRI website brings together policies, standards and guidance to support researchers and organisations.

As part of this, you must declare any private, personal or commercial interests relating to an application for funding to the research councils at application submission by contacting support@funding-service.ukri.org. Refer to our guidance for [examples of conflicts of interest](#) and to UKRI [declarations of interest policy and guidance](#).

2.3.3 Data management

UKRI expects you to make your research data openly available with as few restrictions as possible in a timely and responsible manner. The UKRI expectations for sharing and managing research data arising from your project are outlined on [Making your research data open](#) including:

- you should determine if, how and where your data should be shared based on good practice for the type(s) of research data that will be generated.



- refer to the [research council research data sharing policy\(s\) and guidance](#) most applicable to the type(s) of research data that will be generated from your research. These policies include best practice and preferred repositories for some types of data, for example the ESRC-supported UK Data Service and the NERC-supported Environmental Data Service.
- our [guidance on best practice in the management of research data](#), also provides general guidance about sharing and managing your research data in line with our common principles.
- UKRI's [Good Research Resource Hub](#) includes some external resources that you may also find helpful when deciding how to share and manage your research data.

UKRI supports costs associated with research data management and sharing. You should ensure costs for these activities are included in your funding application, including if you intend to use NERC's Environmental Data Service or the ESRC-supported UK Data Service. If you are considering using the Environmental Data Service, you can contact data@nerc.ukri.org for further information.

Some additional information on research data costs is provided in the [guidance on best practice in the management of research data](#). Guidance on costs may also be provided with the funding opportunity in Funding Finder.

3. Who can apply

3.1 Organisation eligibility

Research grants are open to UK organisations normally eligible for funding from the UKRI research councils, including:

- UK higher education providers
- research council institutes
- UKRI approved independent research organisations (IROs)
- public sector research establishments (PSREs)

For full details, visit [Eligibility of your organisation](#). If you are unsure, please contact the Interdisciplinary Responsive Mode (IRM) team at ukrirm@ukri.org for advice.

3.1.1 Organisations not eligible to apply

The following organisations are not eligible to apply to this scheme:

- research and technology organisations unless they are [listed as eligible](#)
- non-academic organisations, such as businesses, charities or other third-sector organisations that are not UKRI approved IROs or PSREs. These organisations can contribute as project partners (for more information see [section 3.2.3](#)).

Current co-funding arrangements via international lead agency agreements with individual research councils, do not apply to this pilot funding opportunity.



UKRI will make minimal checks on eligibility at the outline submission stage of this scheme (lead organisation only). It is the responsibility of the UK lead research organisation to check eligibility of all collaborating organisations (UK and international) and the eligibility of individuals for their proposed roles. Applications submitted with ineligible applicants could be at risk of being rejected at the full stage.

3.2 Person eligibility and grant roles

You can apply as an individual or team, from a single organisation or across a number of organisations. For teams with multiple organisations involved, the organisation of the project lead should submit the application, and it will count towards that lead organisation's allocation of applications that they are permitted to submit (see [section 2.1.1](#)).

UKRI has introduced new role types for funding opportunities being run on the new UKRI Funding Service.

For full details, visit [Eligibility as an individual](#). For a full description of all grant roles see the [guidance on role eligibility, responsibilities and costings](#).

You may be involved in any number of applications provided you have the capacity to meet these commitments. You may be the project lead on only one application to this round of the pilot scheme.

3.2.1 UK Project lead and Project co-lead eligibility

The project lead is the individual responsible for the intellectual leadership of the project and its overall management. If intellectual leadership is shared, the project lead is the individual who will be the main contact for UKRI.

The project co-lead (UK) assists the project lead in the management and leadership of the project and may deputise or take over the leadership of the project if required. There may be a number of project co-leads supporting the project lead. To be a project co-lead, you must be affiliated with one of the research organisations submitting the application.

You must meet all the following essential requirements:

- usually have at least a postgraduate degree, although we expect most applicants to have a PhD or equivalent
- be a researcher based in the UK and employed by an eligible research organisation. The exceptions to this are if:
 - your project will involve long periods in another country
 - you are located at an eligible international research organisation (for example, CERN or a Medical Research Council Overseas Unit)
 - you will be moving to the UK to take up an already agreed contract at an eligible organisation (the contract must not be dependent on the outcome of the application) and will remain resident in the UK for the duration of the proposed project.



- a contract of employment at lecturer level or equivalent that either:
 - extends to beyond the duration of the proposed grant (or, if not employed by the submitting organisation, a formal non-salaried arrangement that extends to beyond the duration of the proposed grant),
 - or an assurance from the submitting organisation that, if the proposal is successful, a pre-existing contract of employment (or pre-existing formal commitment to provide support if not employed at the organisation) at lecturer level or equivalent will be extended beyond the end date of the grant.

Researcher co-leads are also permitted as part of the core team if they have made a significant contribution to the design of the project and application.

3.2.2 International applicants

This funding opportunity is primarily to support interdisciplinary ideas emerging from the UK research community, but in specific circumstances we will allow international project co-leads.

A project co-lead (international) is an individual employed by a research organisation (RO) in an overseas country, who would otherwise fit the normal definition for a project co-lead. That is, they are a member of the project leadership and management team. However, a project co-lead (international) cannot take over the leadership of a project as they do not meet the residency criteria for a project lead.

To be a project co-lead (international):

- you would be expected to make a significant intellectual contribution to the design and conduct of the project
- your contribution and added value to the research collaboration should be clearly explained and justified in the application

3.2.2.1 International research organisations

International research organisations can receive funding for an international project co-lead. The UK research organisation which hosts the project lead will be responsible for the due diligence and confirming that the international research organisation and project co-lead meets the eligibility criteria.

