



Engineering and  
Physical Sciences  
Research Council

# **EPSRC Embedding Impact in your proposal**

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# Impact

“Impact is the **demonstrable contribution** that excellent research makes to **society** and the **economy**.”

- Q: Who might benefit?
- Q: How can you engage effectively with them?
- Q: What might they gain?

## **Embedding impact:**

- What will help accelerate/create impact?
- How to include this in the proposal?

# UKRI Changes to Pathways to Impact

- No separate Pathways to Impact statement or Impact summary required
- Effective 01 March 2020
- For ALL UKRI SCHEMES
- EPSRC issued revised assessment criteria
- Reviewers to consider the appropriateness of impact activities

# New EPSRC Assessment Criteria

<p>Quality (Primary Criterion)</p>	<p>Please comment on the degree of research excellence of the proposal, making reference to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>(1) The novelty, relationship to the context, timeliness and <b>relevance to identified stakeholders</b>;</li><li>(2) The ambition, adventure, transformative aspects or <b>potential outcomes</b>;</li><li>(3) The suitability of the proposed methodology and <b>the appropriateness of the approach to achieving impact</b>.</li></ul>
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# New EPSRC Assessment Criteria

<p>Importance (no change) (Secondary major criterion)</p>	<p>Comment on the national importance of the research. How the research:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>(1) Contributes to, or helps maintain the health of other disciplines, contributes to addressing key UK societal challenges and/or contributes to <b>future UK economic success and development of emerging industry(s)</b>;</li><li>(2) Meets national needs by establishing/maintaining a unique world leading activity;</li><li>(3) Complements other UK research funded in the area, including any relationship to the EPSRC portfolio.</li></ol>
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# New EPSRC Assessment Criteria

<p>Applicant and Partnerships (Secondary criterion)</p>	<p>Please comment on the applicant's ability to deliver the proposed project, referring to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>(1) Appropriateness of the track record of the applicant(s);</li><li>(2) Balance of skills of the project team, <b>including collaborators.</b></li></ul>
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# New EPSRC Assessment Criteria

<p>Resources and Management (Secondary criterion)</p>	<p>Comment on the effectiveness of the proposed planning and management and on whether the requested resources are appropriate and have been fully justified, referring to:</p> <p>(1) Any equipment requested, or the viability of the arrangements described to access equipment needed for this project, and particularly on any university or third-party contribution;</p> <p>(2) <b>Any resources requested for activities to either increase impact, for public engagement or to support responsible innovation.</b></p>
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# Case for support - sections

- Previous research track record (2 pages)
- Description of proposed research and its context (6 pages) \*extra 1 page for a fellowship
  - Background
  - National importance
  - Academic impact
  - Research hypothesis and objectives
  - Programme and methodology
  - Management



# Case for support – embedding impact

## Track record

- Non-academic partners or collaborators should be considered part of the team.
- For partnerships with beneficiaries, such as industry, explain their importance to the proposed research activities and how the partnerships could benefit the research or increase the likelihood of impacts.
- Summarise the results and advances of the team's recent work, including reference to the demonstrable contribution the work has made to society and the economy.

# Case for support – embedding impact

## Description of proposed research and its context

- What is the intended objective, why it is timely and important?
- Introduce the proposal topic and explain its academic, **industrial, policy, societal, or other relevant context.**
- Indicate who might benefit from the research, and how.

# Case for support – embedding impact

- **Contribution to knowledge (unchanged)**
- **National Importance (unchanged)**
- Show why/how the research might benefit the UK economy
- How it may lead to advances in a different academic discipline
- Explain how the proposed research may contribute to current or future UK economic success; to future development of key emerging industries; or addresses key UK societal challenges

# Case for support – embedding impact

- **Research hypothesis and objectives**
- In explaining why the project is novel/timely cover any potential **transformative outcomes**.
- Include measurable objectives for the **impacts** as well as the research.
- **Programme and methodology**
- In the work programme include research **and impact** related activities to be undertaken.
- Identify the contribution of each member of the research team including any **project partners and stakeholders**.

# Summary – where to include impact content

- Each Assessment Criterion maps to a section of the proposal
- **Track record:** Partnerships, track record (impact), co-design, roles of partners, what they can do to increase the potential of impact creation
- **Background:** Context (industrial, policy, societal etc), who might benefit and how
- **National Importance:** also allows you to demonstrate focus on impacts.
- **Research Hypothesis and Objectives:** potential outcomes, and measurable objectives for impacts too
- **Programme and Methodology:** impact related activities (workshops, engagement, videos, training, sharing tools & techniques etc (look at the eligible costs in the guidance... but you can be creative.)
- **Management:** resources and responsibilities

