

Guidance notes

- Complete the application and send it to your Head of School.
- The Head of School should then sign their approval (typed is acceptable)
- The approved application should be emailed to Simon Glasser, s.glasser@bristol.ac.uk.
- If successful funds will only be released when you have created an entry on Pure.
- You will also be required to upload a brief report to Pure at the end of the grant.

Case for support

This should be a *maximum* of one side of A4 in length, minimum font size 11 pt.

- **Fit to EPSRC research priorities**

Please describe how your activity matches one or more of the following EPSRC priorities that have been chosen for this open call.

1. Advanced Materials including the proposed Sir Henry Royce Institute
2. Work at the engineering and physical sciences/life sciences interface (“Technology Touching Life”) including collaboration with the Francis Crick Institute and the proposed Rosalind Franklin Institute. Activities should build communities that are ready to engage with new opportunities arising from developments at this interface and encourage environments that nurture multidisciplinary research.

Technology Touching Life

New and transformative technologies, enabled by cutting-edge engineering and physical science research, are essential for driving world class ‘breakthrough’ health and life science research. Technology touching life in its totality is broad; Grand Challenge Fund investment will focus on one critical challenge within this wider theme – that of developing new multi-modal analytical techniques to further the understanding of biological complexity. This topic encompasses resolution and analysis of biological systems in spatial, organisational and temporal contexts, as well as development of software and analysis tools. Investment in Technology touching life will create the technological foundation to revolutionise the next generation of research in the health and life sciences opening up longer-term opportunities for innovation, commercial exploitation and inward investment for the benefit of wider society.

3. Urban Living - Please note funds have already been allocated for collaborative work with the proposed UK Collaboratorium on Infrastructure and Cities (UKCRICK). Therefore this should not be the primary focus of activities under this theme in this open call.

Urban Living

One of today's biggest challenges is to maintain the benefits of Urban Living whilst managing its downsides; to maintain equilibrium between growth, strong and efficient infrastructure and social well-being, whilst creating cities that are sustainable, efficient, healthy and vibrant places to live. Only by developing joined up strategies for research and innovation within cities and urban areas that tackle multiple interacting systems will we succeed in re-imagining urban living. This will lead to stronger urban economies, more effective and sustainable use of available infrastructure and resources, better designed spaces, and happier and healthier lives. We need to re-imagine urban living to create cities that have strong economies, promote wellbeing, and do so efficiently, sustainably and adaptably.

4. Big Data including the Alan Turing Institute
5. Robotics and Autonomous Systems

Please note: Advanced Materials, Urban Living and Big Data will be prioritised as Technology Touching Life and Robotics are being supported through other activities.

- **Description of your proposed activity**

Include a summary of the research or other activities you intend to undertake, detailing proposed interactions.

- Single institution activities are ***not*** an appropriate use of these institutional sponsorship funds.
- Activities should be inclusive and collaborative both in terms of discipline and institution.
- The panel is *particular interested* in GW4 collaborations, where appropriate to the disciplinary area.
- International collaboration is allowed so long as the value added from the interaction is to the wider UK community – i.e. not a 1-2-1 project between Bristol and Harvard (for example)
- Activities may centre around Strategy and Programme Scoping, Collaboration Events or User Engagement and Brokerage. Ensure that you justify the type of activity you are planning in the context of any previous collaborations.

Strategy and Programme Scoping. Examples include workshops, seminars or discussion groups to bring the relevant research community together and ensure a wide range of input into and support for the scientific strategy and programme scope of investments in the area.

Collaboration Events. To encourage creative thinking and begin to develop projects around the research areas' challenges and associated institutes, and may include project funding.

User Engagement and Brokerage. To build partnerships and attract inward investment from industrial partners into the priority areas.

- You may wish to consider involving relevant members of EPSRC theme teams in planned activities.

- If applicable, note any exceptional expertise or facilities which will be made available to you as part of your activity.
- **A brief justification of resources**

Please note that there is £160,000 available for this call. The panel will consider applications between £10,000 - £40,000 and expects to make around 5-6 awards. A cost breakdown *sufficiently detailed to permit evaluation of value for money* should be included in this section. The grant funds may not be used for capital items of equipment. Funds cannot be used for estate costs or indirect costs. Costs which can be supported include 100% of directly incurred or directly allocated staff costs plus the cost of travel, consumables and other costs. Detail any co-funding from other sources.
- **Outputs and impacts**

Please describe any outputs and impacts, including those related to the collaborating institutions, the research area or the wider community if applicable.

Assessment timeline and process

- Deadline: **22 June 2015, 16:00**
- Panel meeting: 2 July 2015
- Project start dates from 13 July 2015

Your Head of School must approve your completed application. They must do this by completing the signatory section of your application prior to submission. A panel consisting of the PVC Research and the Science and Engineering Faculty Research Directors will review applications according to the published assessment criteria.

Reporting

In order for funds to be allocated to successful applicants they must create an entry on Pure and confirmation of collaborators commitment must be provided. Before *30 April 2016* a short report must be uploaded to that entry.

Guidance will be provided to successful applicants on how to meet these requests in due course.