The international research organisation would be expected to meet the general equivalent eligibility requirements for being eligible to [receive UKRI funding](#) taking into account the national context of the international research organisation. This means the international RO should meet the relevant equivalent criteria specified in the guidance applicable for:

- registered Higher Education Institutions (HEIs)
- research institutes receiving long term investments through relevant national funders
- independent research organisations with existing in-house capacity to carry out and lead research, including but not limited to approved charitable or non-governmental organisations (NGOs)



Organisations must be non-profit making and must be able to demonstrate:

- they have satisfactory controls in place to manage research funding.
- an independent capability to undertake and lead research programmes.

To demonstrate this, organisations need to confirm that they have:

- a sufficient high-quality current research capacity. This requires:
 - a minimum of ten researchers with PhDs (or equivalent experience)
 - a track record of staff, while employed at the organisation, leading or co-leading innovative research projects in the previous five years, including directing other postdoctoral researchers and/or research students. This should include evidence of the size and complexity of the projects and details of how they were managed and coordinated.
- sufficient financial support for research at the organisational level to ensure the availability of essential infrastructure and the long-term sustainability of research activity.
- importance and relevance of the research capability to the funding opportunity being applied for.
- evidence of the organisation having a strong track record of maximising the wider impact and value of its research.

Any funding received by an Independent Research Organisation must NOT be utilised in relation to:

- A company with which it is “Connected”
- A company which it “Controls”
or
- A company, partnership or enterprise to which it is entitled to the beneficial ownership of more than 50% of the issued share capital of a company or share of the profits of a partnership or enterprise or the legal power to direct or cause the direction of the general management of the company, partnership or enterprise. Where the operation or purpose of that company, partnership or enterprise is, or is intended to realise a profit for the benefit of shareholders or other investors in the company, partnership or enterprise.

For further information, please refer to the [UKRI project co-lead \(international\) policy](#) and guidance.

3.2.2.2 Trusted Research and Innovation (TR&I)

UKRI is committed in ensuring that effective international collaboration in research and innovation takes place with integrity and within strong ethical frameworks. Trusted Research and Innovation (TR&I) is a UKRI work programme designed to help protect all those working in our thriving and collaborative international sector by enabling partnerships to be as open as possible, and as secure as necessary. Our [TR&I Principles](#) set out UKRI’s expectations of organisations funded by UKRI in relation to due diligence for international collaboration.



As such, applicants for UKRI funding may be asked to demonstrate how their proposed projects will comply with our approach and expectation towards TR&I, identifying potential risks and the relevant controls you will put in place to help proportionately reduce these risks.

Further guidance and information about TR&I – including where applicants can find additional support – can be found on [UKRI's website](#).

3.2.3 Collaborators

3.2.3.1 Project partners

A project partner is defined as a third-party person or organisation (including international or non-academic collaborations) who provides specific contributions to the team and project.

Organisations that are applicants on the project, including any named applicants' organisations, cannot also be a project partner. UKRI Head Office Staff acting in their capacity as a UKRI employee are not eligible to be project partners.

Project partners are expected to provide contributions to the delivery of the project, either in cash or in kind, and should not therefore be seeking to claim funds from UKRI.

However, where there are specific circumstances where project partners require funding for minor directly incurred costs such as travel and subsistence. These costs will need to be outlined and fully justified in your full application and will be subject to peer review.

3.2.3.2 Project subcontractor

A project subcontractor is defined as a third-party individual who is not employed as staff on the grant, who is subcontracted by a participating organisation to deliver a specific piece of work. Subcontractors will be allowed in line with [UKRI terms and conditions](#) for research grants.

3.2.3.3 Collaborators entitlement to project outputs and intellectual property

Entitlement to the outputs of a project or intellectual property will be determined between the parties involved, however any access to project outputs or intellectual property must be in line with any relevant Subsidy Control regulation. Under UKRI terms and conditions for research grants you must ensure at all times that the grant funding awarded to you is compliant with the [Subsidy Control Act 2022](#).

Any entitlements will need to be set out in a formal collaboration agreement if a grant is awarded, as per FEC Grant condition RGC 12.1. Ensure you have obtained prior agreement from project partners that, should you be offered funding, they will support your project.

The guidance in the [MRC Industry Collaboration Framework](#) can be used as a basis for discussions with your collaborators and support the development of your collaboration and provides some additional guidance on subsidy control. The guidance will help you decide whether your collaborators are project partners, sub-contractors or suppliers. It facilitates

collaborations by supporting academic and industry partners to work out and clearly specify arrangements before a project starts. You should ensure you have had the necessary discussions with any project partners that will form the basis for the collaboration agreement prior to submitting your applications including:

- relative responsibilities
- intellectual property rights
- financial contributions
- access to data, materials and equipment.

3.2.3.4 Dual roles

An organisation or individual can act as both a project partner and subcontractor, however this must be fully justified and will be subject to peer review. This enables the organisation/individual to receive recognition as a project partner for the elements of their contribution to the project that is in an integral or meaningful capacity, which they wouldn't be eligible for if they were included only as a subcontractor. As a rule, we would expect project partner costs to be minor, but where the project needs work to be undertaken that is more significant and includes costs other than travel and subsistence, then the organisation/individual to be contracted may need to be included as both a project partner and a subcontractor.

As a subcontractor a company would be able to claim costs but not have access to any IP arising from the research, while a project partner would be contributing to the project both intellectually and financially (through cash or in-kind resources) and would potentially have some rights to any IP developed and early access to results. Therefore, where a collaborating organisation has a dual role, to avoid conflicts of interest, the work packages should be discreet and the outputs from them can be separated. Separate agreements will need to be put in place by the research organisations to cover the dual roles on the grant.

