



# Indigenous Methods Research Grants

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## I. Executive Summary

Funding Opportunity Title:	Indigenous Methods Research Grants
Application Deadline:	9th August 2022
Funding Decisions to be Issued:	December 2022
Estimated Number of Awards:	4-5 awards
Funding Range:	Up to £350,000 (fEC) per award
Award Duration:	All awards must be able to start on the 1 <sup>st</sup> February 2023, with a minimum duration of 30 months and maximum duration of 36 months.
Eligible Applicants:	<p>Applications must be submitted by an eligible higher education institution, independent research organisation or research council institute in the UK. Unless otherwise stated below, standard eligibility criteria apply to this call as set out in the <a href="#">AHRC research funding guide</a>.</p> <p>Applications must include at least one Co-Investigator from an indigenous community (see below for further details).</p>

## II. Programme Description

### A. Overview

Building on previous scoping and exploratory activity, the Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC) is seeking to commission research grants with a focus on collaborative and equitable research partnerships between indigenous and non-indigenous researchers and communities. The proposed research should be centred in arts and humanities disciplines and engage with and deploy indigenous research methods to address chosen themes, issues, challenges, or research questions.

### B. Context

True equitable engagement between indigenous peoples, researchers and methodologies continues to be recognised as vital to effective and ethical research practice and partnerships. Attention is increasingly being paid to the importance, potential and application of working in collaborative partnerships with indigenous researchers, practitioners, and communities to ensure local research traditions and knowledge are in-built from the outset and continuously mobilised in the research process.

In 2018, AHRC and the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC) funded 12 collaborative projects to produce [reflective case study pieces](#) in conjunction with the indigenous researchers and communities with which they were working. The PIs and Indigenous partners from ten different countries were brought together at the *Indigenous Engagement, Research Partnerships and Knowledge Mobilisation* seminar in Rio de Janeiro in March 2019, hosted on behalf of AHRC and ESRC by [People's Palace Projects](#), Queen Mary University of London (PPP, QMUL) and the [Indigenous Association of the Kuikuro people in Xingu](#) (AIKAX). The seminar looked to explore research partnerships between indigenous and non-indigenous partners, with particular focus on culturally sensitive knowledge exchange, equitable co-creation and mobilisation for meaningful impact.

People's Place Projects have since continued this programme's dialogue in conducting a series of [webinar events](#), culminating in the launch of a UKRI-sponsored [publication](#) in October 2021, on new directions in global Indigenous research methods.

Other recent UKRI activity in this space includes the [Understanding environmental change in Inuit Nunangat](#) collaborative research programme, which aims to investigate changes to the terrestrial, coastal and near-shore marine environments in Inuit Nunangat, as well as impacts on Inuit and community health and wellbeing.

Applicants are strongly encouraged to engage with the insights, findings and outputs from this programme's preceding activity outlined in this section when planning, constructing, and delivering their proposed projects. Links to relevant resources can be found throughout this document, and a list of resources can be found under the 'links to supplementary information' section of the web text for this opportunity, within the Funding Finder page of the UKRI website.

UKRI is committed to ensuring that genuine, equitable partnerships and engagement are embedded within both international and national working. The ongoing learning from this programme and others has informed the development and launch of this funding opportunity. It is hoped that the projects and teams funded will themselves in turn contribute to the ongoing reflection and development of concepts and good practice in this space.

### **C. Aims and Scope**

This Research Grants funding opportunity aims to allow for equitable collaboration between indigenous and non-indigenous researchers and communities. Proposals must be collaborative and co-designed with indigenous researchers and practitioners, with a view to the co-production of the research aims, objectives, methodologies, outputs and impacts. It is anticipated that project teams will actively engage with, co-produce and deploy indigenous research methodologies appropriate to the contexts of which they are working within.

