

ESRC Research Methods Training Centre 2019-2024

Full stage

Je-S guidance for applicants

Introduction	3
Joint Electronic Submissions (Je-S).....	3
Je-S accounts for applicants.....	4
Before creating your proposal.....	4
Creating your proposal.....	5
Completing your proposal.....	5
Project details.....	5
Investigators.....	6
UK co-investigators in business, civil society or government bodies.....	6
International co-investigators	7
Objectives	7
Summary.....	8
Academic beneficiaries	8
Staff duties.....	8
Impact summary.....	8
Ethical information	9
Other support.....	9
Related/previous proposals	9
Staff	9
Resources.....	9
Estates and indirect costs	11
Project partners.....	11
Timetable.....	11
Data collection.....	11
Reviewers (academic and user).....	12
Classifications	12
User involvement.....	12
Attachments.....	12
Case for support (<i>maximum of 12 sides of A4</i>).....	13
Justification of resources (<i>maximum of two sides of A4</i>).....	14
Pathways to Impact (<i>maximum of two sides of A4</i>)	14
Continuity of resources (<i>maximum of two A4 sides</i>)	15
Institutional Letter of Support (<i>maximum of two sides of A4</i>).....	15
Data Management Plan (<i>maximum of three sides of A4</i>)	15
CV (<i>maximum of two sides of A4 per person</i>).....	15
List of publications.....	15
Final/interim reports (<i>maximum of three sides of A4</i>)	16
Proposal classifications	16

Submit your proposal	16
Commissioning timetable (<i>if applicable</i>)	16
Tracking your proposal	16
Further enquiries	17

Introduction

This is a guidance document created to assist applicants applying to the ESRC Research Methods Training Centre (RMTTC) 2019 – 2024 Full Stage call in the completion of their proposal.

Please note only applicants who have submitted an Expression of Interest (EoI) to this call are eligible to submit an application. Proposals from applicants who did not submit an EOI will not be accepted for processing.

To avoid confusion, this call will only open once the EoI deadline has passed. The guidance is being made available in advance of the call opening so that applicants are aware of the requirements and are able to work on preparing their applications in advance.

This guidance is specific to this call and should be used in conjunction with the following information:

- **Call-specific guidance**
<https://esrc.ukri.org/funding/funding-opportunities/research-methods-training-centre-2019-2024>
- **ESRC Research Funding Guide**
www.esrc.ukri.org/RFG
- **Je-S help text** is available in every page of your Je-S form, simply click on the question mark against any section (or on the word 'Help' in the top right hand corner of each page)
- **Je-S helpdesk** (for all Je-S system enquiries)
jeshelp@rcuk.ac.uk or 01793 444164

If you experience difficulties using Je-S or have questions regarding its use, helpdesk staff can be contacted Monday to Friday 9.00-17.00 UK time (excluding bank holidays and other holidays). Out of hours: please leave a voice message. When reporting problems by email or telephone, please give your name, organisation and user id, the date and time, what part of the form or system you were working on, and the nature of the problem.

For further information, please email esrcresearchmethods@esrc.ukri.org

Important: Where information and guidance issued in this document differs from the general guidance offered in these sources; you should adhere to the guidance in this document.

Joint Electronic Submissions (Je-S)

All proposals under this call must be completed and submitted through the UKRI's Joint Electronic Submissions (Je-S). To be able to do this the organisation must be registered for Je-S, and the applicants must hold Je-S accounts.

Proposals can be submitted by UK higher education institutions and some other independent UK research organisations are already **recognised institutions** on Je-S (including any recognised Independent Research Organisation). A list of these organisations

is available from the Je-S login page. The organisation will have set up the Je-S submission process and will therefore be available within the Je-S searches.

