ESRC Peer Reviewer User Assessment Guidance

This Peer Reviewer Assessment Criteria covers all schemes and is to be read in conjunction with the ESRC Je-S specific assessment helptext.

Non-academic reviewers (‘users’) are encouraged to look at the whole application in making their assessment, but your attention is particularly drawn to the sections on impact.

Case for Support
The body of the research proposal is known as the Case for Support. The Case for Support should be a self-contained description of the proposed work with relevant background and references and should not depend on additional information such as the inclusion of external links. Peer reviewers are advised to base their assessment on the information contained within the application, and are under no obligation to access such links (so they should not be used as a way to provide critical information).

Assessment criteria

Likely importance of research to potential users
• Does the research have the potential to make a significant impact on policy or practice?
• Does the proposal show appropriate awareness of issues important to potential users?

Timeliness of the outcomes for potential users
• Are the issues addressed in the proposal timely?
• Will the results be available at an appropriate time to contribute to policy or practice?

Effectiveness of plans for involving potential users and disseminating results to them
• Are the plans to engage with users of the research during the course of the research appropriate?
• Are the proposals for the communication of the results to users appropriate?
• Have adequate plans been made by the applicants to disseminate the results of the research?
• Is the planned output of the research appropriate?