Like AHRC's standard research grants scheme, this funding opportunity embodies a broad scope and remit. Prospective projects can concern and involve collaboration with researchers in any country or countries. Proposals can be rooted in any arts and humanities discipline or subject remit, or combination thereof. Interdisciplinary applications are welcomed under this funding opportunity; however, proposals must be majority rooted within the remit of AHRC. Further details on the subjects that fall within AHRC's remit can be found under Section 7 of the [AHRC Research Funding Guide](#), and information about AHRC's research portfolio and strategic priorities can be found on the [AHRC website](#). Proposals will be deemed ineligible if they largely lie outside the remit of AHRC.

The previous scoping and exploratory work conducted under this programme and others to date has identified a number of themes, issues, challenges and research questions that may be of interest to such projects that include indigenous and non-indigenous collaboration and partnership. Potential areas of research interest that might be explored and addressed by projects funded under this opportunity include (but are not limited to):

- **Gender, wider inequalities and rights**

Often the current literature refers to Indigenous peoples as a homogeneous category, glossing over differences in age, gender, social status, education, location, whether in urban or rural areas, etc. How do we avoid the risk of homogenising Indigenous communities and thus concealing internal diversity? How can Indigenous knowledge provide a a new lense for how we see inequalities and rights?

- **Languages**

The challenges that languages can bring to research have been highlighted in scoping studies, including a lack of reflection in the literature about which language(s) were

used, whether interpreters were present and the potential effects of these variables on the research process. Alternatively, there are opportunities for retranslation and re-contextualization of knowledge produced about indigenous people from a western template. Research questions focussing on supporting endangered indigenous languages are encouraged.

- **Intergenerational Justice**

AHRC's vision statement commits us to create new levels of sophistication in debate on Intergenerational Justice. How can Indigenous knowledge help us understand intergenerational trauma, inequity and reconciliation? How can Indigenous ways of seeing encourage intergenerational justice?

- **Community and civic discourse**

Proposals could explore how indigenous communities are engaged in and develop research – among the questions may include relationships between indigenous communities and migration (both inter- and intra-national), communities in urban contexts and effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on Indigenous communities, particularly ways in which these have been affected differently from non-Indigenous communities.

- **Climate justice & Food security**

Exploring and understanding the disproportionate impact of climate change, driven by the actions of developed nations, on the rest of the world and on Indigenous peoples in particular and developing more effective, ethical, sustainable and contextually-driven food systems, encompassing: production (agriculture and aquaculture), processing, transport, consumption, and disposal. How can Indigenous knowledge and understanding be used to transform established ways of understanding our relationship with nature and food?

These example themes are non-exhaustive and interrelated. For example, an investigation of climate justice may also require an understanding of community dynamics.

Given the broad scope of this call, applicants should clearly demonstrate within their proposals why the proposed research questions, methodologies, team make-up, collaboration and partnerships chosen are appropriate and justified for the specific contexts with which they are working in, including the region(s) of focus, subject matter, and disciplines covered.

### **III. Eligibility**

## A. Eligibility Information

UK-based Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) that receive grant funding from one of the UK higher education funding bodies are eligible to receive funds for this Call as lead organisation. Independent Research Organisations (IRO) and Research Council Institutes are also eligible to act as lead organisation. Prospective lead applicants who are at a cultural institution or a research council institute but are unsure if they are eligible should consult [UKRI's list of eligible institutions](#) and the [list of Eligible Research Council Institutes](#). If your organisation is not on that list, you are not eligible to apply; however, you are eligible to act as a Project Partner and/or Subcontractor. Please note IROs and Research Council Institutes can also act as project partners provided that they are not an organisation at which the Principal Investigator or Co-Investigators are based.

Standard AHRC eligibility criteria apply to this funding opportunity, as set out in Section 2 of the [AHRC Research Funding Guide](#). Any exceptions or additional eligibility requirements for this opportunity can be found below.

## B. Additional Eligibility Requirements for this Call

### **Co-Investigator Requirement**

All applications must include the involvement of at least one Co-Investigator from an indigenous community named on the application.

