



Quick Reference

Please note that you must read the full Call document for guidance before submitting your proposal

Strategic Support to Expedite Embedding Public Engagement with Research (SEE-PER)

Call type: Invitation for proposals

Closing date: 16:00 5 July 2017

Aims: The RCUK Strategic Support to Expedite Embedding Public Engagement with Research (SEE-PER) call seeks to help enrich and embed cultures within HEIs where excellent public engagement with research (PER) is supported, valued, rewarded and integrated within institutional policies, practices and procedures.

Two types of approach are invited:

- Proposals that seek to enhance and embed an institution's approach to supporting PER, building on the learning from the Beacons for Public Engagement, RCUK PER Catalyst and Catalyst Seed Fund programmes ('enrichment of institutional PER culture' aspect)
- Proposals which address a specific challenge in supporting PER effectively, building on the challenges identified in the recent State of Play report, and which expand the existing knowledge base about 'what works' in effectively supporting PER ('addressing PER challenge' aspect)

An integral part of the SEE-PER programme will be to ensure that the learning and good practices developed during the programme are captured, shared and disseminated across the HE sector. To facilitate this funded projects will be required to participate in co-ordination meetings, facilitated by the National Coordinating Centre for Public Engagement (NCCPE), at approximately quarterly intervals and therefore should include provision for participating in these meetings in their budgeting.

Funding Available: A total funding pot of £700,000 is available for the SEE-PER programme and we anticipate supporting, at 80% of Full Economic Cost (FEC), between 10 and 15 exceptional projects through this call. Applications in excess of £60,000 of RCUK funding will not be considered.

Activity should focus on support mechanisms rather than the delivery of public engagement activities, with public engagement activity costs forming no more than 20% of the RCUK funding request.

RCUK funding will need to be deployed by March 2018 and proposals that utilise match funding/in kind contributions to extend the activity period through Academic Year 2017/2018 will be prioritised.

All proposals should clearly consider what success in their context will look like, and how this will be evidenced and evaluated. The use of logic models/theories of change may be helpful in this. Proposals should set aside a budget for evaluation. RCUK are commissioning a separate overall programme evaluation, which will draw on the individual project evaluations. The overall programme evaluator will work with the project teams to inform their approach.

Principal Investigators must be academic employees of an eligible organisation and must be resident in the UK. It is expected that Principal Investigators will hold appropriate senior management positions (such as Pro-Vice Chancellor for Research) within the university.

How to apply: Applications need to be submitted through the RCUK Joint Electronic Submissions System Je-S: <https://je-s.rcuk.ac.uk/> and only one proposal per institution will be considered. Please liaise internally to ensure only one proposal per institution is submitted.

Assessment Process: all received proposals will be subject to eligibility checks before passing to expert panel for review. Should a high volume of proposals be received an internal RCUK PE panel will sift proposals prior to sending for external expert panel review. The expert panel will agree a rank ordered list of proposals and advise RCUK on the funding cut off point.

Key Dates:

Activity	Date
SEE-PER call opens	Wednesday 31 May 2017
Deadline for Full Proposals	Wednesday 5 July 2017
Sift Panel (depending on demand)	July 2017
Expert Panel Review	Late August/Early September 2017
Announcement of Funding Decisions	September 2017
Grant start date	1 October 2017

Additional information: due to the tightly delineated activity period (RCUK funding to be deployed by 31 March 2018) we anticipate that proposals from single organisations will most effectively be able to meet the call criteria rather than partnership led proposals. However partnership led proposals are permitted, and should evidence how they will ensure that the partnership has a positive impact on the delivery and value of the activities.

Proposals are required to demonstrate a strong match funding/in kind contributions component in their submissions. Those that use this to extend the activity period beyond March 2018 through the 2017/2018 academic year are

particularly encouraged. A match funding/in kind contributions statement should be included in the A1 Additional Documentation section of the submission.

Proposals are required to demonstrate high-level institutional support and institutional readiness to enrich their support offer for PER, whether addressing the 'PER culture' or 'PER challenge' component of the call. This should be reflected throughout the proposal and captured in the host organisational statement to be attached to submissions which should include sign off from the Vice-Chancellor or equivalent.

Institutions previously in receipt of Beacons for Public Engagement, RCUK PER Catalysts or RCUK PER Catalyst Seed Funding are welcome to apply but will need to clearly demonstrate how the proposed new activity consolidates previously funded activity and will generate a step change in institutional support for PER or clearly addresses a 'PER challenge' area. Where broader RCUK funding has been utilised for strategic public engagement activities e.g. via Impact Accelerations Accounts, we would expect SEE-PER activities to be distinct and add value.

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