



National  
Co-ordinating  
Centre for  
Public Engagement

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# UKRI EPPE Webinar

**10:00 – 10:45, Thursday 12th September 2019**

**Questions and Answers from the Webinar**

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## Practicalities of the call

### Can you give us some more information on why the funding period and the turnaround for application is so short?

*The funding available to projects from UKRI in this opportunity is derived from unallocated budget as a result of transfer a package of programmes from BEIS. This budget must be allocated by the end of FY2019-20.*

### Who will be assessing the application (i.e. is it people with PE experience)?

*UKRI are in the process of appointing an external assessment panel. The panel will see representation across PE, community / voluntary organisations, charities, place and funding.*

### Are you anticipating there will be continuing funding beyond this, if you're talking about long-term engagement (we all know that this won't happen in a 4 month window and nor may fundraising). Starting these relationships will mean we have a responsibility to them beyond project funding...

*The intention is for UKRI to commit further funding to continue research, development and scale-up in this activity, however, because we do not have a confirmed allocation of funding for FY 2020-21 we are unable to confirm a commitment at this time. We would like to encourage research organisations and their partners to give thought to where they might take the activities built during the funding period in the future, which may include future UKRI funding streams, commitment of resource from the organisations involved or other sources of funding such as the National Lottery Community Fund. In addition, we encourage organisations to think beyond future funding to embedding the culture and learning that this scheme might offer in wider strategic actions.*

### Do you have a list of the other relevant 'place based funding and policy work'?

*See Industrial Strategy, UKRI Strength in Places Fund, UKRI Strategic Priorities Fund, Research England E3.*

### If I know a community with a need how can I connect then to a University?

*Resources and information are available on the NCCPE's website:*

<https://www.publicengagement.ac.uk/>

*This includes all of the research organisations who have signed up to the Manifesto for Public Engagement, which invites institutions to make public their commitment to public engagement.*

*The UK Community Partner Network, is a network of people involved with community-based organisations interested in working with universities to tackle social concerns and inequalities:*

<https://www.publicengagement.ac.uk/connect-with-others/uk-community-partner-network>

### Are there any metrics already against which those 4-6months investment are going to be assessed?

*No. Successful projects will be evaluated in part against their original bid. The support programme will play a part in helping with the further development of this aspect.*

## The scope of the call

### What's the definition of community engagement?

*We envisage community engagement to be a collaboration between research organisations and their larger communities (local, regional) or another relevant community based on mutually recognised capabilities and for the exchange of knowledge and resources in partnership.*

### Does the short lead in time mean that UKRI intend to invest in already established/long term partnerships or are they willing to take a risk to invest in newly established ones?

*No, UKRI welcome both partnerships that are already established and those that are exploratory or in the process of forming.*

### Can we use the funding as mini seed funds for community members to undertake projects with researchers? Basically can we use it for CUPI-like, community-led, projects?

*Yes, UKRI are interested in projects that test different models of working in partnership.*

### Does the lead partner need to be in the same geographical area as the lead HEI. Could for instance a university based in the south east have a lead partner based in the north west of England?

*Yes. Ensure that the choice of geography is supported with appropriate evidence and has a clear and justifiable context. The collaboration must be balanced and based on an identified need.*

### Is the sole focus to increase how the disadvantaged two-fifths of the public engage with research and innovation, rather than anything teaching-related e.g. short courses, modules, WP and outreach activities? There is mention of 'building capacity through training and up-skilling'.

*UKRI are keen to encourage and explore a breadth of techniques, research, programmes etc.*

### To what extent should there be an employer / economic focus?

*This is not the focus of this call but we would not exclude this as a focus with the relevant evidence of benefit provide. This call focuses on enabling and supporting capacity building in collaborative place-based public engagement.*

### Can a partner be a local authority?

*Yes it can be a local authority, however, we expect that the bid will elaborate and a project will deliver how this partnership will enable a future partnership(s) to be built with community / communities / community organisation(s) but they must be reaching the relevant community.*

### I'm trying to develop a shared narrative of space. Some of our residents in very deprived areas we have supported to attend some of our postgraduate planning programmes. Can this be supported and developed as a model for social mobility and engagement in deprived areas?

*Yes, a programme / project focussed on training would be eligible.*

**Definition of Community Partner? Few constituted groups in our area- can community partner be a locally based charity that brings individuals together as community?**

*A community partner could be any community organisation, community group, charity, social enterprise, voluntary organisation, local community, etc. Yes, a locally-based charity could be a partner.*

**Can this project be aimed at promoting research as a whole with a partner? Not just a single research project**

*Yes. The bid should demonstrate balanced collaboration with the partner(s) and co-creation to scope and define a relevant approach to engagement with the research.*

**What type of outputs are you most interested in prioritizing? .... New toolkits, research, programmes that might run after duration of the grant?**

*UKRI aren't prioritising any type of output over another. We are keen to encourage and explore a breadth of techniques, research, programmes etc. The support programme for successful projects will play a part in helping with the development of an appropriate programme-wide framework for output / outcome capture.*

**What is your definition of place-based**

*By place-based, UKRI mean that bids should define the geography on which they will be focussing in reference to the partner(s) and wider stakeholder(s) with whom they are collaborating. This choice of geography and partner(s) should be supported with evidence.*

**Can "community" include schools ie school children and their families?**

*Yes, assuming the co-creation and geography / IMD criteria are met.*

## **Defining place and deprivation**

**Could you kindly explain whether the UKRI IMD criteria refers to those areas in the bottom 20 percent most deprived neighbourhoods in the country? (I have been looking at Indices of Deprivation 2015 explorer).**