Defining peoples or groups as indigenous is not straightforward, particularly in relation to who makes the definition and for what purpose. We will therefore not be using a rigid, 'one-size fits all' approach. A key insight and challenge highlighted by those involved in the previous scoping work of this programme regards the limitations of 'indigenous' as a category. They posed that whilst there is a need for a definition that is wide enough to include global dimensions, the term is complex and political. It was discussed that in many cases 'indigenous' can provide a broad guide, but there are problems with universality.

Broadly, indigenous communities are found in all areas of the world and can generally be understood to include some (but not necessarily all) of the following characteristics: they self-identify as indigenous people both individually and collectively; communities that predate colonial or settler societies ('first nations'); are not ethnically the dominant group within a society; have retained strong historical links to traditions, territories and languages that predate colonisation; possess beliefs or socio-economic systems in parallel to 'mainstream' colonial / settler power structures and systems, even though they may have incorporated or appropriated aspects of colonial or settler societies; have a commitment to maintaining and recreating traditions, cultures, heritage, language and so forth as a distinct community.

Recognising the need for diversity and hesitation in our use of the term 'indigenous' between and within different groups of peoples and communities, proposals should clearly demonstrate why the form of collaboration and partnership outlined and Co-Investigator(s)

included are appropriate and justified for the specific contexts of which they are working in. Equally, applications should demonstrate that the Co-Investigator(s) included have the appropriate expertise, skills and experience to conduct the research activity proposed. This information should be included within the application's Case for Support. Similarly, the Case for Support should also be used to evidence how the collaboration and partnership proposed between indigenous and non-indigenous researchers and communities is equitable, ethical, responsible and meaningful – please see Section V of this document for further guidance.

### **Resources on engaging and working in partnership with indigenous researchers and groups**

[https://peoplespalaceprojects.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/PPP\\_seminario-indigena\\_arte-high.pdf](https://peoplespalaceprojects.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/PPP_seminario-indigena_arte-high.pdf)

<https://www.indigenous.ncrm.ac.uk/colonisation/>

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLcz-eAe2LHOaHA360dXHCCwSnVqs4GHB9>

<https://gcrfmanagersnetwork.wordpress.com/building-ethical-partnerships/>

[Insights IndigenousEngagementSeminar Rio2019 .pdf \(dropbox.com\)](#)

### **International Co-Investigator Eligibility**

With the aim of easing barriers to collaboration and partnership between indigenous and non-indigenous researchers and communities, for this funding opportunity there is increased flexibility applied to the standard AHRC eligibility criteria for international Co-Investigators as set out Section 2 of [the AHRC Research Funding Guide](#). As opposed to the standard eligibility guidance, it is not a requirement that Co-Investigators be “based at an established research organisation with significant research capacity of comparable status and standing to a UK organisation which is eligible for UK Research Council funding”. However, applications should clearly demonstrate that the Co-Investigator(s) be contracted to an organisation or institution that has the capacity (whilst acknowledging that ‘research capacity’ can present differently in different contexts) to support the Co-Investigator in carrying out the research activity proposed (which should be evidenced within the International Co-Investigator Head of Dept. Statement). A number of indicators of capacity will be used to assess eligibility of the Co-Investigator's organisations including, but not limited to, track record of research production, organisation size and budget, number of staff and receipt of state funding. Not all of these criteria must be met for a Co-Investigator to be eligible. It is the responsibility of the lead UK Research Organisation to ensure that an international Co-Investigator's organisation is an appropriate organisation to receive funds and has systems in place to manage the funding provided, and that they have the capacity to be able to sufficiently support the Co-Investigator in their proposed research activity throughout the lifetime of the award (including issues of governance, control, safeguarding, financial stability and ability to deliver). The lead UK RO will also need assurance that

appropriate agreements are put in place for the delivery of the overseas activities funded under the grant. It is expected that should an application be successful, a contractual relationship or collaboration agreement will be put in place between the lead UK RO and the Co-Investigator's organisation and that the lead RO will deploy their own due diligence and risk management processes and policies.