Je-S accounts for applicants

All principal and co-investigators must have a Je-S account which has been verified by a third party before they can be found in searches within the Je-S System and added as an applicant. To get you started on creating an account please refer to the Je-S helptext at <https://je-s.rcuk.ac.uk/Handbook/pages/SettingupajeSaccount/SettingupajeSaccount.htm> Please ensure that applicants select the 'Account Type: Research Proposal' and the option 'An Applicant on a Standard or Outline Proposal' - see helptext <https://je-s.rcuk.ac.uk/Handbook/pages/SettingupajeSaccount/SettingupajeSaccount.htm>

It is recommended that applicants forward their proposal to the organisation submitter pool in good time before the call deadline to allow a sufficient period for the approval and final submission process. The proposal must be submitted through the Je-S System to ESRC by the institution's nominated contacts. Once the applicant completes and submits the proposal, notification is then sent to their organisation's 'submitter' to action. The 'submitter' is the person in that organisation authorised to approve the proposal and do the final stage of submission.

The applicant will receive an email confirming that the proposal has been submitted to the Submitter Pool - this means the proposal is still with the organisation but is **not** yet submitted to the research council. The final submission process is the responsibility of the host institution, and we cannot accept responsibility for any delay which may occur at this stage. We strongly advise applicants to check that they receive an email confirmation from the Je-S System confirming that the proposal has been submitted to the research council.

Use of your personal information – UK Research and Innovation capture and process personal information in line with current data protection legislation; General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and any amendments by the UK Data Protection Bill and/or relevant acts of parliament.

Before creating your proposal

Research proposals may **only** be made on research councils' Joint Electronic Submission (Je-S) forms.

Please note that **the deadline for research organisation submission of proposal is 16:00 on 10 January 2019**. You should **allow sufficient time for completion of the research organisation submission process checks/authorisation**. You can view all Je-S registered organisations via the Je-S login page, to ascertain whether the proposed submitting organisation is registered.

Your proposal will actually be sent to Je-S/ESRC from the submitter pool at your research organisation. There is a **further layer of administration between your submission of the proposal and the proposal being submitted to the ESRC, via Je-S**. The research organisation's submission route usually includes both an approver (i.e. head of department) and submitter pool (i.e. central finance office), and the ESRC cannot accept responsibility for any delay which may occur as a consequence. We strongly advise

applicants to secure confirmation from their relevant administrator that the proposal has been successfully submitted to the Je-S team (see also 'Tracking your proposal').

Creating your proposal

Log in to Je-S at <https://je-s.rcuk.ac.uk/JeS2WebLoginSite/Login.aspx>

Documents screen: Select 'New Document'

Add new document screen: Select 'Call search' (highlighted at top of screen). When prompted, type in the call title *ESRC Research Methods Training Centre 2019-2024 Full Stage Invite only* and select from the list created. The remaining three selection fields will be automatically populated.

Select the 'Create Document' button.

It is the **applicant's responsibility to ensure that the proposal is created and submitted against the correct call** (and consequently correct scheme). We will **not accept** proposals for processing that are not submitted using the above call route.

Completing your proposal

The initial Je-S document instructions page will give you general guidance on the navigation layout, specifically icon descriptions.

The left hand column 'Document Menu' lists all the sections associated with this call and clearly identifies which ones are mandatory (red cross, turning to green tick when completed).

The details below are not an exhaustive step-by-step guidance, and we recommended that you refer to the Je-S helptext for additional information.

Please note you may return to edit saved documents at any time.

Project details

- Select organisation and department from drop down lists
- 'Your Reference' should be supplied by your research organisation (consult your Research Office). If your administration office does not have a system for referencing grant proposals, a suitable reference of your own choice will be acceptable. Use "Your reference" to help distinguish easily between proposals in users' Current Documents lists. The reference is intended to be a unique identifier for the proposal, and is unrelated to the reference that the organisation would be asked to provide if a grant were awarded.
- Enter 'Project Title' (maximum limit of 150 characters)
- For 'Proposal Call', select *ESRC Research Methods Training Centre 2019 – 2024 Full Stage Invite only*
- Please note that the option will only be available once the call is live. Your start date should be 1st October 2019. Your grant should have a proposed duration of 60 months.

