**2023-2024 Future Flight Challenge Social Science Grant programme - FAQs**

1. **Can researchers based outside the UK apply to this call?**

*No. To apply to this call, Principal and co-Investigators must be based in UK Higher Education Institutions or independent research institutions that are eligible for UKRI funding. For further guidance on institutional eligibility please see guidance here:*

[*ESRC - Check if you are eligible for research and innovation funding*](https://www.ukri.org/apply-for-funding/before-you-apply/check-if-you-are-eligible-for-research-and-innovation-funding/eligible-research-institutes/#contents-list)

1. **Can organisations from industry be partners on bids?**

*Where a business or organisation from industry is drawing on funding from the project, or providing additional resources to a project, they can be named partners on bids. A Project Partner letter of support from each partner organisation confirming the level of support specific to this proposal must be submitted with the application.*

1. **Could a consultant be a sub-contractor but not a project partner? If so, can external consultants be costed on to bids?**

*Yes. Fees for external consultants can be costed into bids as a directly incurred cost. Justification for this cost is required in the Justification of Resources document. We would also need details of the tendering and procurement process that would be used for this in the Justification of Resources.*

1. **The University of Birmingham will be running a national level survey as part of the Future Flight challenge. When do you plan to run your national surveys?**

*The national level survey is planned for late 2023-early 2024.*

1. **Would grant award holders be able to suggest questions for the Future Flight national survey? If so, could these questions form part of a core or optional module?**

*The Future Flight Challenge team at the University of Birmingham welcome applicants suggesting questions for the national survey and depending on their nature and the purpose for which they are required, could form either core or optional modules. Applicants should indicate that they would like to include items/questions in the larger survey detailing the desired number and length.*

1. **Would we need to cost requests for questions as part of the University of Birmingham led national survey into our bid?**

*No. These questions will be funded through a separate budget.*

1. **Three types of technologies are mentioned in the grant call (drones, advanced air mobility, and electric and hydrogen aviation). What are the expectations in terms of which technologies are covered in proposals?**

*Applicants should feel free to focus on any emerging future flight technology in their proposal.*

1. **How does the Call align with the co-creation workshops held across March and April 2022?**

*Co-creation workshops were held across March and April 2022 to explore emerging themes in relation to the social science agenda of the Future Flight Challenge. This call was informed by the co-creation workshops, as well as the* [*Social Science Research Forward Strategy*](https://www.ukri.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/UKRI-070122-FFC-SocialScienceConsiderations.pdf%29) *and* [*Mini-Public Dialogue Report.*](https://www.ukri.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/07/UKRI-120722-FutureFlightChallengeMiniPublicDialogueReport.pdf) *Therefore we welcome applications from those who were able to join the workshops, and those who were not able to attend.*

1. **What letters of support are required?**

*Letters of support from the host institution of all applicants and co-applicants and partners must be submitted as part of this proposal. Letters of support can be accepted by email, and must be signed and dated within two months of the submission date by the relevant decision maker for your institution/school/faculty e.g. Head of School, Director of Research etc. Where there are project partners, letters of support are required from them, which outline their contribution. General letters of support – i.e. letters which do not outline resourcing that is essential for the successful conduct of the research or do not confirm any specific contribution to the project – should not be included.*

1. **Do all the institutions need to have an institutional letter of support or just the lead institution?**

*All institutions need an institutional letter of support.*

1. **Is there any flexibility to the April start date for Policy Fellowships?**

*Ideally applicants should be available to begin on the 1st April 2023. However, where there are exceptional circumstances there may be flexibility to begin later. All fellowships must end by 31st March 2024. Please note all successful applicants will be expected to attend two network development workshops which are due to run between April 2023 and March 2024. Funds for attendance at these events will be administered separately by the team at the University of Birmingham. Please do not include travel to these events in your proposed budget.*