We advise applicants to speak to their organisation's tech transfer office or equivalent department (i.e. the department who would be responsible for drafting and signing the collaboration agreement and/or subcontracting agreement if funded) as soon as possible, who will be able to advise on how to manage partnerships.

3.2.4. Who is not eligible to apply

Doctoral students are not eligible for this scheme and funds are not available for PhD studentships.

3.3 Equality, diversity and inclusion

We are committed to achieving equality of opportunity for all funding applicants. We encourage applications from a diverse range of researchers.

We support people to work in a way that suits their personal circumstances.



This includes:

- career breaks
- support for people with caring responsibilities
- flexible working
- alternative working patterns

Find out more about [equality, diversity and inclusion at UKRI](#).

3.3.1 Supporting skills and talent

We encourage you to follow the principles of the [Concordat to Support the Career Development of Researchers](#) and the [Technician Commitment](#).

3.3.2 Research disruption due to COVID-19

We recognise that the COVID-19 pandemic has caused major interruptions and disruptions across our communities. We are committed to ensuring that individual applicants and their wider team, including partners and networks, are not penalised for any disruption to their career, such as:

- breaks and delays
- disruptive working patterns and conditions
- the loss of ongoing work
- role changes that may have been caused by the pandemic

Panel members will be advised to consider the unequal impacts that COVID-19 related disruption might have had on the capability to deliver and career development of those individuals included in the application. They will be asked to consider the capability of the applicant and their wider team to deliver the research they are proposing.

Where disruptions have occurred, you can highlight this within your application if you wish, but there is no requirement to detail the specific circumstances that caused the disruption.

4. Costs we fund

Applications should be costed based on the full economic costs (FEC) necessary to deliver the research. If a grant is awarded, we will typically fund 80% of the FEC (with some exceptions), and the organisations must agree to find the balance of FEC from other resources.

Universities and other higher education organisations must use [transparent approach to costing \(TRAC\)](#) to calculate the cost of the project's activities. TRAC has been validated by UKRI and is subject to ongoing review. Other research organisations, research institutes and public sector research establishments can use dispensation rates or can calculate their own rates for validation by [UKRI funding assurance](#).

Indexation must not be included as this is calculated once the grant has been awarded and accepted.



All costs requested should be justified within the resource and cost justification section of your application.

Further guidance on UKRI FEC costings can be found in the [UKRI Terms and Conditions 'Costings information'](#).

4.1 Costs for UK project leads and UK project co-leads

4.1.1 Directly allocated costs

Directly allocated costs are resources used by a project that are shared by other activities. They are charged to projects based on estimates rather than actual costs and do not represent actual costs on a project-by-project basis.

Directly allocated costs are funded at 80% FEC, and include:

- Staff
- Estates
- Other Directly Allocated costs.

4.1.1.1 Staff

If an applicant's time is shared across other activities and therefore being charged to the grant based on estimates, you should include it as a directly allocated cost. If their time is instead actual, auditable, and verifiable you should include it as a directly incurred staff cost. See [guidance on cost headings to use for each role](#).

Applications need to show the costs of time to be charged to the project by project leads and co-leads. This will be derived from hours on the project and relevant salary rate, which could be based on an average or pool rate. The applicant's proposed time commitment for the project, but not their salary itself, must be justified.

4.1.1.2 Estates

Estate costs provide a share of the cost of providing the physical infrastructure for research. These costs may include building and premises costs, basic services and utilities and any clerical staff and equipment maintenance or operational costs that are not included under other cost headings.

Your research organisation will calculate these costs using TRAC, so they will vary between organisations. A single figure will be required for your application. Information about the calculation of, or justification of, estates costs is not required. We will not question the estates costs requested. However, we will take into account the full cost of the proposed research in any assessment of its value for money.

Visit [roles in funding applications](#) to find out which project team roles attract estates costs in addition to salary costs.

Where any named individual will be working away from the research organisation on long-term secondment for over six months during the project, estates costs should not be charged for the period of secondment. No reductions should be made for shorter-term absences.

Where the level of staff effort to be awarded is different to that requested, the research organisation must recalculate the estates and indirect costs within 10 working days, using the same costing basis and TRAC rates in force at time of application.

4.1.1.3 Other Directly Allocated

These comprise all other direct costs calculated based on estimates, which are not included in the research organisation's estates or indirect cost rates.

Items that can be included under this heading are:

- charge-out costs for use of major facilities
- charge-out costs for use of existing equipment
- charge-out costs for 'pool staff', departmental technical and administrative services
- animal costs

Charge-out costs will vary by research organisation. We will take this into consideration during the assessment process.

4.1.2 Directly incurred costs

4.1.2.1 Staff

This includes the payroll costs of all staff where the individual's cost to the project is based on actual rather than estimated amounts of time to be spent on the project, usually traced throughout the project using timesheets.

They may already be employed by one of the organisations that will be involved during the course of the project if the application is successful. But they can also be contracted in after project funds have been awarded.

See [guidance on cost headings to use for each role](#).

4.1.2.2 Equipment

Individual items of equipment above £10,000 (inclusive of VAT) can be included if both of the following apply:

- the equipment is essential to the proposed research
- no appropriate alternative provision can be accessed

UKRI will fund up to 80% of the cost of equipment.

Equipment costing more than £10,000 should be subject to external competition to ensure best value for money. UKRI will meet the costs of new equipment, the costs of equipment



repair and major spares, the costs of external maintenance agreements and the cost of equipment relocation and installation, where required by the proposed research. If applicable the research organisation should make its own arrangements for applying for exemption from import duty.