Submission route – It is recommended that once this initial section is completed, check the submission path (via Document Actions tab) to see if the proposal has to be signed off by submitters and approvers, in which case please make sure they will be available to process the document on the day you intend to submit it to Council.

Investigators

Enter the name of the principal investigator (PI) and any co-investigators (Co-I).

Investigators may be from more than one research organisation, but the PI must be from the organisation that will administer the grant. The PI will be the centre director and will be the contact person for ESRC correspondence. All named investigators are responsible for ensuring that successful proposals are undertaken and completed in the manner specified.

Please note that it is mandatory that you answer positively to the question ‘Post will outlast project?’ To clarify, there is an expectation that the PI’s post will be in place for the duration of the project.

UK co-investigators in business, civil society or government bodies

Please note that any researcher from an established business, civil society or government body based in the UK will be eligible to be listed as a **co-investigator** under *ESRC Research Methods Training Centre 2019-2024 Full Stage Invite only*.

The ESRC will fund 100% of justified costs, however, the project costs associated with these types of Co-I contributions must not exceed 30% of the overall cost of the grant (at 100% fEC). Please note that costs cannot be claimed from government bodies.

On receipt of the proposal, eligibility of business, civil society or government body will not normally need to be checked if it is reasonably clear that they are appropriate to conduct the work. Where there is doubt, checks will be carried out should a positive funding decision be taken.

It is recommended that potential UK co-investigators from business, civil society or government bodies should contact the Je-S Helpdesk (jeshelp@rcuk.ac.uk) if their organisation is not selectable as part of the Je-S person account registration process. These organisations will then be added to the Je-S database, which will allow relevant selection as part of the required person account registration process (that co-applicants are obliged to initiate, via the login page).

All project costs relating to UK business or civil society co-investigators must be prefixed as ‘UK Co-I’s business or civil society costs’ and must be entered into the costs section on Je-S as follows:

Co-investigator ‘time’ allocation must be entered under the standard Co-I section, but the salary rate must be entered as zero. The co-investigator salary costs must then be entered under ‘Other Directly Incurred Costs’ (please tick the ‘Is Exception’ box to ensure 100% costs claimed), as should all other claimed staff salaries and related costs associated with the UK Co-I’s business or civil society body.

All costs must be specifically justified, and applicants must explain why such costs are required to achieve the aims of the research project. Applicants must also state clearly in

the 'Justification for Resources' attachment of the Je-S form which costs in the proposal relate to the UK co-investigator's business, civil society or government body. Please note that UK co-investigator's business or civil society salary costs should only be claimed where clear justification is provided as to why this cost cannot be met by the UK co-investigator's business or civil society organisation.

Host/submitting institutions are reminded that for calls that encourage non-academic COIs, a suitable support structure should be in place to assist such individuals in registering for Je-S accounts and contributing to the research case.

International co-investigators

Given the nature of the call, we would not usually expect to see International Co-Investigators (Co-Is) however this can be included exceptionally if there is a clear justification provided.

Please note that any academic researcher (PhD or equivalent) from an established international research organisation of comparable standing to an ESRC-eligible UK research organisation will be eligible to be listed as an international co-investigator under this scheme provided there is clear justification. Please note that international costs must not exceed 30% of the full 100% fEC cost of the grant. However, the total of these costs and the costs for UK co-investigators in business, civil society or government bodies must not exceed 30% of the full 100% fEC cost of the grant.

It is recommended that potential overseas-based co-investigators should contact the Je-S Helpdesk (jeshelp@rcuk.ac.uk) if their organisation is not selectable as part of the Je-S person account registration process. These organisations will then be added to the Je-S database which will allow relevant selection as part of the required person account registration process (that co-applicants are obliged to initiate, via the login page). Please ensure you initiate such discussions as soon as possible before the call closing date.

All costs associated with the international co-investigator - whether salary, fieldwork, equipment or travel and subsistence - should be entered as 'Other Directly Incurred' and should be marked as an 'Exception' using the tick box. All costs should also be prefixed with 'Overseas:'.

Co-investigator 'time' allocation must be entered under the standard Co-I section, but the salary rate must be entered as zero.