### **The Nagoya Protocol on access and benefit sharing (ABS)**

We ask that any application with reference to food systems and security follow the Nagoya Protocol, a framework for the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from the use of genetic resources: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/abs>

## **IV. Funding, Project Timescales and Eligible Costs**

### **A. Available Funding and Project Timescales**

Applicants are able to apply for funding of up to **£350,000 (fEC)** with AHRC contributing 80% of the full economic cost for UK elements, and 100% for costs associated with international Co-Investigators. It is anticipated that AHRC will make 4-5 awards under this call.

The minimum duration of awards is **30 months** and the maximum duration of awards is **36 months**.

All projects must be able to have a start date of **1st February 2023**.

### **B. Eligible Activity and Costs**

All requested costs must be in line with the guidance set out in section 3 of the [AHRC Research Funding Guide](#), any exceptions are noted in this document.

Travel and subsistence costs are eligible for this call but local COVID-19 restrictions on travel should be taken into consideration when planning activity. *COVID- 19 Guidance for Applicants: Accounting for the unknown impacts of COVID-19 in any new application* can be found on Page 9 of the [AHRC Research Funding Guide](#).

In June 2020 UKRI launched its [Environmental Sustainability Strategy](#) which seeks to embed environmental sustainability across the research sector and work towards net zero futures. Accordingly, we encourage all applicants to this call to actively consider managing the environmental footprint of the proposed activities and welcome proposals that seek to experiment or innovate more environmentally sustainable, as well as inclusive, approaches.

### **C. International Co-Investigators**

In view of the anticipated international collaborative nature of projects funded under this call and emphasis on equitable partnerships and collaboration, AHRC's standard 30 percent

cap on costs associated with international Co-Investigators (paid at 100 percent fEC) may be exceeded to a maximum of 50 percent of total grant costs. Please note that all international Co-Investigators will need to be registered on the Joint Electronic Submission System (Je-S) – please see Section V of this document for further detail.

#### **D. Project Partners, Collaborating Organisations and Sub-Contractors**

The involvement of Project Partners and Sub-Contractors is permissible under this funding opportunity, in line with AHRC's standard Research Grants Scheme. In UKRI proposals, the terms Project Partner, Collaborators and Sub-Contractors have specific meanings and cannot be used interchangeably and for all organisations with whom you are collaborating. Please refer to Pages 41-42 of the [AHRC Research Funding Guide](#) for definitions of each, including what costs can or cannot be associated with the different forms of collaborating organisation.

#### **E. Supporting Skills and Talent**

In addition to considering the EDI (Equalities, Diversity and Inclusion) aspects of any proposed posts to be created under the award (e.g., post-doctoral associates or research assistants), UKRI expects Research Organisations to support the skills and career development of researchers and technicians employed on UKRI grants, in line with [the Concordat to Support the Career Development of Researchers and the Technician Commitment](#).

## **V. Application Process and Format**

### **A. Joint Electronic Submission System (Je-S)**

All proposals must be completed and submitted via the Research Councils' Joint Electronic Submission System (Je-S) which can be accessed at <https://je-s.rcuk.ac.uk>. Applications must be submitted at the latest by **16:00 (UK time) on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> August**.

To submit proposals using Je-S, all named researchers on the application and the submitting Research Organisation (the one that will hold the award) must be registered on the system. Please ensure that the correct contact details are in your Je-S record, as AHRC will use this to notify you of the outcome of your application.

There is detailed Helptext within the Je-S system that provides information on how to complete each section of the proposal form. There is also a dedicated Je-S Helpdesk that provides telephone and email support with the proposal process. They are available between 9am and 5pm, Monday to Friday, and can be contacted by email at [JeSHelp@je-s.ukri.org](mailto:JeSHelp@je-s.ukri.org) or by telephone on 01793 44 4164.

### **B. Creating and Submitting a Proposal**

To prepare a proposal form in Je-S, the applicant will need to:

- log-in to your account and choose 'Documents' from the menu;
- then select 'New Document';
- 'AHRC' as the Council, 'Standard Proposal' as the Document Type;
- 'Development Grants (AHS203)' as the Scheme;
- 'Indigenous Research Methods - 9th August 2022' as the Call/Type/Mode and
- 'Create Document'.

