



**UK Research
and Innovation**

**EPSRC Place Based Impact Acceleration
Accounts (IAA)s:
Guidance on standardised IAA quantitative
indicators of success and reporting framework**

Background

Place Based Impact Acceleration Account (PBIAA) funding is designed to build on the IAA model. Within the harmonised IAA model an agreed set of quantitative indicators of success have been supplied to institutional IAA holders to form the basis of reporting, supplemented by a narrative section. The following pages outline the quantitative indicators and guidance on narrative section supplied to institutional IAA account holders.

We will adapt this model for PBIAA reporting. They should be viewed as a indication of the sort of quantitative and narrative information we are interested in.

We provide this so that you are able to consider these agreed indicators of success and narrative topics as you design your PBIAA.

We recognise that not all of these measures will be relevant to all PBIAAs and that you may wish to develop or suggest your own place based indicators of success.

Number and types of activities supported

We may ask for data on the sorts of **activities**^a that the IAA has supported:

- Total number of activities, of which:
- Number of collaborative activities with non-academic partners, broken down by partner type: commercial organisations (of which how many are **small to medium sized enterprises**^b), public sector organisations, third sector organisations (including charities), and the number of clinical collaborations.
- Number of events to encourage or facilitate knowledge exchange and impact. These may include for example networking and showcasing events.
- Number of **inward** and number of **outward secondments**^c.
- Number of **early-stage translational projects**^d.
- Number of market assessment or market research activities.
- Number of training or Continuing Professional Development (CPD) activities developed to support knowledge exchange, commercialisation, and/or impact, broken down by whether they are targeted at internal staff or external staff.
- Number of **specific public engagement**^e activities (where eligible in terms and conditions).

^a By **activity** we mean any discrete undertaking, such as a proof-of-concept project, an event, a secondment, a workshop, or so on.

It may be appropriate to include longer-term initiatives as one or multiple activities. For example, multiple small training events run as part of the same continuing professional development course might be thought of as one activity, whereas multiple large workshops that are run as part of the same initiative could be counted as separate activities—so long as there is no double-counting.

^b An **SME** as [defined by Companies House](#). A medium sized company must satisfy two of the following conditions: the annual turnover must be no more than £36 million; the balance sheet total must be no more than £18 million; and/or the average number of employees must be no more than 250.

^c By **inward secondment**, we mean a temporary movement of an employee (full or part time) from a public, private, or third sector organisation into the grant holding institution. By **outward secondment**, we mean a temporary movement of an employee (full or part time) or student of the grant holding institution into a public, private, or third sector organisation.

^d By **early-stage translational projects**, we mean discrete research projects to drive the translation of research towards application or impact, including for example proof-of-concept studies. (NB use of IAA funding for basic, discovery, or curiosity-driven research is not permitted by the scheme.)

^e By **specific public engagement**, we mean a public engagement activity that is linked to specific research. This activity is not eligible for all IAAs—see grant terms and conditions.

Additional funding secured

We will ask for the value of additional funding for IAA-supported activities. Here we are looking for partner contributions to the IAA activities^f, as well as further follow-on funding^g committed to continue supporting impact development work after the original IAA funding has ceased.

Please prepare:

- Total value of cash contributions from public sector IAA partners.
- Total value of cash contributions from private sector IAA partners.
- Total value of cash contributions from third sector IAA partners.
- Total value of in-kind contributions from private sector IAA partners.
- Total value of in-kind contributions from public sector IAA partners.
- Total value of in-kind contributions from third sector IAA partners.
- The main types of income in-kind you are counting.
- Total value of follow-on funding for IAA-supported activities secured from Innovate UK.
- Total value of follow-on funding for IAA-supported activities secured from UKRI, other than from Innovate UK.
- Total value of follow-on funding for IAA-supported activities secured from other public sector organisations.
- Total value of follow-on funding for IAA-supported activities secured from private sector organisations.
- Total value of follow-on funding for IAA-supported activities secured from third sector organisations.

^f By this we mean contributions made by IAA partners (any non-academic partner on an activity: perhaps a business, part of government, or charity) during the activities enumerated above.

^g By this we mean funding secured after an initial activity is completed to continue supporting the work developing impact. This does not include venture capital or equity financing which is captured separately.

