

Grant Assessment Panel (GAP) Research User Member Appointments 2022

ESRC is now inviting applications from suitably experienced individuals in the private sector to act as 'research user' members of our Grant Assessment Panels (GAPs, <https://www.ukri.org/about-us/esrc/grant-assessment-panels/>). Research users are non-academic members of the panels who represent the fields of policy and practice, spanning the public, private and third sectors. As a member of GAP, research users play a crucial role in supporting the impact of research beyond academia by commenting on proposed research's relevance, timeliness and added value for user communities.

About ESRC

ESRC is part of UK Research and Innovation (UKRI), an organisation that brings together the UK's seven research councils, Innovate UK and Research England to maximise the contribution of each council and create the best environment for research and innovation to flourish. The vision is to ensure the UK maintains its world-leading position in research and innovation. UK Research and Innovation is a non-departmental public body funded by a grant-in-aid from the UK government.

We are the UK's largest organisation for funding research on economic and social issues. We support independent, high quality research which has an impact on business, the public sector and civil society. ESRC's total budget for 2020-21 was around £250 million. At any one time ESRC supports over 4,000 researchers and postgraduate students in academic institutions and independent research institutes.

About the Panels

Our Grant Assessment Panels (GAPs) assess proposals for three key responsive mode schemes: Research Grants, New Investigator Grants and the Secondary Data Analysis Initiative (SDAI).

There are currently three Panels (A-C) organised around a cluster of disciplines with a fourth panel (Panel D) that considers proposals submitted to the Secondary Data Analysis Initiative (SDAI). Between them the Panels cover the whole of ESRC's disciplinary remit. Please see disciplines covered by each Panel here: <https://www.ukri.org/about-us/esrc/grant-assessment-panels/>.

GAPs mainly consist of an academic membership which is drawn from all areas of the social sciences, representing a broad range of expertise, skills and approaches. However, in addition to academic members GAPs also include experienced people from across the public, business and civil society sectors to help ensure ESRC funds high quality research with academic, economic and societal impact.

GAPs also have an opportunity to feed into and learn about ESRC policy development. The ESRC Grants Delivery Group (GDG) considers the funding recommendations from the GAPs on behalf of the ESRC Council and makes the final funding decisions, subject to available budget. The GDG is chaired by an ESRC Council member. Its other members include the chairs of each of the four GAPs.

Role of Research User Members

Research user views are critical within ESRC's decision-making processes. Funding is highly competitive, and the potential for impact beyond academia is of particular importance in identifying which proposals are funded. Through this role, research users will support the social science community to create impacts and improve outcomes.

User members of the GAPs are expected to read and comment on an average of 30 research proposals per annum and to meet three times a year (in March, July and November) to make funding recommendations.

User members are not required to provide written assessments but are expected to read a number of proposals for each meeting. User members are asked to pay particular attention to the relevance, timeliness and added value of the proposed research for relevant stakeholders such as policymakers, practitioners, or the general public. They will be expected to comment on the appropriateness and quality of applicants' plans for knowledge exchange and impact with, and for, users of research.

Vacancies

Each panel has three research user members. We currently have the following user vacancy in this recruitment round:

Panel A (one vacancy):

- Desirable: Based in a private sector organisation, with experience of assessing research impact and undertaking and/or assessing quantitative, qualitative or mixed method approaches in research. An interest in psychological research into adult populations, including, but not limited to, the areas of adult health and wellbeing is also desirable.
- Panel A covers the disciplines of Demography, Environmental Planning, Human Geography, Psychology, Statistics Computing and Methodologies

Time Commitment

It is essential that applicants should be able to commit the required time and attention to the role, and should have the full support of their employing organisation.

GAP research user members are expected to commit around 5-10 working days per year to panel business, which includes time taken to read proposals as well as attendance at GAP meetings. Meetings for each round (three times a year) are generally held over two days.

The dates of upcoming GAP meetings are 9th/10th November 2022, and 15th/16th March 2023. Further dates will be confirmed. Most GAP meetings will take place virtually, via Zoom, for two meetings a year with the third meeting expected to be held in-person.

Membership appointments will run from 1 September 2022 to 31 August 2024. A further one to two year term may be served by mutual agreement.

Person Requirements and Eligibility

Appointments to the Grant Assessment Panels are made against the criteria below. All applicants must be able to satisfy the person specification. Applications are welcomed irrespective of age, disability, sex, gender identity, race, religion or sexual orientation and ESRC will seek to ensure that the membership of its panels demonstrates a suitable balance wherever possible.

Applications are welcome from research users who can demonstrate the following criteria:

Essential Skills and Experience:

- An appreciation for research and research-related issues and the ways in which excellent research (particularly from the disciplines covered by the specific panel to which you are applying) can inform policy and practice, and the ability to exercise sound judgement on these issues;
- An understanding of knowledge exchange between research, policy and funder communities;
- An in-depth understanding of the sector in which they operate;
- Effective evaluation skills;
- Excellent verbal communication skills;
- An understanding of how to operate within senior levels of their field;
- An accountable and open working style.