All costs must be specifically justified, and applicants must explain why such costs are required to achieve the aims of the research project. Applicants must also state clearly in the 'Justification for Resources' attachment of the Je-S form which costs in the proposal relate to international research organisations. Please note that international co-investigator salary costs should only be claimed where clear justification is provided as to why this cost cannot be met by the international research organisation.

Objectives

List the objectives of your investment in order of priority. (4000 character limit)

Summary

Provide a plain English summary of the programme of work you propose to carry out in a language that could be publicised to a general, non-academic audience. Please note that this section will be made available on the Gateway to Research database, therefore applicants should ensure confidential information is not included in this section (4000 character limit)

Academic beneficiaries

Please summarise how your proposed investment will contribute to knowledge, both within the UK and globally. This should include how the programme of work will benefit other researchers and identify whether there are any academic beneficiaries in other disciplines and, if so, how they will benefit and what will be done to ensure that they benefit.

Please list any academic beneficiaries from the investment and give details of how they will benefit and how the results of the proposed research will be disseminated. Also describe the relevance of the investment to beneficiaries. (4000 character limit)

Please note that this section may be published to demonstrate the impact of UKRI-funded research. Please ensure confidential information is not included in this section.

For further detailed guidance please access the helptext page linked to this Je-S section.

Staff duties

Summarise the duties of the staff members that will be involved in your project, including the applicants. Ensure that it is clear why it is necessary for this person to perform this role at the resource level you have requested. (2000 character limit)

Impact summary

Applicants are required to consider carefully how best to build links and contacts at the concept and development stage of the proposal with the potential beneficiaries and users to be involved within the grant and to work towards co-production of knowledge with research users where appropriate. It is vital that the economic and societal impact of all projects funded by ESRC is maximised.

Please address the following questions (4000 character limit):

- **Who will benefit from the RMTC?** List any beneficiaries from the work of the RMTC, for example those who are likely to be interested in or to benefit from the proposed programme of work - both directly or indirectly. Beneficiaries must consist of a wider group than that of the investigators' immediate professional circle, the co-production of training should maximise the benefit to the research community.
- **How will they benefit from the RMTC?** Describe the relevance of this work to these beneficiaries, identifying the potential for impacts arising from the proposed investment.
- **What will be done to ensure that they have the opportunity to benefit from the work of the RMTC?** Describe how you will communicate and engage with these stakeholder groups/ different audiences to ensure that they have the opportunity to benefit from the work of the RMTC.

Please note that this section may be published to demonstrate the potential impact of UKRI council-funded research. Please ensure confidential information is not included in this section.

For further detailed guidance please access the helptext page linked to this Je-S section.

Ethical information

This section must be comprehensively addressed. (4000 character limit)

Applicants must ensure the proposed research will be carried out to a high ethical standard and must clearly state how any potential ethical and health and safety issues have been considered and will be addressed ensuring that all necessary ethical approval is in place before the project commences and all risks are minimised.

The ESRC's Framework for Research Ethics (<https://esrc.ukri.org/funding/guidance-for-applicants/research-ethics/>) contains a full explanation of our approach, with guidance for applicants.

Other support

Enter details of any support sought or received from any other source for this or other research in the same field in the past three years. Complete all fields for support either received or pending a decision. Contributions from project partners should not be entered here - they should be detailed in the project partners section.

Related/previous proposals

Please state whether your application under this call is related to any proposals previously submitted to us. Please note the policy on 'invite only' resubmissions at <https://esrc.ukri.org/funding/guidance-for-applicants/resubmissions-policy/> on the ESRC website. You must detail the appropriate related proposal and its relationship here. Select 'Related Proposals', then 'Add New Related Proposal Item' before entering the details of any related proposals.

Please enter the reference numbers of any support sought or received from us in the past five years via the 'Previous proposals' section. Please note that this only relates to previous ESRC research grants.