Je-S will then create a proposal form, displaying the relevant section headings. Using the 'Help' link at the top of each section will provide guidance relevant to that section of the form.

Once complete, you should upload all attachments required for the scheme (and if applicable, any attachments listed as optional for the scheme), and submit your proposal. Je-S will forward your proposal to your Research Organisation, who in turn will submit your proposal to AHRC. **You must therefore, ensure you allow sufficient time prior to AHRC deadlines for your Research Organisation to be able to do this (note that some Research Organisations will have their own internal deadlines).** The published scheme deadline is for submission of the completed application to the AHRC by the Research Organisation and late proposals will not be considered. Applicants must ensure that they have obtained the permission of any other person named on the proposal form (for example any Co-Investigators or Project Partners) for the provision of their personal information to UKRI and the processing of their data by UKRI for the purpose of assessing the application and management of any funding awarded.

### C. Attachments

The following are a list of attachments that are permitted for this funding opportunity. Please see below for further guidance on drafting and submitting these attachments, including their respective page limits. Note: other than the inclusion of additional call-specific requirements within the Case for Support and an associated extra page allowance for this attachment (total 8), and the optional addition of a Workplan, all other attachment guidance mirrors that used for AHRC's standard Research Grants scheme, as outlined under Section 4 of the [AHRC Research Funding Guide](#).

<b>Attachment</b>	<b>Requirement and page limits (sides of A4)</b>
Case for Support	Compulsory (8 sides of A4)
Curriculum Vitae	Compulsory for the PI, each Co-I, and any named researchers (2 sides of A4 each)
Publication Lists	Compulsory (these should cover major publications and outputs in the last five years and should be no more than one side of A4 each)
Justification of Resources	Compulsory (2 sides of A4)
Project Partner Letter of Support	Compulsory for all listed partners (2 sides of A4 per partner)
Data Management Plan	Compulsory (2 sides of A4)
Workplan	Optional (1 side of A4)
Visual Evidence	Optional (Applications may include no more than two sides of A4 non-textual, visual evidence in support of the proposal, to illustrate the proposed aims and objectives and/or research methods)
International Co-Investigator Head of Dept. Statement	International Co-Investigator Head of Department Statements must be submitted if an International Co-Investigator has been named on the proposal. (1 side of A4)

### **Case for Support** (max. 8 sides of A4)

Your proposal must be accompanied by a Case for Support attachment. It is important that this includes the information described below and that you format the attachment as requested. If you choose to include footnotes or a bibliography (you are not required to do so) these must be included within the page limit.

While you should aim to make the Case for Support as concise, specific and clear as possible, the work to be undertaken should nonetheless be fully explained, as failure to provide adequate detail on any aspects may seriously prejudice your application. In short, you are advised to focus your application and to provide sufficient evidence to enable peer reviewers and panellists to reach a considered judgement as to the quality of your proposal, its significance, its feasibility and value for money.

For this funding opportunity, although equitable and ethical partnership between indigenous and non-indigenous researchers and communities should be evidenced and embodied throughout your application, the Case for Support in particular will be utilised by

peer reviews and panellists to also assess and moderate the nature of the engagement and collaboration proposed.

You should describe your proposed project/programme of research using the required headings below:

#### Research questions or problems

You should describe clearly the research questions, issues or problems that you intend to address. What are the issues that you will be exploring in the course of your research?

#### Research context

You should describe the research context for your project/programme of work. Why is it important that these questions or issues are explored?

What other research is being or has been conducted in this area? What contribution will your project make to improving, enhancing, or developing creativity, insights, knowledge or understanding in your chosen area of study? To whom will the outcomes of your research be of particular interest?