Requirements at the full stage

For a full stage application, single items of equipment costing between £10,000 (inclusive of VAT) and £138,000 (inclusive of VAT) must be included under the Directly Incurred 'Equipment' fund type heading (items under £10k should be listed under Other Directly Incurred costs as consumables). Please note the £10,000 includes all component parts of the equipment requested, either purchased or leased.

This is an opportunity for research projects; applications focused on capital requests for research infrastructures are not eligible. Therefore, if you wish to request funding for equipment over £138,000 you will need to inform us by sending an email to ukriirm@ukri.org before submitting your application.

For any single items of equipment costing over £138,000 (inclusive of VAT), they must be included under the 'Equipment' fund type heading and the strategic need for the equipment should be included within the resources and cost justification section. An additional 1,000 words will be allowed for this.

4.1.2.3 Travel and subsistence

Funds for travel and subsistence for the applicant and any staff working on the project, including any overseas costs, can be requested on the grant.

All travel must occur between the start and end date of the award and must be costed by the most suitable and economical means, at current prices and with no allowance for inflation. Subsistence rates, both UK and overseas, must be those applicable within the research organisation(s).

UKRI will hold three events within the duration of the grants awarded. It will be a condition of the grant that all grants are represented by at least 1 person at each event and up to three members of the team will be invited to attend. Costs associated with attendance at these events should be met from within the grant award (for round 1, £2000 will be added by UKRI to each award). Applicants should therefore factor in any associated travel, subsistence, and childcare costs into their application. Where events run for more than 1 day UKRI will provide accommodation at the venue. It is expected that annual events will take place at a variety of UK locations.

4.1.2.4 Other Directly Incurred costs

Other costs directly attributed to the project may include, but is not limited to:

- consumables (including individual items of equipment below £10,000)
- recruitment and advertising costs for staff directly employed on the project
- costs associated with research data management and sharing (see [section 2.3.2](#))
- access to research facilities and services (see [section 5](#) for further guidance)



- sub-contractor fees
- consultancy fees
- additional childcare, beyond that required to meet the normal contracted requirements of your role, and that are directly related to the project, may be requested if the institutional policy is to reimburse them. However childcare costs associated with normal working patterns may not be sought.
- Animal costs
- NHS costs
- training needs

4.1.3 Indirect costs

These include non-specific costs charged across all projects based on estimates that are not otherwise included as Directly Allocated costs. They include the costs of the Research Organisation's management and administration services, such as personnel, finance, library and some departmental services.

Like estates, the research organisation will calculate indirect costs and a single figure is required for the application. Visit [roles in funding applications](#) to find out which project team roles attract indirect costs in addition to salary costs.

4.1.4 Exceptions

These are Directly Incurred costs that UKRI will fund at 100%, subject to actual expenditure incurred, or items that are outside FEC costs incurred by the Project co-lead (international), including salary, where applicable (see [section 4.2](#)).

4.1.4.1 Social surveys

Any social surveys which are sub-contracted to a third party (such as a specialist survey company) will be funded as exceptions at 100% FEC, regardless of value, and should be included under the equipment subheading. Surveys completed using the in-house resources of a project co-lead's UK research organisation are not eligible as exceptions and should instead be included under the directly incurred heading.

Project co-leads (international) may claim in-house survey costs as exceptions under the subheading, 'other'.

Additional justification is required for subcontracted surveys above £10,000, which are subject to normal competitive purchasing principles.

4.2. Costs for international project co-leads

For international project co-Lead costs, UKRI will award funding to the UK lead organisation, this organisation will then be responsible for distributing funds to the international research organisation. Justified costs will be funded at 100% and should be included under Exceptions. Estate and indirect costs are not eligible. The total costs claimed for international project co-lead contribution to a project must not exceed 30% of the overall cost of the project, calculated at 100% full economic cost.



These costs can cover:

- directly incurred costs, such as travel and subsistence
- research assistants (for example salary costs)
- salary costs, only where these costs are fully justified and it can be demonstrated that the funding of salaries by grants is the standard practice of the international research organisation, and these costs cannot be covered through other sources

International project co-leads will need to be individuals from an established international research organisation who would otherwise fit the normal definition for a project lead (see [section 3.2.2](#)).

4.3 What we will not fund

The costs listed below are not permitted and you should not include them in your application:

- fees or stipends associated with master's and PhD studentships
- estate and indirect costs for international project co-leads
- equipment over £10k (inclusive of VAT) for international project co-leads
- publication costs. See the UKRI [open access policy](#) for further information
- basic computing equipment for directly allocated staff already employed by the organisation (unless justified where a higher specification is required for the completion of specific grant related activities such as data modelling or enhanced graphics)

5. Access to UKRI supported facilities and services

Applicants to this scheme can request access to UKRI supported facilities and services ([listed here](#)). The following rules apply when requesting access to a UKRI facility for this scheme:

- costs will be funded from the grant at 80% FEC;
- research organisations will be responsible for the remaining 20% i.e. facilities will be reimbursed at 100% FEC by the host organisation.
- you will need to check you are eligible to access the facility
- you should have discussed your research proposal with the facility or service you want to use before you submitted your outline funding application
- you should make sure that you are aware of the access procedures, resource availability and timelines at an early stage in developing your proposal. You may need to apply directly to the facility or service as well as including it in your funding application
- you will need to provide confirmation that you can use the facility or service, which may include a technical assessment form or quote, if your application is successful.
- exceptionally applicants may request a delay to the grant start date to allow access to a UKRI supported facility, of up to 12 months from the date of the award letter. This will need to be requested at the outline stage and fully justified. Applicants should therefore discuss their requests with facilities before the outline stage deadline to get an understanding of the facility access timelines and the estimated delay to the start date.