Staff

If your project requires staff other than the team of investigators, their details should be entered here. 'Directly Allocated staff' are those who will be working directly on the project, but whose involvement on the grant can only be based on an estimate of the time the work will take (e.g. investigators). 'Directly Incurred staff' are those whose time on the project is actual, auditable and verifiable (e.g. researchers and technicians).

Resources

All resources requested must be fully justified in the 'Justification of Resources' attachment. *ESRC Research Methods Training Centre 2019-2024 Full Stage Invite only* will provide up to 60 months funding with an overall limit of £3 million (100% fEC) per grant. If successful, ESRC will meet 80% of the full economic costs on proposals submitted unless otherwise stated. The remaining balance must be guaranteed by the Research Organisation.

Due to the nature of this investment, we have expanded what costs can be claimed as Exceptions. Costs associated with academic staff will be funded in the usual way with ESRC contributing 80 per cent of these costs. **All other costs are eligible to be claimed under Exceptions and will be funded at 100%.** These costs should be included under the other Directly Incurred Costs heading, and marked as an exception using the tick box. Please note that indirect and estate costs cannot be claimed for staff costs listed under Exceptions.

T&S - add each item of Travel and Subsistence required for your project. You should indicate the calculations upon which this figure is based in the 'Destination and Purpose' box.

Equipment - enter any items of equipment costing £10,000 or more (including VAT) in this section. The **actual level of funding sought from the ESRC** should also be entered in this section.

For items of equipment costing between £10,000 and UKRI equipment purchase threshold value (£115,000 excluding VAT), the research organisation will need to provide extra justification for these items in the 'Justification of Resources' attachment, providing evidence of an evaluation of the use of existing relevant capital assets. They will be expected to make a contribution towards the cost of the equipment in the order of 50% of the cost.

All requests for items of equipment costing above the UKRI equipment purchase threshold (£115,000) should be accompanied by a two-page business case (to be included as an attachment within the equipment screen and not the attachments section) outlining the strategic need for the equipment. UKRI will decide the strategic location for these items and will potentially fund them at 100%. The ESRC will have flexibility in relation to the funding of equipment to negotiate with potential grant recipients to achieve best value from the limited funds at its disposal.

For all items of equipment requested above the UKRI equipment purchase threshold (£115,000) three equipment quotations must be provided. Where you believe that there are less than three potential suppliers for an item you should explain this in the 'Justification of Resources' attachment and upload two blank documents as equipment quotes. For items of equipment which cost less than the UKRI equipment purchase threshold it is optional to provide quotations and up to three can be uploaded.

Other directly incurred costs - including justified; project specific consumables, consultancy fees, equipment costing less than £10,000, recruitment and advertising costs.

Costs for social survey work proposed to be done using in-house resources should also be included under this section and will be funded at the standard 80% fEC funding rate. Proposals including such costs will need to fully justify why the work should not be subject to external competition, and provide benchmarking or other data to support a case that best value for money is being achieved through using research organisation staff rather than external contractors.

All project costs relating to UK business or civil society co-investigators must be prefixed as 'UK Co-I's business or civil society costs'. The co-investigator salary costs must be entered under 'Other Directly Incurred Costs' as should all other claimed staff salaries and related

costs associated with the UK co-investigator's business or civil society body, and should be marked as an 'Exception' using the tick box.

All costs associated with international co-investigators, whether salary, fieldwork, equipment or travel and subsistence should be entered as 'Other Directly Incurred Costs' and should be marked as an 'Exception' using the tick box. All costs should also be prefixed with 'Overseas.'

All costs relating to UK business and/or civil society co-investigators and/or international co-investigators must be specifically justified, and applicants must explain why such costs are required to achieve the aims of the research project. Applicants must also state clearly in the 'Justification for Resources' attachment of the Je-S form which costs in the application relate to UK business, civil society or international research organisations. Please note UK business, civil society and international co-investigator salary costs should only be claimed where clear justification is provided as to why this cost cannot be met by the UK business, civil society or international research organisation.

Other directly allocated costs - including support staff salaries, a share of the costs of departmental support staff and the costs of access to major research facilities.