#### Research methods

What research methods will you be using to address the questions or issues that you have set yourself, or solve the problems you have identified, or to explore the matters you intend to investigate? Why have you chosen these methods? Why are they the best way to answer the research questions or problems you have identified? What will be your role? If there are other people involved, what will their roles be and why are they the appropriate people to be involved?

In describing your research methods it is not sufficient to state, for example, that you intend to visit a particular archive, or an exhibition abroad. You must provide adequate details of sources to be consulted, and you should state briefly what kinds of material you will be consulting, why they are relevant to your programme of research, and how you will interrogate them. Depending on the approach you are using throughout your research, you may also need to explain clearly the creative and/or performative aspects of the work, explain how you will develop a new process, product or tool, or provide details of who you have consulted or will be involved in the process of research.

Under the Research Methods heading you should also outline how any copyright or intellectual property issues relating to the project and the production of any outputs will be addressed.

We would also expect you to outline within this heading how your partnership with indigenous communities has been developed, how it is equitable and how you have embedded principles of co-design within the project.

## Project management

How will the project be managed? What will be the roles of the members of staff involved (including you and, if applicable, any Co-Investigator(s), any research assistants)? What is the timetable for the project? Does it include appropriate milestones and is it realistic? When will the outputs of the project be completed? How will you ensure that they meet the needs of your audience? Can the costs be justified? How will you ensure good value for money?

The project management section should also include the management of the digital and data management aspects of the projects, if applicable, and should be coordinated with the information in the Data Management Plan. It should be clear what the milestones for the completion of this element and the work should be incorporated into the timetable for the whole project. The project management of the data management aspects of the project should include an assessment of risk in relation to the complexity and delivery of the project.

If a postdoctoral researcher is to be employed, you should state clearly the nature of the work they will be undertaking and describe clearly the working relationships that are envisaged between all the members of the research team. You should describe fully the arrangements for supervising and managing the Research Assistant, including their professional development. If the researcher is unknown you should state the skills and qualifications sought, as well as outline the professional development opportunities this project will offer them, and how you will adapt these development opportunities to their individual needs. Similarly, if the project involves a visit to or a secondment from a member of staff from another organisation, you must state clearly what work they will pursue and describe the working relationships envisaged with other members of the team.

In terms of supporting the research staff funded on the project, you should clearly outline the development opportunities which the project will make available. These should include opportunities both in relation to research expertise, and wider opportunities to acquire transferable skills, for example, in connection with proposed impact activities.

UKRI is one of the signatories of the [Concordat to Support the Career Development of Researchers](#). AHRC published its [Statement of Commitment to the Concordat](#) in May 2021.

## Outputs, dissemination, and impact

The Outputs, Dissemination and Impact section is your opportunity to describe in more detail how the potential impacts of the research will be realised. Information under this heading should build on details given in the Summary and Academic Beneficiaries sections of the Je-S form whilst also elaborating further on other areas of the Case for Support. You should address two main questions: who might benefit from the research and how might they benefit?

Taking into account what is reasonable and appropriate given the nature of the research you propose to conduct, please provide examples of how the proposed research will be managed to engage any users and beneficiaries that have been identified, or to identify

potential users and beneficiaries as the research progresses, and to increase the likelihood of achieving impacts. In presenting your plans, you should tailor and target your dissemination activities to ensure that they are relevant to the specific user and beneficiary groups likely to be interested in your research and appropriate for supporting the potential research impacts outlined.

You should consider (and address if appropriate) methods for communications and engagement, collaboration and development. You should also detail who will be undertaking any dissemination activities and include any resource implications in the financial summary and in the separate Justification of Resources attachment. Please also explain further how the research will benefit other researchers in the field and – where relevant – academic beneficiaries in other disciplines.

#### Call-Specific Statement of Eligibility

Please use this heading to outline why the form of indigenous/non-indigenous collaboration and partnership proposed, and in particular the Co-Investigator(s) included in the application, are appropriate and justified for the specific contexts of which you are working in - including the region(s) of focus, subject matter, and disciplines or expertise required. You should evidence how the collaboration and partnership between indigenous and non-indigenous researchers and communities is equitable, ethical, responsible and meaningful.