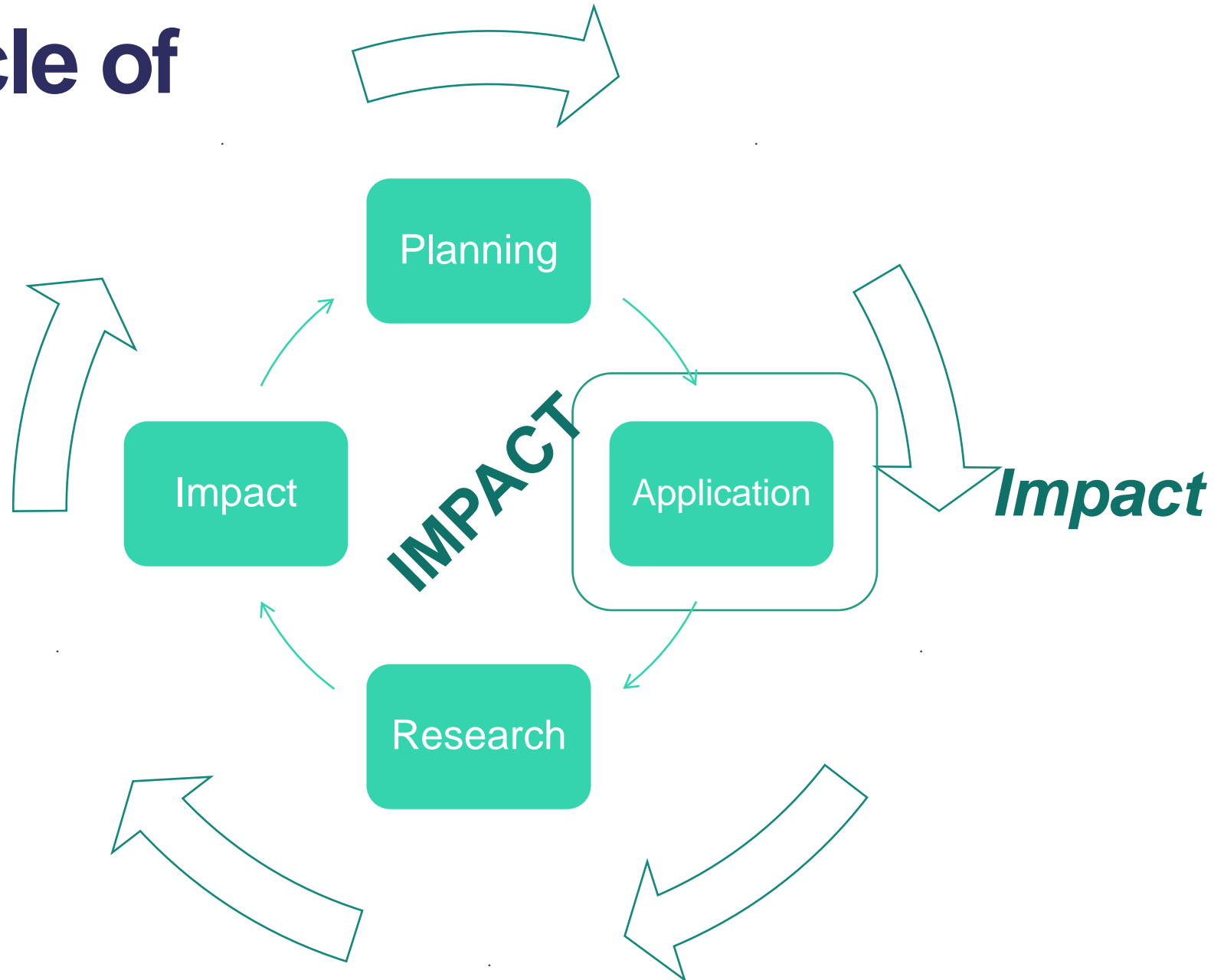
# Structure - how to help the reviewer

- **This is new for reviewers too:**
- Include Impact activities and milestones in the Gantt chart
- Flag impact activities through the case for support
- If it aligns to activities in a work package include an impact heading
- For activities that don't align to work packages but underpin the overall impact development activities, create a specific section and use it to pull together the different areas of impact content.

# Presenting impact development activities

- **For each impact activity:**
- What is the objective?
- Who is going to be responsible?
- Will external partners be involved? Do those connections exist? If not, how will engagement be undertaken?
- When is it going to happen?
- Have costs been requested for this activity?
- But, limited space: so it needs to be specific and succinct

# The lifecycle of research





# Links to useful documents

- [EPSRC Assessment Criteria](#) - found on page 2 of this document
- [EPSRC Case for Support guidance](#) - including how to embed impact
- [EPSRC Reviewer Guidance](#)
- [Revised guidance on removal of Pathways to Impact from all Research Councils](#)



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# Questions?

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# Thank you



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