Estates and indirect costs

Estate and indirect costs are specific to each research organisation, and do not require justification in your case for support.

Research organisations that have implemented the TRAC costing methodology and have passed the Quality Assurance process should apply their own estate and indirect costs. Non-research organisations that are not required to implement TRAC must have a robust costing methodology in place that has been validated in order to apply their own estates and indirect cost rates. The standard default rates should be used where research organisations have not yet developed their own rates.

Your Research Office will be able to assist with this section.

Project partners

If you have secured a commitment from another organisation or funding body to provide additional resources for this project, the details of that support should be entered here. A letter of support from each partner organisation confirming the level of support specific to this proposal must be included as an attachment via this section.

Timetable

Provide a clear timetable for the project and the intended progress of the research through the different stages. Your planned timetable can be expanded upon if necessary within your case for support.

Data collection

Applicants must adhere to ESRC policy. Please refer to the full statement on data management planning and datasets deposition requirements for data intensive investments in the ESRC Research Data Policy (<https://esrc.ukri.org/funding/guidance-for-grant-holders/research-data-policy/>) and in the Research Funding Guide (www.esrc.ukri.org/RFG). Explain clearly how you will meet these requirements if relevant to your proposal.

Complement but do not duplicate the information provided in the Data Management Plan as explained below.

Reviewers (academic and user)

Please nominate two academic reviewers (with at least one from outside of the UK) and two non-academic/user reviewers. These people must not be from the same research organisation as any of the investigators on the project, and should not represent potential conflicts of interest. **Agreement should be sought from nominated reviewers before their details are submitted.** We may contact one of each 'type' of reviewer to assist in the peer review of your proposal.

Proposals will not be disadvantaged by the absence of nominated reviewers.

Classifications

Please identify whether the research will involve significant collaborative contributions from colleagues outside of the UK. If 'yes' please expand within the 'Case for Support' attachment.

User involvement

If 'Users' have been/will be engaged with your project, please specify the nature of their engagement. 'Users' are individuals, groups or organisations who have an interest in or may benefit from the research. Users may be from the public sector, private sector, civil society or the wider public in general. Engaging users in your research from its conception and development through to the dissemination stage is likely to increase the impacts achieved. Applicants should expand upon how the proposed work will be managed to engage users and beneficiaries in the pathways to impact attachment.

Attachments

It is important that applicants **only submit the supporting attachments specified in this document.** We reserve the right to reject applications that do not include the required attachments or include attachments not specified in this guidance. It is recommended that attachments are uploaded in PDF (rather than Word) format, to ensure unsupported font type issues do not cause problems with maximum length requirements, please see Je-S guidance; <https://je-s.rcuk.ac.uk/Handbook/pages/SystemRequirementsFormatsandSa/SystemRequirementsFormatsandSa.htm>

The following are mandatory Je-S attachments for this call:

- Case for support
- Justification of resources
- Pathways to Impact
- Continuity of Resources
- Institutional Letter(s) of Support
- Data Management Plan (for grants planning to generate data)
- CV
- Key Performance Indicators (KPI)

List of Publications, Letter of Support, Proposal Cover Letter, Facility form, Final/Interim Report and Other are optional attachments and should be included where necessary.

Important note: If you are unclear about whether you can include a specific attachment please contact esrcresearchmethods@esrc.ukri.org for advice, as unrequested attachments can hinder the processing of your application. ESRC reserves the right to return or reject proposals that include attachments not permitted on this call.

Case for support (maximum of 12 sides of A4)

This is the body of your proposal. It must not exceed 12 sides and must address the following areas:

- **Aims and Objectives**

The detailed aims and objectives to be addressed should be clearly stated. Each strand of activity (co-ordination; training; and identifying, implementing and sharing best practice) must be explicitly addressed.

- **Delivery Approach**

Give a full and detailed description of the proposed delivery approach and the rationale for it. Particular care should be taken to explain any innovations or where you intend to develop new approaches.

Proposals will identify how the proposed investment will meet the expectations of the centre set out in the call specification. Details on the continuity of resources will be captured in a separate attachment.