5.1 Exceptions for access to NERC large research infrastructure facilities

We recognise that having to include the high cost of some NERC large research infrastructure facilities within the £1.2 million (100% FEC) grant maximum may inhibit applications, as these facilities are normally available to environmental sciences through separate NERC budgets. For the following NERC facilities, we will allow applicants to exceed the maximum budget limit to up to £250,000 (100% FEC):

- ship-time and marine facilities
- polar research facilities
- Facility for Airborne Atmospheric Measurements (FAAM)

If your proposed research requires access to these facilities, you will need to contact the facility to discuss the feasibility of your project and obtain approximate costings in advance of the outline stage application submission. You will need to indicate on your outline application an estimate of any additional costs that exceed the £1.2 million budget limit or any potential delay to the start date to access these facilities and justify this. Final costings and approvals can be determined at the full stage if invited to submit. Please use the guidance below for who to contact.

5.1.1 Ship-time and marine facilities

If you intend to apply for NERC's marine facilities, you must contact marineplanning@nerc.ukri.org to discuss ship-time and equipment needs before the outline stage submission, including the feasibility of scheduling and approximate cost of your proposed request.

If advised to, you must then complete an online 'SME or autonomous deployment (ADF) application form' available from [Marine Facilities Planning](#). SMEs or ADFs must be submitted to NERC Marine Planning by the time your outline stage application is submitted (19 November 2024). If approved and your application is invited to submit to the full stage, include the SME or ADF number on the 'facilities' section of your application.

5.1.2 Polar research facilities

British Antarctic Survey (BAS) Antarctic Logistic Support

If you require NERC BAS Antarctic logistics support, you must email the Antarctic Access Office (AAO) at BAS (afibas@bas.ac.uk) to discuss the feasibility of your proposed request and approximate cost before the outline stage submission. If advised to, you must then complete a pre-award operational support planning questionnaire (OSPQ) online, stating your name, institution and project title, by the time of your outline stage application is submitted (19 November 2024).

You should also be aware of the [NERC update on polar research planning](#).



NERC Arctic Research Station

Applicants requesting access to the NERC UK Arctic Research Station should first contact the station manager (arctic@bas.ac.uk) to discuss the support required.

You should then complete a NERC Arctic Research Station application form by the outline stage submission (19 November 2024) and return it to the station manager for review. Find out more on the [UK Arctic Research Station website](#).

5.1.3 Facility for Airborne Atmospheric Measurements (FAAM)

To apply to use the FAAM Airborne Laboratory (see [NERC Research Grants - FAAM](#)), you will need to start the process by contacting the [FAAM Operations Manager](#) at least 6 months before the call closing date, and at least 18 months before the proposed start of flying. Early contact allows the FAAM team to share information on timetabling, technical details and costs. You will need to take the availability of FAAM into account in your research plans within your application, including any requests to exceed the maximum budget limit as part of the outline stage.

After initial discussions, you should submit a [full FAAM Project Proposal Form](#). Your proposal will allow the FAAM team to further evaluate and document the project feasibility and costs, in a process which takes at least four weeks. The resulting FAAM Technical Assessment (and cost estimate), signed by the Head of FAAM, should be used to complete your full stage application.

6. How to apply

We are running both stages of this funding opportunity on the new UK Research and Innovation (UKRI) Funding Service, so please ensure that your organisation is registered. You cannot apply on the Joint Electronic Submissions (Je-S) system.

Watch our [research office webinars about the new UKRI Funding Service](#).

For more guidance on the UKRI Funding Service, see:

- [how applicants use the UKRI Funding Service](#)
- [how research offices use the UKRI Funding Service](#)
- [how reviewers use the UKRI Funding Service](#)

6.1 Outline stage application

The main outline stage application sections will include, but not limited to:

- a summary
- core team member details
- outline vision and approach
- outline applicant and team capability to deliver

Further details will be available when round 2 opens, due on **2 September 2024**.

6.2. Full stage application

The full stage application questions and assessment criteria will follow the same format as the [full stage of round 1](#).

The main full stage application sections will include, but not be limited to:

- a summary
- core team member details
- vision and approach
- applicant and team capability to deliver
- ethics and responsible research and innovation (RRI)
- resources and cost justification

However, please note that UKRI reserves the right to modify the application and assessment process outlined in the pre-announcement as the Funding Service enhances its functionality and reflecting on the evaluation of round 1 of the scheme.

Further details will be available when the full stage opportunity opens, due on **4 April 2025**.

7. How we will assess your application

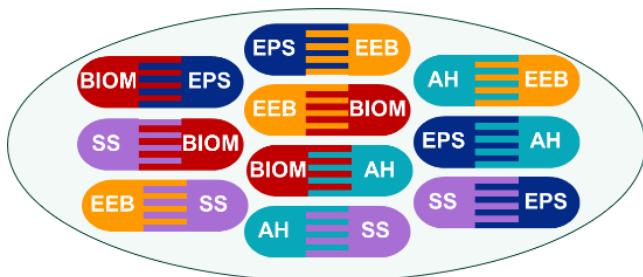
Applications will be assessed by the Interdisciplinary Assessment College (IAC).

The IAC members have expertise and experience in interdisciplinary working and are trained specifically for this funding opportunity. Further details about the IAC are available on the [CRCRM scheme webpages](#).

