

Transforming the UK food system for healthy people and a healthy environment

Outline Proposal FAQs

Will there be future calls in this area and what are the proposed timings for these?

- We have got plans for future calls however we are not able to release information about these yet. It would be advisable to focus on the current call and how you might address the challenges described.

Are there any constraints to submitting more than one application per institution?

- No.

How much financial detail is required in the outline proposal?

- With the outline we just expect an overview of the budget and costs. However, costings need to be as accurate as possible and include estimates of further costs that might be incurred from working with collaborative partners. For the full proposals, we will allow up to 10% deviation from the costings originally submitted in the outlines.

Can you define what you mean by civil society organisations as opposed to business and governmental organisations?

- Non state, not for profit voluntary entities formed by people in the social sphere that are separate from the State and the market. See UN definition.

Are all costs covered? (ie. covering overheads?)

- Yes, at 80% of the full economic cost.

To what extent are you interested in looking at UK food systems as part of the global food system?

- The work must focus on the UK food system. As we import half of our food it can focus on how we source foods from around the world ethically and sustainably.

What do you see as the role for NGOs/civil society organisations in these calls?

- We are looking for collective, multipronged action across stakeholders and across the food system, including NGOs/civil society, government and business. One of the ways civil society organisations can be important is as a proxy for wider society.

Is work on food sovereignty also be eligible?

- Food sovereignty in the context of the UK food system would be within scope.

If within bids we are looking to engage and co-create the project with communities, is there any way that these communities will be able to claim costs for their activities (asides from sub-contracting)?

- Funding for this would have to be through a subcontracting route. More information can be found in the [Grants Guide](#).

Are you only looking at bids for the whole UK food system or would you consider a bid looking at the Scottish food system?

- Work on the UK food system could be national or regional, therefore looking at the Scottish system is within scope.

Can you tell us more about the sizes of project likely to be funded and whether you will be looking to join up any smaller bids that have been put in and may fit well together?

- Projects can be any size up to £6M. At the outline stage, there is an opportunity for us to identify smaller projects that may work well together.

If projects are shorter than 5 years, can they still apply for the full £6M or is it pro rata?

- Projects can last any duration of time – more important is delivering against the outcomes and addressing the call.

Is work in Ireland (Republic of Ireland) and its links into UK food system eligible?

- The Republic of Ireland is not eligible for this call.

Is it an advantage to have more than one research organisation involved?

- So long as the research fits the scope, is interdisciplinary, and has stakeholder partners, then it doesn't matter if this is done by one or any number of research organisations.

Regarding partner costs - is there a difference in the weight given to partner contributions in cash vs partner in kind contributions - is one favoured over the other?

- No advantage either way. What will be assessed is the level of co-design in the research project and the potential for impact.

Can a proposal focus on one key food group?

- Yes

The call text doesn't ask for institutional commitment. Is there any expectation of financial commitment from host institutions; either in kind or in cash?

- No, just the 20% contribution to the full economic cost.

Is agricultural research outside the primary remit of the call?

- We are not looking for research purely in one area e.g. production or consumption, we are looking for cross disciplinary and joined up 'food systems' approaches across both areas. Therefore, agricultural research is within scope so long as you can demonstrate a link to consumption in the context of helping to transform the UK food system for health and the environment.