*See paragraphs 16 and 17 of the call guidance. Our intention is to encourage partnerships with areas in the 40% most socioeconomically deprived areas of the UK (bottom 2 quintiles, or bottom 4 deciles).*

**Could you confirm that even if an town/city has a number of neighbourhoods that do not meet this criteria, if the collaboration covers areas that are in the bottom 20 percent most deprived we would be eligible to apply?**

*Yes, however, the primary benefit should be focussed on areas in the bottom 2 quintiles.*

**Can the partner be an organisation that works across a region that includes geographical areas with different IMD rankings? So e.g. a charity that works across the whole of the South West? As long as we target working with communities in areas ranked in bottom two quintiles?**

*Yes, we would encourage you to work across communities where there is relevance and a need. Our intention is that the primary collaboration should be between and of benefit to an area identified in the bottom two quintiles of the IMD.*

**What if the place that you wish to work with isn't listed in the 40% most deprived areas in the IMD yet is worsening in terms of deprivation?**

*A community within an area of this type would still be eligible to participate as a secondary partner / beneficiary however our intention through this call is to focus on those areas that are currently ranked in the 40% most socioeconomically deprived.*

**Are you prioritising communities based just on IMD or a combination of IMD and a lack of previous engagement work? There are communities with high levels of IMD close to universities who receive high levels of engagement and other more distant communities with perhaps lower relative deprivation but less engagement.**

*Our priority is those communities in the bottom two quintiles of the IMD. We would not preclude involvement of other areas outside of this, particularly where good practice can be built upon, but this should not be the primary focus.*

**The next Welsh IMD is due to be published 'in autumn 2019' according to their website. Is there any flexibility if an area suddenly finds itself included/excluded from the bottom two quintiles?**

*The current version of the appropriate IMD should be used.*

## **Questions about what can and can't be funded**

**Can the activity in the 4 month period be the co-creation and planning rather than the delivery of activity**

*Yes, we would encourage you to explore capacity building activities.*

**For the mandatory meetings in February/April, where will these take place? And will travel be covered for grant-holders from far away (or should this be budgeted for in the grant proposal)?**

*We have not specified a location as yet as we would like to see where in the UK the projects lie before choosing one. We would anticipate a central location, likely city-based to facilitate ease of access and suggest an estimation of travel and time costs accordingly.*

**Would it be possible for a university to receive funding for more than one bid?**

*Yes, research organisations can lead one bid and / or partner in one bid, allowing a maximum of two bids per organisation. The Panel will be looking at the balance of bids across the UK and appropriateness of organisations receiving funding for more than one bid in their final recommendations to UKRI.*

### **Is rent an allowed expenditure?**

*Yes, assuming appropriate justification is made and it is below the £10k limit for capital.*

### **Does bid need to come from central university or can it come from one dept?**

*The bid can come from one department but must be endorsed by the appropriate organisational senior leader and will count as the single lead or partner bid for that organisation. Equally, the bid could be based on a single project / research area or theme, or could look to address a wider organisational strategy, but again, at either level, must be endorsed by the appropriate organisational senior leader.*

### **Not clear how to calculate the 4 month funded and two month not in the budget - what if 'in kind' support is offered throughout by partners?**

*For each bid UKRI requires a matched co-investment of a minimum of one-third of the funds requested from UKRI and commensurate with continuing the project for the final two of the six month project.*

*For example, where a project requires £15k of UKRI funding, match co-investment of a minimum of £5k (cash or in-kind) should be sourced.*

*Projects can utilise this co-investment over the entire 6 month period, however, should be cognisant that we are allowing a 6 month project period and that UKRI funding must be fully drawn down by the end of March 2020.*

### **Can partner organisations be involved in more than one bid?**

*Yes, non-research organisation partners can be involved in more than one bid, however, projects should be mindful of their ability to commit to the projects fully. The Panel will be looking at the balance of bids across the UK and appropriateness of organisations involvement in more than one bid in their final recommendations to UKRI.*

### **Some questions about costing: a) the section on FEC/TRAC is unclear- should research organisations use 100% FEC costs within the application? The reference to TRAC would suggest yes, but then the guidance in section 4 of the application form indicate indirect costs are not eligible. b) in which part of the table in section 4 of the application should staff costs be included? c) can/should we use the 100%FEC cost when identifying match contributions from ROs?**

*Yes, 100% FEC applies to this call. The categories given in the table in Section 4 are indicative only. Please delete as appropriate or add lines should any other categories be required.*

### **Is it possible to apply for a project where the ££ is spent during the time frame but that a major output might result more than a year later**

*Yes, however, thought should be given and plans put in place in order to capture the learning or any initial outcome by the end of the funded period. The support programme will play a part in helping with the further development of this aspect.*

**Can we develop a proposal with 2 linked projects/bids - ie one partner leads on a bid that links to another region that a partner leads on to develop inter and intra-regional collaborative practice?**

*Yes. Thought should be given if this would be best placed as a single bid. If framed as separate but linked bids the Panel would expect to see what contingency, governance and plans are in place to ensure equitable collaboration and practice sharing.*

**Does the funding have to be spend by the end of the 4 month period?**

*Yes, the funding available from UKRI must be spent by 31 March 2020.*

**April meeting is after the spending deadline**

*Projects should plan to cover the cost of attending the second of the two coordination programme meetings from their match co-investment.*

**Can the two extra months of funding come from one of the partners or does it have to be funded by the research organisation?**

*Yes, the final two months of funding could come from one of the partners, however, UKRI are expecting research organisations to evidence their own strategic commitment to the partnership(s) / projects and longevity. UKRI will be cautious of any unrepresentative or burdensome costs absorbed by community partners.*



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