7.1 Interdisciplinary panels

Applications will be grouped into interdisciplinary panels that will work flexibly between rounds. Members of the IAC will be assigned to one panel for each round based on matching their expertise with the applications submitted. One Chair and one Deputy Chair will be selected for each panel taking into account availability and balancing the expertise, genders and research organisations of the Chairs. Roving panel members will be selected from the Chair pool to observe 3 panels.

The panels are based on 10 interdisciplinary clusters formed by the interfaces between 5 research domains:



- Engineering and Physical Sciences (EPS)
- Earth, Environment and Biological Sciences (EEB)
- Biomedical and Health (BIOM)
- Arts and Humanities (AH)
- Social sciences (SS)



More than one panel per interface may be required if high numbers of applications are submitted relevant to one interface.

You will be asked at the outline stage of round 2 to identify which interface panels are most relevant to your application.

7.2 Outline stage assessment process

7.2.1 UKRI checks

Initial remit checks will be carried out by UKRI staff from across the research councils to ensure that the proposed research meets the requirement of spanning at least two research council remits. Applications will be considered out of scope where all the research areas outlined in an application fall within the remit of a single council or that the level of a second council remit is so low (i.e. < 10%) that the primary council would not consult another research council for joint assessment and award. UKRI will reject applications at this stage if they do not meet this objective of the scheme.

Minimal eligibility checks will only be done at the outline stage (lead organisation only). Full eligibility checks will be done for full applications. Applicants should ensure that they adhere to the eligibility rules (see [section 3](#)). Applications submitted with ineligible applicants could be at risk of being rejected at the full stage.

7.2.2 Panel assignment and assessment phase

Your application will be assigned to an interdisciplinary panel (see [section 7.1](#)) based on the areas of research that you are proposing. Applicants have the opportunity to propose which interdisciplinary panel their application is most relevant to in their application but this does not guarantee that will be the panel that assesses it. Your application will be assessed by IAC members with appropriate and relevant expertise. The IAC members work flexibly across the panels and the panel membership will vary each round depending on the applications that are submitted.

Your application will be assigned to three college members for assessment, based on their appropriate expertise and experience in the interdisciplinary research areas, concepts, approaches, techniques, or technologies proposed. Your application may also be assessed by a generalist representative of the interdisciplinary panel your application is assigned to (see [section 7.1](#) on interdisciplinary panels). Please ensure that your application is accessible to non-technical experts that might not have in depth knowledge of your specific areas of research.

7.2.3 Panel assessment

Following the assessment phase, college members who have assessed applications and Chairs will meet in panels to discuss the applications. They will use the evidence provided to assess the quality of your application and score it against the assessment criteria. Once all the applications have been scored the panel will make recommendations on which applications should be prioritised to be invited through to full stage by putting applications into four bands (see [Annex 5](#) for banding definitions). External rovers from our IAC Chair



Panel Chairs will observe the assessment process and provide feedback to UKRI on the panels. Using this information UKRI will make the final decisions on applications to be invited through to full stage. UKRI will invite a maximum of 180 outline applications through to full stage.

Panel Chairs report back to UKRI on the outcomes of the panel assessments and Rovers report back on their observations. UKRI will make the final decision on which applications to invite to the full stage, across the panels.

The UKRI Project Board may use this stage to balance the portfolio and diversity of applications taken through to the full stage.

7.2.4 Feedback

The outcomes from the outline stage will include the banding and banding descriptions. We will provide applicants with an overview of common themes regarding successful and unsuccessful applications at this stage. The outline assessment process for round 2 is still to be finalised and it may be possible to provide some additional individual feedback.

7.3 Full stage assessment process

We will assess your full stage application using the following process.

7.3.1 Assessment phase

We will invite three members from the Interdisciplinary Assessment College to assess your application independently, against the specified criteria for this funding opportunity. Where possible, these will be the same college members that assessed your application at the outline stage. College members then will discuss your application and compile feedback for the project lead to respond to.

7.3.2 Project lead response

Feedback from the assessment phase will be shared with project leads to provide a response ahead of the panel meetings.

7.3.3 Panel assessment

Following the assessment phase and receipt of project lead responses, college members who have assessed applications and Chairs will meet in panels to discuss the applications. They will use the evidence provided in the applications and the project lead response, to assess the quality of your application and score it against the assessment criteria. Once all applications have been scored the panel will make recommendations on which applications should be prioritised for funding. External rovers from our IAC Chair Pool observe the assessment process.

Panel Chairs report back to UKRI on the outcomes of the panel assessments and Rovers report back on their observations. UKRI will make the final funding decision for applications across the panels.

7.3.4 Feedback

Written feedback will be provided with the outcome of your application. Panels will also provide an overview of common themes for strengths and weaknesses in applications that can be shared with the research community.

8. Allocation of funding

Through the panel assessment and scoring of applications, highly meritorious applications will be distinguished from those not suitable for funding. Each panel will also prioritise their recommendations for funding. Recommendations will be moderated via a tensioning process attended by UKRI, the panel Chairs and the Rovers.

As stated in the [Review of peer review](#) report, there is “increasingly overwhelming evidence that while peer/panel review reliably identifies the very highest quality applications, as well as the ‘tail’ of unsuitable low-quality ones, it tends towards arbitrary decision-making in the ‘upper-midfield’ of the quality spectrum”.

There will be a high level of diversity in the range of research being assessed across the panels which makes traditional prioritisation approaches more challenging. This is a pilot scheme looking at new approaches to assessing and awarding research funding. Therefore, a randomised allocation process will be used by UKRI to select successful applications from those recommended by the panels as highly meritorious after the tensioning process. The use of a partial randomised process has been shown to help counteract potential bias, both against underrepresented groups, but also against high risk ideas. Adopting this approach will ensure peer review is at the heart of decision-making, while recognising the challenge in tensioning the diverse range of ideas expected to be submitted to the scheme.

