



# Preparing for Future Clean Air Challenges: Interdisciplinary research and innovation consortia

<b>Opportunity status:</b>	Closed
<b>Funders:</b>	<a href="#">Natural Environment Research Council (NERC)</a> , <a href="#">Medical Research Council (MRC)</a> , <a href="#">Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC)</a> , <a href="#">Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC)</a> , <a href="#">Innovate UK</a> , UK Research and Innovation
<b>Co-funders:</b>	Met Office, National Physical Laboratory (NPL), Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra), Department for Health and Social Care (DHSC), Department for Transport (DfT), Scottish Government and Welsh Government
<b>Funding type:</b>	Grant
<b>Total fund:</b>	£10,000,000
<b>Award range:</b>	£2,000,000 - £3,300,000
<b>Publication date:</b>	27 July 2020
<b>Opening date:</b>	27 July 2020
<b>Closing date:</b>	15 October 2020 16:00 UK time

*Last updated: 11 February 2021*

## Deadlines

Closing date (Notification of Intent): **16:00 on 3 September 2020**

Closing date (Outline Proposals): **16:00 on 15 October 2020**

Closing date (Full Proposals – INVITE ONLY): **16:00 on 25 February 2021**

UKRI invites proposals for interdisciplinary research and innovation consortia under the second wave of the Strategic Priorities Fund (SPF) Clean Air Programme.

The aim of the second wave of SPF Clean Air Programme funding is to equip the UK to proactively tackle new and emerging air quality challenges related to changing emissions and exposure patterns and health impacts on groups of people most at risk.

With this in mind, the purpose of this call is to fund solution focussed, interdisciplinary consortia in the area of the indoor/outdoor air quality interface which will deliver new knowledge that:

- provides critical foresight on emerging air pollution challenges and associated health risks and impacts
- enables an increased understanding and quantification of human behavioural change and practices in order to develop and assess interventions, that limit harmful exposure to mitigate negative health impacts individuals most at risk.

It is anticipated that consortia will translate this new knowledge and innovation to support and inform government policy to reduce emissions, improve public health, influence behaviour and develop infrastructure.

There are five main objectives that this call seeks to address:

1. Understanding and characterising indoor air pollution and its influence on outdoor air quality.
2. Understanding the toxicology and health effects of future exposure and emission scenarios.
3. Understanding airborne biological materials and their impacts on health.
4. Influencing behaviour and practices related to emissions and exposures.
5. Interventions in the built environment.

**Across the funded portfolio of consortia, the funders anticipate elements of all these five objectives will be addressed but individual consortia do not need to address all of the objectives within their project.**

This call will support three to four large interdisciplinary consortia to deliver a step-change in knowledge and understanding of future air quality challenges and health risks across the indoor and outdoor interface and develop solutions; to achieve clean air in order to improve and protect health.

## Call details

Up to £10 million is available to fund approximately three to four consortia at £ 2 to 3.3 million (80% full economic cost) each. Projects should start on 1 September 2021 and run for four years.

Please see the Announcement of Opportunity below for full details.

- [Announcement of Opportunity PDF \(PDF, 314KB\)](#)
- [Annex A: Use of animals and/or human participants – template form \(Word, 20KB\)](#)

Applicants must submit a Notification of Intent using the [online registration form](#) by **16:00 on 3 September 2020** for their outline bid to be considered. The final closing date for outline proposals is **16:00 on 15 October 2020**.

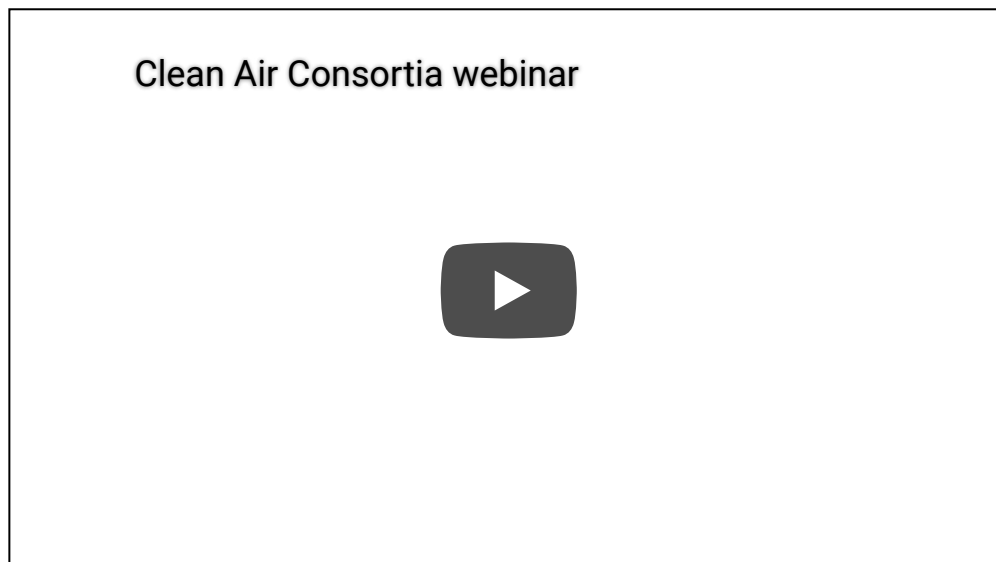
Only full proposals which have been invited by the funders following the outline stage will be accepted. The final closing date for full proposals is 16:00 25 February 2021. Applicants should be informed by December 2020 if they are to proceed to the full proposal stage.

## Additional support to applicants

UKRI have recorded a presentation which provides more information on the Announcement of Opportunity including the background, scope, and application process for this funding call. This recording, along with the accompanying slides and frequently asked questions document, can be found below.

- [Webinar slide deck \(PDF, 912KB\)](#)
- [Clean Air Consortia frequently asked questions \(PDF, 208KB\)](#)
- [Clean Air Consortia webinar \(YouTube\)](#)

To facilitate collaboration and ensure prospective consortia have the expertise needed, we will be providing a mechanism for applicants to share expertise offered or wanted. Applicants can provide these details via an [online brokering form](#) throughout application process, with the list of expertise offered or needed displayed on [this web page](#).



## Further information and contact

For further details on this funding call, please contact Boudewijn Dominicus: [atmospheric@nerc.ukri.org](mailto:atmospheric@nerc.ukri.org)

For further details on the SPF Clean Air Programme, please visit the [UK Clean Air website](#)

For more details on the Strategic Priorities Fund, please visit the: [UKRI SPF website](#)

An [equality impact assessment \(PDF, 185KB\)](#) has been carried out to ensure this funding call, including all associated events and communications, is fair and does not present barriers to participation.

NOTE This is the first phase of our new website – let us know if you have [feedback](#) or would like to [help us test new developments](#).

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