

Good morning,

As most of you will be aware, the Research and Innovation Funding Service (RIFS) is intended to provide a simple, unified grants service supporting Research Councils and Innovate UK.

Since the programme's inception, plans for UK Research and Innovation (UKRI) have developed. We are now taking time to ensure that our approach fits with the evolving UKRI design, in which the new grants funding service will operate.

Since our last update in October, a prototype was developed which covered the key processes from creating a simple opportunity to submitting an application. We are grateful to the many internal and external service users who tested the prototype. We do not require further testing in the next few months but we would like to thank everyone who took part for their time and efforts. We will take the feedback provided by those testers into consideration and update you again in spring 2017.

Kind Regards,

Claire

Dr Claire Graves

Associate Director, RCUK Research Funding and Operational Delivery

Research Councils UK

Email: claire.graves@rcuk.ac.uk

Phone: 01793 4442806

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