During the prioritisation of applications the panels will have the opportunity to select the very highest quality applications and those that they consider to be the top priority for funding, and recommend they are excluded from the randomisation process (up to 10% of the applications in the panel), because of the strength of endorsement from the peer review process.

UKRI will make the final decision on which applications are successful based on the recommendations across all 10 panels. Based on round 1, we expect that the award rate at full stage will be a minimum of 20%.

9. Scheme evaluation

This is a pilot scheme and we will be evaluating our approach and processes in supporting interdisciplinary research, and the extent to which (and how) we have met the aims, objectives, ambitions and intended outcomes of the CRCRM scheme. You may be contacted for feedback as part of this evaluation process.

Annex 1

Cross Research Council Responsive Mode Round 2 timetable

4 July 2024 10:00am UK time	Webinar introducing UKRI facilities
2 September 2024 9:00am UK time	Opening date for outline stage applications:
5 September 2024 10:00am to 11:30am UK time	Opportunity webinar 1
11 September 2024 2:00pm to 3:30pm UK time	Opportunity webinar 2 (same as webinar 1)
19 November 2024 4:00pm UK time	Closing date for outline stage applications
10 to 14 March 2025	Outline stage panel meetings
4 April 2025	Opening date for full stage applications
3 July 2025 4:00pm UK time	Closing date for full stage applications
22 September to 6 October 2025	Project Lead response stage
3 to 7 November 2025	Full stage panel meetings
End of November 2025	Successful applications announced

Annex 2

Table of maximum number of outline applications research organisations are permitted to submit to the UKRI cross research council responsive mode pilot scheme – round 2

Research Organisation	Maximum number of applications to R2
Abertay University	2
Aberystwyth University / Prifysgol Aberystwyth	3
AECC University College	2
Anglia Ruskin University Higher Education Corporation	3
Arts University Bournemouth, the	2
Aston University	5
Bangor University / Prifysgol Bangor	3
Bath Spa University	2
Birkbeck College	5
Birmingham City University	3
Bishop Grosseteste University	2
Bournemouth University	5
British Geological Survey	2
Brunel University London	7
Buckinghamshire New University	2
Canterbury Christ Church University	3
Cardiff Metropolitan University / Prifysgol Metropolitan Caerdydd	2
Cardiff University / Prifysgol Caerdydd	16
City, University of London	5
Courtauld Institute of Art	2
Coventry University	5
Cranfield University	3
De Montfort University	5
Edge Hill University	3
Edinburgh Napier University	3
Falmouth University	2
Glasgow Caledonian University	3
Glasgow School of Art	2
Goldsmiths' College	5
Guildhall School of Music & Drama	2
Harper Adams University	2
Hartpury University	2

Heriot-Watt University	5
Imperial College of Science, Technology and Medicine	16
Institute of Cancer Research: Royal Cancer Hospital (The)	2
Institute of Development Studies	2
Institute of Zoology	2
King's College London	16
Kingston University	3
Leeds Arts University	2
Leeds Beckett University	3
Leeds Trinity University	2
Liverpool Hope University	2
Liverpool John Moores University	5
Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine	2
London Business School	2
London Metropolitan University	2
London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine	5
London South Bank University	2
Loughborough University	7
Manchester Metropolitan University	7
Marine Biological Association	2
Middlesex University	5
National Oceanography Centre	2
NERC British Antarctic Survey	2
Newman University	2
Norwich University of the Arts	2
Nottingham Trent University	3
Oxford Brookes University	3
Plymouth Marine Laboratory	2
Quadram Institute Bioscience	2
Queen Margaret University, Edinburgh	2
Queen Mary University of London	12
Queen's University of Belfast	7
Ravensbourne University London	2
Robert Gordon University	2
Roehampton University	3
Rose Bruford College of Theatre and Performance	2
Royal Botanic Gardens Kew	2
Royal College of Art(The)	2
Royal College of Music	2
Royal Conservatoire of Scotland	2
Royal Holloway and Bedford New College	5
Royal Northern College of Music	2

Royal Veterinary College	2
School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS University of London)	3
Scottish Association For Marine Science	2
Sheffield Hallam University	5
Solent University, Southampton	2
SRUC	2
St Mary's University, Twickenham	2
St. George's Hospital Medical School	2
Staffordshire University	2
Stranmillis University College	2
Swansea University / Prifysgol Abertawe	5
Teesside University	3
The London School of Economics and Political Science	7
The Metanoia Institute	2
The Natural History Museum	2
The Open University	7
The Royal Academy of Music	2
The Royal Agricultural University	2
The Royal Central School of Speech and Drama	2
The Royal Veterinary College	2
The University of Bath	7
The University of Birmingham	16
The University of Bolton	2
The University of Bradford	3
The University of Chichester	2
The University of Cumbria	2
The University of East Anglia	7
The University of Essex	7
The University of Huddersfield	5
The University of Hull	3
The University of Kent	7
The University of Lancaster	7
The University of Leeds	16
The University of Leicester	7
The University of Liverpool	12
The University of Manchester	20
The University of Reading	7
The University of Sheffield	16
The University of Surrey	7
The University of Warwick	12
The University of West London	2
The University of Westminster	3

