Call launch webinar
Future Data Services
Senior Strategic Fellow and Strategic Fellow call

Presenters

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Webinar outline

Background

Aims and objectives

Submitting your application
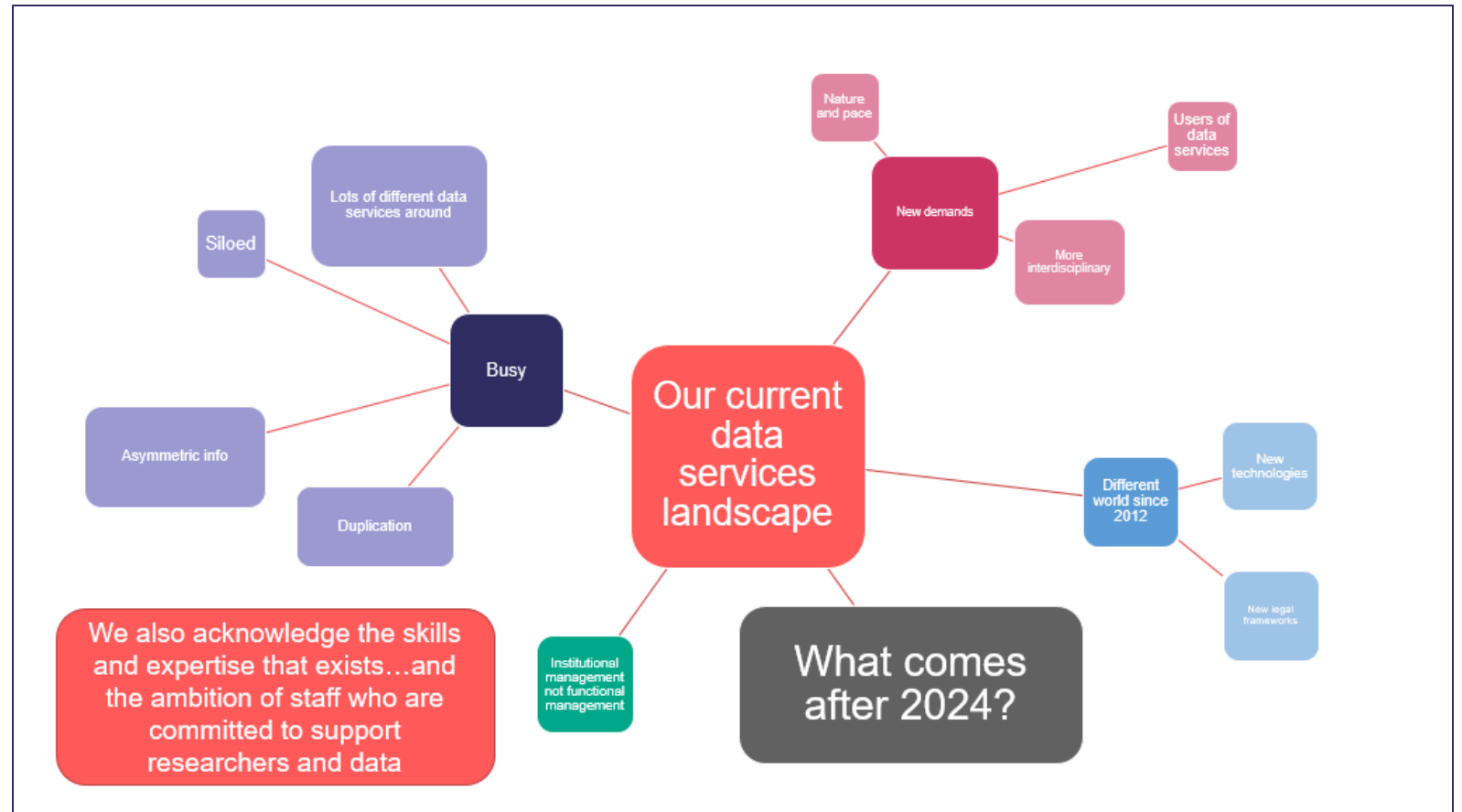
Frequently Asked Questions

How the webinar will work

- We will be recording the webinar so that content can be made available for those unable to attend

- Please use the chat facility to raise questions you have about the call – we will publish answers after the webinar

Background

ESRC's data services investments

- UK Data Service

- CLOSER

- Big Data Network
    - -> DigitalFootprints (prototype)

- Census LS Research Support

- Administrative Data Research UK

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Background and call development