- **Outputs**

Indicate the expected outputs both academic and those orientated to (potential) users (articles, papers, datasets, events, etc.). Where possible, describe the expected impact.

- **Engagement and Partnerships**

Proposals will detail the stakeholder engagement approach that will be used to ensure the effective delivery of the centre.

- **Structure, Management and Leadership**

Proposals must describe the proposed structure, provisions and leadership of the centre, including the proposed roles and responsibilities within the centre. Collaborative proposals must also include confirmation of support and institutional arrangements in this section.

- **Governance Arrangements**

The centre will be expected to have robust governance and mechanisms in place to provide it with strategic oversight and advice. As such, applicants should clearly explain the roles and functions of the management groups they propose. Please refer to the call specification for details.

The bibliography for references cited in the proposal should be attached under the 'list of publications' document; this should not include publications not cited in the proposal. A list of the most relevant and recent publications should be included in the applicant CVs.

Justification of resources (maximum of two sides of A4)

A two-side A4 statement justifying that the resources requested are appropriate to deliver the centre. The justification of resources should explain why the resources requested are appropriate for the research proposed, taking into account the nature and complexity of the research proposal. It should not be simply a list of the resources required, as this is already given in the Je-S form. Where you do not provide explanation for an item that requires justification, it will be cut from any grant made.

Please refer to the UKRI Je-S <https://je-s.rcuk.ac.uk/Handbook/pages/GuidanceonCompletingaStandardG/CaseforSupportandAttachments/ESRCspecificRequirements.htm> for further guidance.

Pathways to Impact (maximum of two sides of A4)

While the Impact Summary section of the Je-S form is for applicants to explain who will benefit from the centre and how, the Pathways to Impact attachment should be used to explain what will be undertaken by the applicant to ensure that opportunities for users to benefit from your centre, and thus for achieving conceptual, economic and societal impact, are maximised.

The Pathways to Impact is your opportunity to describe how the potential impacts of your investment will be realised. This attachment is specific to users and beneficiaries of the research and training who are outside of the academic research community including, for instance, the public sector, private sector, civil society or the wider public in general. User communities for ESRC research may include bodies and individuals from industry, charities, universities, local authorities and other public bodies, government departments and independent policy bodies.

Potential academic beneficiaries of your work and pathways towards achieving academic impact should not be detailed in this attachment but in the 'Academic Beneficiaries' section of the Je-S form and the 'Case for Support' as appropriate.

In describing plans to maximise impact, applicants should consider what is achievable and expected for a centre of this nature. , you should use the Pathways to Impact attachment to explain why this is the case. However, it is expected that applicants will have considered impact in its broadest economic and societal terms before coming to this conclusion. Applicants should note that while we recognise the value of this type of investment, reviewers may comment on the applicant's reasoning during consideration of the proposal. Impact can take many forms, manifest at different stages in the research process, and be promoted in different ways. It may be helpful to consider impact in respect of the short term (during the currency of the grant), medium term (up to one year afterwards), and the long term. A statement about our expectations of the research we fund is at <https://esrc.ukri.org/funding/guidance-for-applicants/impact-innovation-and-interdisciplinarity/>.

Please detail how the proposed centre will engage users and beneficiaries and increase the likelihood of impacts.

For further detailed guidance please access the relevant ESRC specific attachment Je-S helptext page.

Continuity of resources (*maximum of two A4 sides*)

NCRM has a rich database of training resources and it is essential that these resources are preserved. This attachment should provide a commitment by the applicant to adopt these resources and continue to make them available through their portal. Please outline how this will be achieved and commit to working with ESRC and the current NCRM team on the development and implementation of a transition plan, if relevant.

This attachment should also explain and justify the centre's approach to preserving, managing and maintaining these resources.

Explain how the centre plans to work with the current NCRM team on the development and implementation of a transition plan to support the transfer of resources. Please describe how the resource database will be developed to ensure it is designed in a way that be transferred to another Research Organisation if required.

