

UPDATE: Impact in UKRI-BBSRC Grant Applications

From March 2020, UKRI has removed the requirement for the Pathways to Impact attachment and the associated Impact Summary within the Je-S form for all grant applications. This briefing provides guidance on how impact should now be integrated into proposals for all UKRI-BBSRC funding schemes. Further guidance may also be provided on a call-by-call basis, so please ensure that you fully consult Guidance for Applicants and call text of any funding scheme before applying.

Impact activities are now expected to be integrated into the research programme of an application. Specifically, we ask that you describe your plans to generate social, economic and/or academic impact through your research using the Case for Support and Justification of Resources. This can be supplemented by the Academic Beneficiaries section of Je-S to address academic impact specifically. Guidance on how these pieces of documentation should be utilised is outlined here –

Case for Support: Within the Case for Support you should describe the potential routes to impact from your research programme, and what activities will be undertaken to help realise these benefits. The structure that this takes is flexible; but impact activities should be integrated into appropriate sections of the Case for Support, not presented as an independent work package. Activities can take a vast array of forms, involving many different stakeholders, so there are no set expectations of what they involve. Whatever approaches are taken though, the work should be tailored to help realise the immediate and/or long-term value of your research.

The collective space dedicated to impact activities in the Case for Support will be expected to vary considerably between different proposals. The page limit for the Case for Support will remain at 8 sides of A4.

Justification of Resources: Within the Justification of Resources you may request resources for proposed impact activities. A brief explanation of how these resources provide the most effective means of achieving impact through your research should be provided. The page limit for the Justification of Resources will remain at 2 sides of A4. (NOTE: Patent costs and other IPR costs, such as those relating to licensing agreements and the establishment of spin out companies, are not eligible costs on research grants. [Further guidance can be found here.](#))

Academic beneficiaries: The Academic Beneficiaries section of the Je-S form can be used to complement the Case for Support – specifically to address the potential for your proposal to generate academic impact beyond your narrow research field. You should describe who will benefit and why, and how you intend to ensure the knowledge you generate will be impactful. The character limit for Academic Beneficiaries is 4000 characters.

Together, these pieces of documentation should provide a case for how you intend to generate impact from your research programme, which will be considered in the assessment of applications submitted to UKRI-BBSRC funding schemes.