Trinity Laban Conservatoire of Music and Dance	2
UK Centre for Ecology & Hydrology	2
University College London	20
University College of Osteopathy (The)	2
University for the Creative Arts	2
University of Aberdeen	7
University of Bedfordshire	2
University of Brighton	3
University of Bristol	16
University of Cambridge	20
University of Central Lancashire	5
University of Chester	3
University of Derby	3
University of Dundee	5
University of Durham	12
University of East London	3
University of Edinburgh	20
University of Exeter	12
University of Glasgow	12
University of Gloucestershire	2
University of Greenwich	3
University of Hertfordshire	3
University of Keele	3
University of Lincoln	3
University of London	2
University of Newcastle upon Tyne	12
University of Northampton, The	2
University of Northumbria at Newcastle	12
University of Nottingham, The	16
University of Oxford	20
University of Plymouth	5
University of Portsmouth	5
University of Salford, The	3
University of South Wales / Prifysgol De Cymru	2
University of Southampton	12
University of St Andrews	7
University of St Mark & St John	2
University of Stirling	5
University of Strathclyde	7
University of Suffolk	2
University of Sunderland	2
University of Sussex	7

University of the Arts, London	2
University of the Highlands and Islands	2
University of the West of England, Bristol	3
University of the West of Scotland	3
University of Ulster	5
University of Wales Trinity Saint David / Prifysgol Cymru Y Drindod Dewi Sant	2
University of Winchester	2
University of Wolverhampton	3
University of Worcester	2
University of York	7
Wrexham Glyndŵr University / Prifysgol Glyndŵr Wrecsam	2
York St John University	2

Annex 3

Inclusive selection process statement guidance

As part of the selection process for submissions to round 2 of the UKRI cross research council responsive mode scheme, lead organisations must provide a statement describing the inclusive process they used to identify and select the applications for submission. It should not include personal details of potential applicants nor any details that may enable them to be identified. The statement should be no more than 1000 words.

As guidance, it is suggested that lead organisations consider the following points in designing and describing their inclusive selection process:

Scheme promotion and support for applicants

- How was the opportunity to apply to the CRCRM scheme promoted within your organisation?
- What processes were there to support the development of teams and bring about suitable collaborations?
- How were applicants supported through any internal selection processes?

Application selection processes

- What processes were used to identify potential applications?
- What processes were used to agree final applications? Was the balance of applications across disciplinary areas factored into decision making and if so, what was the approach used and why?
- Who within the university was responsible for the sifting process and what considerations were given to the implications of who was making the decisions i.e., school/departmental level or at a university/research organisation level?

Diversity in the selection of applications

- How did these processes enable diversity and inclusion of applicants and applications in the selection of potential and final applications? Does the approach taken align with your organisation's equality diversity and inclusion policies?
- What steps were taken to mitigate unconscious bias in the selection process?
- How diverse was the membership of any selection panels used in your process?
- Were applicants on submitted applications broadly representative of the researcher population at your organisation?
- Have you identified any barriers to implementing an inclusive selection process and/or tried things which haven't worked/have learnt lessons from which might be useful to share?

Annex 4

Question		Data Collected - Applicants			
		Sex and Gender		Ethnicity	Disability
Number of project leads	who expressed interest in applying to R2 of the CRCRM scheme	Sex	Female Male Unknown/ Not disclosed	Arab Asian, or Asian British Black Mixed or multiple ethnic groups White Any other ethnic background Unknown/Not Disclosed	Yes No Unknown/ Not Disclosed
	selected to submit applications to R2 of the CRCRM scheme	Gender	Man Woman Non-Binary Other Unknown/Not Disclosed		
Benchmark data of researcher population at submitting Research Organisation		Gender identity same as sex registered at birth	Yes No Unknown/ Not Disclosed		
Number of project co-leads from your organisation	involved in applications considered for R2 of the CRCRM scheme.				
	involved in applications selected to submit to R2 of the CRCRM scheme				
Number of applications	considered for R2 of the CRCRM scheme	Single gender teams, led by	a man a woman a non-binary person a person with other gender Unknown/Not Disclosed		
	selected to submit applications to R2 of the CRCRM scheme	Mixed gender teams, led by			
	that were interested in applying to R2 of the CRCRM scheme but the 2 year time limit and/or £1.2m funding cap would not support their application	Interdisciplinary interface	EPS-EEB BIOM-EPS EPS-SS SS-BIOM EEB-SS EEB-BIOM BIOM-AH AH-SS AH-EEB EPS-AH		

Annex 5

Outline stage banding definitions

Band	Possible action
A	These applications are judged to have addressed all of the assessment criteria and show evidence of the highest standards and obvious added value from a CRCRM award. They are a priority to invite to the full application stage.
B	These applications are judged to have addressed all of the assessment criteria and are of a high standard, with no or very minor weaknesses/limitations. They show good evidence of added value from a CRCRM award. They should be considered to invite to the full application stage but are not prioritised.
C	These applications adequately address all of the assessment criteria but are not of the highest quality across the criteria and have a number of minor to clear weaknesses/limitations. They are the lowest priority to invite to the full application stage.
D	These applications failed to adequately address one or more of the assessment criteria and/or have significant weaknesses/limitations and are not recommended to be invited to the full application stage

Full stage banding definitions

Band	Possible action
A	These applications are judged to have addressed all of the assessment criteria and show evidence of the highest standards and obvious added value from a CRCRM award. They are a priority for funding.
B	These applications are judged to have addressed all of the assessment criteria and are of a high standard, with no or very minor weaknesses/limitations. They show good evidence of added value from a CRCRM award. They should be considered for funding, but are not prioritised.
C	These applications adequately address all of the assessment criteria but are not of the highest quality across the criteria and have a number of minor to clear weaknesses/limitations. They are the lowest priority for funding.
D	These applications failed to adequately address one or more of the assessment criteria and/or have significant weaknesses/limitations and are not recommended for funding.