#### **Curriculum Vitae** (max. 2 sides A4)

A summary curriculum vitae should be attached as separate documents for each Principal Investigator and any Co-Investigators, named postdoctoral researchers. CVs should include basic information about education, employment history, and academic responsibilities.

#### **Publication Lists** (max. 1 side A4)

Summary lists of publications/research outputs should be attached as separate documents for each Principal Investigator and any Co-Investigators or named postdoctoral researchers. These should cover major publications/outputs in the last five years and should be no more than one side of A4 paper. Brief articles, conference papers, etc. need not be included. You should asterisk those of particular relevance to your current research proposal.

#### **Justification of Resources** (max. 2 sides of A4)

This statement should be used to justify the resources required to undertake the research project. You should:

- explain why the indicated resources are needed, taking account of the nature and complexity of the research proposed. Note that it is not sufficient merely to list what is required
- have regard for the breakdown of resources into the summary fund headings Directly Incurred, Directly Allocated and (where appropriate) Exceptions

- where costs incurred by international co-investigators are sought, a breakdown of these costs should be fully justified under a subheading of 'International Co-Investigator Exceptions'
- in some cases, such as investigator time, use of internal facilities and shared staff costs (all likely to be Directly Allocated costs), the basis of the costing need not be justified, but the need for the resources does need justification
- try to be explicit about the need for the level of investigator time sought, bearing in mind the complexity of the research, the need to manage the project and supervise staff and any wider considerations such as collaboration, research communication or facilities usage
- not justify estates and indirect costs
- include a clear and detailed justification for both why items expected to be found in a department (if sought) are required for the project and why they cannot be provided from the RO's own resources (including funding from Indirect costs).

In drafting the Justification of Resources, you should ensure you identify which headings in the Summary of Resources the costs relate to, in order to make cross-referencing more transparent.

#### **Project Partner Letter of Support** (max. 2 sides of A4)

A Project Partner Letter of Support must be included for all organisations named as a 'Project Partner' on the application (see section IV.D. of this document for further details on the differences between Project Partners and other forms of collaborating organisations). The letter should be written when the proposal is being prepared and should be targeted specifically to the project, it must therefore be dated within six months before submission (or resubmission) of the proposal. Please refer to Page 61 of the [AHRC Research Funding Guide](#) for further information, including what should be addressed within the letter.

#### **Data Management Plan** (Max. 2 sides of A4)

The Data Management Plan should outline the project's approach to managing data. Please refer to Page 56 of the [AHRC Research Funding Guide](#) for further information, including what should be addressed within the document.

#### **Workplan** (Max. 1 side of A4)

Applications to this funding opportunity may include a workplan used to outline your timetable and schedule for the project. For example, a Gantt chart could be included that details important tasks and milestones and indicates the staff member responsible for each component.

#### **Visual Evidence** (Max. 2 sides of A4)

Applications may include no more than two sides of A4 non-textual, visual evidence in support of the proposal, to illustrate the proposed aims and objectives and/or research methods. It is not permitted to include this material to supplement or replace your CV or

publications list or to illustrate previous work in any way nor should it be used to circumvent the page limit for the case for support.

### **International Co-Investigator Head of Dept. Statement** (Max. 1 side of A4)

If your proposal includes an international co-investigator, their institution must submit a Head of Department Statement. This statement must include the following information:

- What the international co-investigator is bringing to the project and why they are best placed to conduct the research
- How they will deliver the project's objectives
- How their institution will support them during the lifetime of the project
- The letter should be dated and should be written when the proposal is being prepared. The letter should be targeted specifically to this project

It is strongly advised that you use the recommended naming conventions for all attachments as this will make it easier for peer reviewers, panel members and staff to identify documents. The recommended standard is listed within Section 4 of the [AHRC Research Funding Guide](#).

