

Budget Examples and Eligible Cash Contributions

Example Case (single business)

Total grant value (100% fEC): £3.20m for a 5-year grant

EPSRC contribution (80% fEC): £2.56m for a 5-year grant

Matching Contribution from Business Partners = £2.56m

- The Business Lead should match EPSRC's contribution with eligible cash contribution (see section above). In this specific example Business Lead would have to contribute with a minimum of £2.56m.
- The Academic Lead can contribute with cash or in-kind contribution however they will not count against the matching contribution but top it up.
- Governmental bodies, including national labs, can be project partners however, their contributions will not be considered as part of the matching contribution.

Total project value: £3.20m + £2.56m + cash contributions top ups.

Overall project value: £3.20m + £2.56m + cash contributions top ups + in kind contributions.

Table 1: Worked example of single business.

Single Business			
	Contributions		
fEC	£3,200,000		
EPSRC funding	£2,560,000		
Matching contribution	£2,560,000		
Business Lead cash contribution	£2,560,000	Nature of contributions	
		£710,000	Cash donation
		£300,000	Staff research time (not Business PI)
		£500,000	New equipment donated to university with open access for the remaining 50% of the time
		£500,000	Project manager time
	£550,000	Five doctoral studentships, fees, stipends, and top ups	
Business lead in-kind	£500,000	£500,000	Staff time
Governmental or Academic Body in-kind (not matching contribution)	£400,000	£400,000	Knowledge, expertise, access to data, facilities etc...
Total project value	£5,760,000		
Overall project value	£6,660,000		

Example Case (Multi-partner)

Total grant value (100% FEC): £3.20m for a 5-year grant

EPSRC contribution (80% FEC): £2.56m for a 5-year grant

Matching Contribution from Business Partners = £2.56m

Minimum Business Lead partner contribution = £2.05

- The Business Lead should match EPSRC's contribution at a minimum of 80% of that figure with eligible cash contribution (see section above). In this specific example Business Lead would have to contribute with a minimum of £2.05m (80% of £2.56m). The Business Lead can contribute to the total of the matching contributions.
- Other project partner contributions (excluding the Academic Lead) can cover the remaining 20% of the match requirements (£0.51m).
- The Academic Lead can contribute with cash or in-kind contribution however they will not count against the matching contribution but top it up.
- Governmental bodies, including national labs, can be project partners however, their contributions will not be considered as part of the matching contribution.
- All groups can contribute with in-kind, but these will not be counted towards the matching contribution.

Total project value: £3.20m + £2.56m + cash contributions top ups.

Overall project value: £3.20m + £2.56m + cash contributions top ups + in kind contributions.

Table 2: Worked example for multiple business partners.

Multi-partners			
	Contributions		
fEC	£3,200,000		
EPSRC funding	£2,560,000		
Matching contribution	£2,560,000		
		Nature of contributions	
Minimum Business Lead cash contribution	£2,048,000	£198,000	Cash donation
		£300,000	Staff research time (not Business PI)
		£500,000	New equipment donated to university with open access for the remaining 50% of the time
		£500,000	Project manager time
		£550,000	Five doctoral studentships, fees, stipends, and top ups
Business lead in-kind	£500,000	£500,000	Staff time
Other business project partners cash contribution	£512,000	£400,000	Cash donation
		£112,000	Researchers time
Governmental Body in-kind	£400,000	£400,000	Knowledge, expertise, access to data, facilities etc...
Total project value	£5,760,000		
Overall project value	£6,660,000		

Definitive list of eligible cash contributions

The following is the definitive list of eligible cash contributions, these are in addition to providing an auditable cash transfer to the academic organisation(s).

- **Researchers' Salaries:** All or part of the pro-rata, gross salary cost associated with researchers employed by universities (including Co-Is). The gross salaries of researchers employed by the business may also be claimed as long as they are working at least 50% of their time on the project*.
- **Postdoctoral Research Associates' Salary:** All or part of the gross salary cost associated with research associates employed by research organisations to work exclusively on the Prosperity Partnership. Research Associates can also be employed directly by the businesses in the partnership and claim the gross salary as a cash contribution as long as they are exclusively committed to working on the Prosperity Partnership*.
- **Professional Project Managers' Salary:** Pro-rata gross salary cost of a professional project manager are an eligible cash contribution provided that they work at least 50% of their time on the Prosperity Partnership*.
- **Technicians' Salary:** Pro-rata gross salary cost of technicians are an eligible cash contribution provided that they work at least 50% of their time on the Prosperity Partnership*.
- **New software licences needed for the project and their maintenance cost for the duration of the grant.** Software licences or intellectual property (IP) owned by the business which are already accessible by the partners will apply at marginal cost, not at market rate.
- **Genuine new equipment purchases, please see section 'Equipment'.** The equipment should be dedicated to the objectives of the Prosperity Partnership and their utilisation should be critical to deliver the activity. The access doesn't have to be restricted to the project members but EPSRC expect at least 50% of the time to be dedicated to the Prosperity Partnership project. All equipment should be appropriately justified.
- **Equipment produced by the business but only at the cost of manufacture, not market rate.**
- **Access to specific equipment/facilities critical to achieve the outcomes of the project.** If the facility is based at the Academic or Business Lead, the contribution will be at the internal rate, not market rate.
- **Facilities refurbishment can be an eligible research organisation cash contribution if the upgrade will increase the capability of the facilities.** This contribution must be justified in addition to any estate costs already factored in.
- **Business cash donation which will be provided to the partner universities, for the universities to manage in line with the project objectives.**
- **Top-up of stipends EPSRC funded doctoral students.**

- Extra training for EPSRC funded doctoral students to align with a business cohort of students.
- Fully funded doctoral students (fees, stipends and top ups) with up to a maximum of 20% of the matching contribution. Please note that business contributions towards ICASE awards cannot count towards eligible cash contributions.

* EPSRC expects all their time to be on projects within Prosperity Partnership, though this does not have to be for the lifetime of the project (e.g. 50% of time committed towards 6 months of work during the project). Exceptions where lower time is devoted to the project will need justification in terms of multidisciplinary and responsibilities distribution. The appropriateness of the time devoted to the project will be assessed in the Panel Interview and Peer Review (at the Full Proposal Stage). Gross salary can be claimed as matched funding (that is including indirect costs such as Pension, National Insurance, taxes etc.), but not business overheads or profits. The salary of a single member of staff (researcher, PDRA, doctoral student or project manager) can be covered in partnership by the Business Lead and EPSRC funds in a ratio that best suits the project.