**MRC Community Infrastructure Ideas**

Please note that this form is used to help MRC support and prioritise potential Infrastructure ideas. We do not necessarily expect all boxes to be completed, especially for initial ideas, and a lack of information for some of the areas will potentially help indicate next steps and where MRC Head Office could support you with further work.

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| **Name(s), institution(s) and email address of the Principal Author(s) of this form** |
| *Please note this is for correspondence purposes and for managing conflicts of interest and does not represent and commitment that these people will lead any final bids for funding* |
| **Working name of the proposed new National Research Infrastructure**  |
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| **Strategic Case for Support: Why is this new national facility/ capability needed? Why should this infrastructure investment be prioritised? How has evidence supporting this proposed new research infrastructure been gathered from the wider research community? (400 words)** |
| *Please include any independent expert verification or community evidence (such as a survey or workshop outcomes) for i) the need for such a national facility in the UK and ii) the quality of the science which would be enabled by such a national facility/ capability.* |
| **Ambition and vision: Outline the vision of the proposed infrastructure in terms of the research/ innovation objectives and ambition, the science that would be enabled by the new facility and how success would look like in 5-10 years’ time (800 words)** |
| *Please include the proposed structure of the national facility/ capability, noting that different infrastructure models such as centralised facilities, Hub and Spoke models and digital platforms can be considered.*  |
| **Infrastructure Costings and Timings: Provide an estimate on costings and timeframe for establishment of the proposed new infrastructure. Please also detail how the ongoing costs for the infrastructure will be funded (beyond the establishment phase) and the proposed lifespan of the project. (400 words)** |
| *Please note that the Infrastructure Fund can only be used to setup a new facility/ capability. On going running costs must be met by other means, such as user access fees or support from the host Research Organisation. Please detail both approximate capital (equipment, housing) and resource (staff) costs in this section and include any known service and maintenance costs of the proposed new equipment during the establishment phase.* |
| **User base: Describe the expected user base for the infrastructure, including the proposed geographic location(s) of the infrastructure and the expected user base in terms of academic/ industry and scientific/clinical users as well as local/regional and national users (if relevant). Describe how access to the facility/capability would be managed for those not in the host institution(s). (400 words)** |
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| **Research Advancement: Detail how the proposed new facility would result in a step-change in UK capability and capacity and how it fits into the existing UK and international research and innovation landscape. (800 words)**  |
| *Please include reference to the relevant sector and theme in the* [UKRI Infrastructure Roadmap report](https://www.ukri.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/UKRI-201020-UKinfrastructure-opportunities-to-grow-our-capacity-FINAL.pdf)*, if applicable. Please include the expected new areas of research the facility/capability would enable and the scientific advances that would be delivered by the facility. Please include any SWOT (strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats) analysis you have conducted on the proposed new investment and its fit into the existing landscape.*  |
| **Existing Infrastructure Landscape: Describe what UK equipment currently exists for this research area, where existing equipment is housed and the current user base and demand for existing equipment. (400 words)** |
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| **Strategic Importance: Outline the fit of this new facility to MRC and wider UKRI strategic priorities and how will the new facility help to achieve these strategic goals. (400 words)** |
| *This section may include reference to the* [*UKRI Corporate Plan*](https://www.ukri.org/about-us/what-we-do/corporate-plan/)*,* [*MRC Delivery Plan*](https://mrc.ukri.org/about/what-we-do/spending-accountability/delivery-plan/)*,* [*UK Government Life Sciences Vision,*](https://www.gov.uk/government/news/bold-new-life-sciences-vision-sets-path-for-uk-to-build-on-pandemic-response-and-deliver-life-changing-innovations-to-patients)[*UK Government Innovation Strategy*](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/uk-innovation-strategy-leading-the-future-by-creating-it)*, relevant UK business needs, international considerations, local and regional needs and strategic partnership opportunities.* |
| **Leverage: Are there plans to secure external funding (University support, industry funding) for this facility? (100 words)** |
| *Please note that evidence for partner involvement may needed to be presented such as a Letter of Support from co-funders and/or interested industry users.*  |
| **Please indicate current planning phase of the infrastructure project and whether UKRI/MRC support of preliminary work may be needed. (100 words)** |
| *Many UKRI infrastructure projects will have a number of distinct phases, e.g. planning and community cohesion; preliminary work such as feasibility studies, ground work.* *The UKRI infrastructure funding might be able to fund substantial preliminary phases (£1M-10M) which can support and derisk a larger project. MRC might be able to internally support options analysis, or community consultations.* |
| **Please indicate suitable UK-based and international peer reviewers that would be able to review this infrastructure proposal. (100 words)** |
| *Please note that in addition to academic peer reviewers, industry and technical expert peer reviewers may be appropriate for this proposal.* |