## **VI. Submission Dates and Times**

### **Call Timetable**

<b>Stage</b>	<b>Date(s)</b>
Call open	17 <sup>th</sup> May 2022
Deadline for submissions	16:00 on 9 <sup>th</sup> August 2022 (UK time)
Application checks	10 <sup>th</sup> August – 19 <sup>th</sup> August 2022
Peer review process	22 <sup>nd</sup> August – 17 <sup>th</sup> October 2022
Panel meeting date	November 2022
Funding decisions to be issued	December 2022
Start date of awards	1 <sup>st</sup> February 2023

## **VII. Assessment Process and Criteria**

Applications submitted under this funding opportunity will be assessed on the basis of their quality and individual merits, according to standard scheme criteria. Applications will also be assessed on the quality of their partnerships, with an emphasis placed on partnerships which are truly equitable, ethical and meaningful, embedding principals of co-design with clear impact for beneficiary communities.

The assessment process for this call will principally follow AHRC's standard process for assessing research grants as laid out in Section 5 of the [AHRC Research Funding Guide](#) (see

assessment headings listed below), with specific consideration to the call specific aims laid out in this document. All criteria are equally weighted.

- Quality and importance
- People
- Management of the project
- Data management
- Value for money
- Outputs, dissemination and impact

Applications will be peer reviewed by 3 expert reviewers relevant to your proposal. The Principal Investigator will then be given the chance to provide a PI Response to the reviews.

The application, peer previews and PI response will then be taken to a Moderating Panel for final ranking.

Indigenous voices will be included as part of the assessment process.

Following recommendations made by the moderation panel, final funding decisions will rest with the AHRC Senior Management Team.

## **VIII. Award Practicalities, Scheme Requirements and Post-Award Reporting**

### **A. Funding Allocation**

If successful, you will receive a notification email and your institution will receive Offer Documentation that will detail the overall cash limit of the award. This will also include the Terms and Conditions of the award, a Budget Summary and the details of the Acceptance Form process and Start Confirmation process. AHRC will make payments four times a year to the host organisation. AHRC, on advice from peer reviewers or panels, may remove items from the budget if these are not justified or not permitted under the scheme rules. You will be notified of any amendments made for this reason. For further information on funding allocation and notification of outcome, please see Section 6 of the [AHRC Research Funding Guide](#).

### **B. Funding Terms and Conditions**

All award holders are required to comply with [UKRI Grant Terms and Conditions](#).

Any additional Terms and Conditions for this scheme will be included in the Offer Documentation should your application be successful.

### **C. Financial Reporting**

No later than three months after the end of the funded period, you will be required to submit a final expenditure statement (FES). Final expenditure statements are made available in the Research Organisation's Je-S account as soon as the end date of the grant

has been reached. The Research Organisation will need to complete and submit the statement using Je-S. Please note that it is the responsibility of the Research Organisation to monitor when the FES is due and to submit on time accordingly. Further information can be found from Page 82 of the [AHRC Research Funding Guide](#).

#### **D. Scheme Requirements and Post-Award Reporting**

Awards must be able to start on the **1<sup>st</sup> February 2023**.

Award holders in the UK will be required to submit outputs, outcomes and impacts that arise from UKRI's funding through the Researchfish system. More details on Researchfish are available on the [UKRI website](#).

Engagement with wider related activity and partners may be required, such as participation in cohort meetings and knowledge sharing activity and events. Projects will be encouraged to consider how their research and practice may transfer into other contexts and themes.

Applicants may be asked to share findings and case studies directly with AHRC to help design future opportunities within this programme and contribute to communications activities.

## **IX. Contact Information**

For queries about this funding opportunity, including those regarding its remit, the application process and eligible activities and costs, please contact David Ward, Senior Investment Manager, AHRC, [david.ward@ahrc.ukri.org](mailto:david.ward@ahrc.ukri.org)

For queries on using Je-S, such as creating and submitting the application form or Je-S account creation, please contact the Je-S Helpdesk on 01793 444164 or [JeSHelp@je-s.ukri.org](mailto:JeSHelp@je-s.ukri.org) (Monday to Friday 08:30–17:00).