Knowledge exchange outcomes

We will ask for information on quantitative IAA outputs, outcomes, and impacts relating to knowledge exchange and commercialisation, policy impacts, people supported, and new partnerships brokered.

We recognise that it often takes time between supporting an activity and impacts becoming realised. The outputs, outcomes, and impacts we ask for here must have emerged during the reporting period as a result of an IAA-supported activity, but the activity itself may have been supported outside of the reporting period in previous years.

These indicators are intended to be inclusive but cannot be exhaustive: note that outputs that are harder to quantify may be included in narrative reporting instead. We also recognise that, depending on the nature of the IAA work being supported, not all of these measures will always be relevant.

Outputs, outcomes, and impacts resulting from IAA-supported activities

- Number of patents filed. (NB IAA funding may not be used to cover the costs patent registration itself.)
- Number of patents granted.
- Number of **publications** (not including academic journal publications)^h.
- Number of academic journal publications.
- Number of new prototypes or pilots developed.
- Number of new products, processes, or techniques developed.
- Number of **spinout companies**ⁱ registered.
- Number of new licensing agreements^j.
- Total value of licensing agreements agreed during the last year.
- Total investment from private equity, venture capital, or similar in commercialisation activities resulting from IAA-supported activities^k.
- Estimate of the amount of other income generated for your organisation from IAA-supported activities during the reporting period, for example through related consultancy or contracted research.

Policy impacts resulting from IAA-supported activities.

We recognise that policy impacts can be very complex and it is hard to capture their nuance in high-level numbers alone. Please note that you may use the narrative report to help illustrate certain policy impacts, for example by including testimonials.

- Number of policy influences, changes, or impacts internal to your organisation.
- Number of policy influences, changes, or impacts outside of your organisation, broken down by local, national, or international area of effect.

People trained and supported

- Number of people that attended IAA-supported knowledge exchange and impact events.
- Number of people trained by IAA-supported training activities.
- Number of staff from your institution actively engaged in the **delivery**^l of IAA-supported activities, including **technicians**^m and **early career researchers**ⁿ leading or involved in the delivery of projects.

Partnerships brokered

- Number of partners participating in collaborative proposals who have not participated before.
- Number of collaborative proposals that continue after the initial IAA-supported activity.
- Estimate of the value of additional commercial R&D investment in your organisation during the reporting period which has resulted from IAA-supported activities and is not counted among follow-on funding: e.g. where a partnership developed through an IAA has resulted in the partner investing in studentships or facilities.

^h By **publications** here, we mean publications like policy papers, papers for trade magazines, consumer publishing, or other "grey literature", whether in the print, audio, or visual media. This is to help capture impacts **not** captured in traditional academic journal publishing.

ⁱ By **spinout company** we mean a company set up to exploit knowledge assets including intellectual property that has originated from within the grant holding institution.

^j For more information, see the Intellectual Property Office guidance on [licensing intellectual property](#).

^k For example, investments made into a spinout company that is derived from an IAA-supported activity.

^l e.g. this would include staff delivering a training workshop, but not attendees at the workshop.

^m In its Technician Commitment, UKRI defines the term **technician** to include the "full diversity of technically skilled people and technical roles working in research teams at all career stages across our remit."

ⁿ There is no hard-and-fast definition of what constitutes an **early career researcher** but they have often been defined as a researcher within eight years of their PhD viva or within six years of their first academic appointment. However, we recognise that these definitions do not recognise the wide range of career paths possible for researcher, and so UKRI considers anyone who identifies as an early career researcher to be one.

Narrative section

Within the narrative section of IAA reporting an opportunity is given to give qualitative information on, for example:

- Key successes and challenges for your IAA.
- Progress against the institutional objectives and KPIs outlined in your application, and where, why, and how ambitions have developed from the initial applications.
- How governance structures have worked in practice or how they have changed and adapted.
- An update on activities to embed EDI and responsible innovation into your IAAs.
- Wider benefits and spill-overs, and the added value of the IAA. For example, how the IAA has enabled regional engagement, rapid response to emerging opportunities, or routes to wider policy and societal impacts; and/or estimates of the value of activities in terms of turnover, profit, or cost savings to IAA partners if known.
- Good practices and lessons learnt, such as new initiatives that have been developed which we could encourage across IAA award holders.