Desirable Skills and Experience:

- A research background or knowledge exchange background;
- Strong personal experience of ESRC's work;
- Experience of reviewing research proposals;
- Experience of using research findings to inform policy and/or practice
- Experience and interest in qualitative and/or quantitative data resources.

Conflicts of Interest

Once appointed, all members of our GAPs are required to declare any private, professional or commercial interests that might conflict with the interests of the ESRC, or which might

be perceived by others as creating a conflict of interest. For further information and guidance, please see ESRC's Code of Practice available on the ESRC website: <https://www.ukri.org/publications/esrc-code-of-practice-for-members-of-committees-and-groups/>.

Payment

To recognise their contribution, members are paid an annual panel membership fee of £800 for reading proposals and participating in three meetings a year. Travel and subsistence expenses will also be reimbursed.

Please note that attendance fees are not payable to members who are:

- Civil Servants
- Full time employees of organisations whose funds are derived from Votes of Parliament (e.g. Government Departments, UKAEA, BBC, other Research Councils)

How to apply

Applications should be submitted using the online form no later than **17:00 on Friday 13th May 2022**. A short curriculum vitae (no longer than two pages) should also be included. Paper applications will not be accepted.

Please access the online application form at: <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/SB68SR9>

Applications will be shortlisted internally by a panel of senior ESRC staff. Final decisions will be made in conjunction with the GDG. The successful candidates will be informed about the outcome of the process in late June.

Successful applicants will be expected to be available for an induction session on **Thursday 8th September** in Swindon or via Zoom.

ESRC runs periodic open recruitment campaigns for the Grant Assessment Panel (GAP) and the Strategic Advisory Network (SAN, <https://www.ukri.org/about-us/esrc/how-we-are-governed/strategic-advisory-network/>). When we run open calls, we may consider applications when opportunities arise for GAP, SAN or other advisory bodies on a case-by-case basis. Please tick the box in the application form if you would like us to retain your personal information for up to one year for future opportunities. In this case, your personal information will only be shared with relevant ESRC staff when and if opportunities arise.

Application and process queries

For further information on the appointments process or what the role entails, please contact:

Email: grants@esrc.ukri.org

Membership of the ESRC Grant Assessment Panels March 2022

Panel A

Professor Thomas Ormerod (Chair)	University of Sussex
Professor Louise Waite	University of Leeds
Professor Thom Baguley	Nottingham Trent University
Professor Stefan Bouzarovski	University of Manchester
Professor Mitchell Callan	University of Bath
Dr Siobhan Campbell	Non-academic member
Professor Heather Flowe	University of Birmingham
Professor Rachel Franklin	Newcastle University
Professor Gareth Gaskell	University of York
Professor Jessica Horst	University of Sussex
Professor Ade Kearns	University of Glasgow
Dr Paul Litchfield	Non-academic member
Ms Pam Miller	Non-academic member
Professor Martin Pickering	University of Edinburgh
Dr Victoria Simms	Ulster University
Professor Anna Whittaker	University of Stirling
Dr Mary Zhang	University of Oxford

Panel B

Professor Svenja Adolphs (Chair)	University of Nottingham
Professor Paul Baker	Lancaster University
Professor Neil Chakraborti	University of Leicester
Dr Tommaso Ciarli	University of Sussex
Ms Anita Dockley	Non-academic member
Professor Laura Dominguez	University of Southampton
Professor John Downey	Loughborough University
Mr James Fletcher	Non-academic member
Professor Jacqui Gabb	Open University
Professor Trevor Gale	University of Glasgow
Professor Alison Kington	University of Worcester
Dr Derek Kirton	University of Kent
Professor John Morison	Queen's University Belfast
Dr Huw Morris	Non-academic member
Professor Karim Murji	University of West London
Dr Beng Huat See	Durham University
Professor Dale Southerton	University of Bristol

Panel C

Professor Kevin Schurer (Chair)	University of Leicester
Professor Clare Anderson	University of Leicester
Professor David Abbott	University of Bristol
Dr Pardip Bans	Non-academic member
Professor Michael Ben-Gad	City, University of London
Professor Sarah Bracking	Kings College London
Professor Michael Bruter	London School of Economics & Political Science
Dr Anna Dickson	Non-academic member
Professor Jun Du	Aston University
Dr Peggy Froerer	Brunel University
Mr John Galilee	Non-academic member
Professor Oliver James	University of Exeter
Professor Melanie Jones	Cardiff University
Professor Paul Mizen	University of Nottingham
Professor Sabina Siebert	University of Glasgow
Dr Kitty Stewart	London School of Economics & Political Science
Professor Stefan Wolff	University of Birmingham

Panel D

Professor Athina Vlachantoni (Chair)	University of Southampton
Mr Michael Daly	Non-academic member
Professor Susan Harkness	University of Bristol
Dr Kahryn Hughes	University of Leeds
Professor Simonetta Longhi	University of Reading
Dame Jil Matheson	Non-academic member
Mr Giles Pavey	Non-academic member
Professor Jamie Pearce	University of Edinburgh
Dr Darja Reuschke	University of Southampton
Dr Nadia Siddiqui	Durham University