ESRC currently commits around a third of its annual World Class Labs capital budget to data services (~£12M) such as the UK Data Service, CLOSER and the Census Longitudinal Study Research Support Units and DigitalFootprints. Many other investments also provide support to data users. The majority of our grants for these investments will end in September 2024. The Future Data Services strategic review will enable ESRC to decide how best to invest in data services beyond 2024. It is focusing on user requirements in five key areas:

- **Data Discovery** (including curation, long-term preservation, metadata systems management, searchability, data linkage);

- **Data Access and User Support** (including training and capacity building), technology (including requirements for Trusted Research Environments;

- **Technology** (including high performance computing, software delivery, Trusted Research Environments)

- **People, Culture and Places**: (technicians: career management to support capacity building in data services infrastructure)

- **Ethics, Legal, Public Engagement,** establishing **value-for-money**

Aims and objectives

Objectives

- Provide senior-level strategic advice and technical expertise to support the programme.

- Lead the development and critically appraise a series of data service options to meet requirements of our research and data owner communities for the rest of the decade.

- Provide leadership for the development of bids for enhanced funding for future infrastructures

- Support development of the business case for ESRC's next phase of investment in data services.

- Provide scientific leadership and strategic direction regarding the commissioning, coordination, and optimising the potential impact of future data service investments.

- Act as a public champion for ESRC's ambitions for the data service landscape.

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Essential requirements

- Thorough understanding of the data services landscape, within the UK and internationally, through an interest in data sciences or traditional social science disciplines.

- Vision and the ability to understand the big picture and broader strategic concerns, and map how various landscape components can fit together.

- Understanding of the sensitivities around the use of data for research and the different approaches for managing these.

- An excellent track record of building effective relationships at all but especially senior levels between academia, government, industry and/or the third sector and the public.

- Please see call specification for further requirements

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Desirables

• Understanding of the importance of **acquiring and curating data**; providing **data access**; understanding of **legal frameworks** that support access to data; issues around **confidentiality and ethical use of data**; **data management frameworks** (such as the Open Archival Information System, OAIS)

•Relevant experience in shaping and successfully leading **an applied quantitative and/or qualitative** data-based research programme or related research endeavours

•Proven experience **with working with a wide range of data providers/data owners** across government and industry/third-sector and a proven ability to tailor communications appropriately for different audiences

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Management and governance

Working with the ESRC office and Head of Data Services, agreeing a timetable for activities and outputs to be delivered, including for example:

• A plan for activities to support coordination and collaboration to support Future Data Services programme.

• Development and implementation of a stakeholder engagement plan to gather evidence.

• A plan for development and delivery of the scientific case as part of a wider business case.

• Regular oversight and sharing with the ESRC Chief Executive Office, Programme Board and Expert Groups.

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Submitting your application

Key commissioning dates

- **Deadline for submission of proposals –** **8th March 2022, 4pm**

- **Assessment panel meeting – March 2022**

- **Interviews of shortlisted applicants – April 2022**

- **Grant start date – May/June 2022**

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Je-S submission process for applicants

	Senior Strategic Fellow	Strategic Fellow
Maximum FTE	0.4	0.4
Maximum ESRC contrib (80% FTE)	£262,500	£150,000
Admin support	0.3 FTE	-
T&S	£5,000	£5,000

Applicant eligibility

Organisation eligibility

- Applications can be submitted by UK higher education institutions (HEIs) and some UK independent research organisations (IROs) and public sector research establishments (PSREs)

- A full list of IROs and PSREs that are eligible for funding is available on the UKRI website

Applicant eligibility

- The Principal Investigator (PI) must be based at/or hosted by a UK HEI or eligible UK IRO or PSRE

- The PI should be based at the organisation submitting the application.

Proposal content guidance

The following are mandatory attachments:

- **Case for Support** (maximum of 6 sides of A4)

- **Justification of resources** (maximum of 2 sides of A4)

- **CVs** (for the named applicant, including publication record) (maximum of 2 sides of A4)

- **Institutional Letter of Support** (from the lead organisation) (maximum of 2 side of A4)

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Contact details and key further links

Email with any queries : fds.df.fellowships@esrc.ukri.org

Useful links:
- Je-S Guidance
- ESRC Research Funding Guide

DigitalFootprints Senior Strategic Fellow Call

Provide scientific leadership to the DigitalFootprints Prototype

https://www.ukri.org/opportunity/digitalfootprints-senior-strategic-fellowship-2022/

Webinar: Thursday 17th February, 1-2pm