Institutional Letter of Support (*maximum of two sides of A4*)

A Letter of support must be provided from the Pro-Vice chancellor of research (or equivalent role) from the lead research organisation (RO) to confirm the ROs commitment to the centre due to its strategic value as a national resource. Additional letters of support are also required from any additional research organisations participating in the centre.

Data Management Plan (*maximum of three sides of A4*)

It is a requirement of the ESRC Research Data Policy <https://esrc.ukri.org/funding/guidance-for-grant-holders/research-data-policy/> that all applicants planning to generate data as part of their grant must include a Data Management Plan. The Data Management Plan should be used as an opportunity to describe how the data, i.e. primary input into research and first-order results of that research, are going to be managed - starting from planning for research and through the life-cycle of the grant until data is accepted for archiving by the UK Data Service.

The ESRC recognises the importance of research data quality and provenance. Research data generated by ESRC-funded research must be well-managed by the grant holder during the grant period to enable their data to be exploited to the maximum potential for further research. For further guidance see the Je-S Helptext.

CV (*maximum of two sides of A4 per person*)

A CV for each applicant and named research staff member must be included. This should include contact details, qualifications (including class and subject), academic and professional posts held since graduation, a list of the most relevant and recent publications, and a record of research funded by the ESRC and other bodies. This should not exceed two A4 sides.

Key Performance Indicators (*maximum of one side of A4*)

A one page document outlining the Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) for the centre and how these will be used to measure its success.

List of publications

The bibliography for references cited in the proposal only should be attached. Please note publications not cited in the proposal should not be added here. A list of the most relevant and recent publications by the applicant should be included in the applicant CV.

Final/interim reports (maximum of three sides of A4)

All current grant holders must submit a progress report on their current awards with any new application. Details should include the output records submitted by the applicant to the Researchfish system.

Proposal classifications

The information provided in this section will be used by us to identify appropriate peer reviewers. It would therefore assist us greatly if you could populate the Research Area/Qualifiers/Keyword sections to provide a comprehensive description of your area of expertise.

The Proposal classification area is a harmonised (and expanded) structure agreed with other UKRI councils. Therefore, if your area of expertise crosses the remits of more than one UKRI council you will now only need to provide the information once.

It is an essential requirement that your **primary research area** is in the social sciences. We strongly encourage inter/multidisciplinary working both within and beyond the social sciences, as long as at least 50% of the proposed programme of research is within ESRC remit. Please refer to the list of research areas that fall within ESRC remit (<https://esrc.ukri.org/funding/guidance-for-applicants/is-my-research-suitable-for-esrc-funding/discipline-classifications/>) for further information. Please note this information is used to determine eligibility for ESRC funding and to assist in the selection of appropriate reviewers.

Submit your proposal

After all mandatory sections have been completed, the submit button will appear across the top menu bar. Please ensure that you have **completed all attachments** that are not standard mandatory attachments for Je-S but are a **mandatory requirement to be completed for this specific call**. The submit button will route your finalised proposal to the authorising facility within your organisation (as explained in the Registration section above).

Please note that the proposal must be formally submitted by your organisation before **16:00 on 10 January 2019**

Commissioning timetable (if applicable)

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| • Call for proposals issued | 5 October 2018 |
| • Deadline for submitting proposals | 16:00 on 10 January 2019 |
| • Commissioning Panel meeting | w/c 29 April 2019 |
| • Decisions to applicants | early June 2019 |

Tracking your proposal

There are additional document maintenance actions that can be undertaken via the Document actions button. For example, the 'Show submission path' will indicate to you where in the organisation submission chain the proposal currently is located (and who holds current responsibility) - eg owner, approval pool, submitter pool or submitted to council.

Further enquiries

Enquiries relating to ESRC research funding rules and proposal procedures should be emailed to esrcresearchmethods@esrc.ukri.org.

Enquiries relating to technical aspects of the Je-S form should be addressed to:

- Je-S helpdesk
Email: jeshelp@rcuk.ac.uk
Telephone: 01793 444164