Natural Environment Research Council

NERC Policy on Access to ARCHER2 for non-NERC/internationally/other Funded Grants

January 2024

1. ARCHER2 access is free at the point of use for NERC funded science.

2. NERC is happy to allow access through the NERC consortia by non-NERC funded scientists in the NERC remit, <u>where time/resource is available</u>, and such access is consistent with the NERC remit.

3. In a resource limiting situation, <u>NERC funded science will take priority</u>.

4. When EU/other funding calls allow inclusion of HPC costs (eg ERC) NERC expects that these costs are requested in the application.

5. Applicants in receipt of non-NERC funds without HPC costs, are expected to seek funding elsewhere, to cover the eventuality that NERC will be unable to provide access.

6. Access requests should initially be routed through one of the three [NERC HPC consortium leaders](#) who will be able to advise if the request is likely to be accommodated within the NERC allowance.

7. Where costs for HPC access have been awarded, and access has been through one of the three NERC consortia, NERC will recover the cost at partner rate (currently £0.2/CU+VAT). These costs should be borne in mind when seeking funding.

8. If NERC consortia are unable to meet the need, access will be through EPCC or EPSRC. A technical assessment will be required. The charge will be at non-partner rate (currently £0.39/CU). These costs should be borne in mind when seeking funding. Further information on access through EPSRC or EPCC can be found on the [ARCHER2 website](#).

9. In the case of large applications for non-NERC funding, in which HPC is a critical component, and where funding draws considerably on activities funded by NERC, NERC/the HPC Steering Committee welcomes early discussion of HPC options.

10. Applicants are encouraged to contact the relevant consortium leader (as above) and/or the NERC HPC Senior Programme Manager (hpc@nerc.ukri.org).

11. Access via international projects such as PRACE is managed by EPCC or EPSRC depending on the circumstances. Further information can be found on the [ARCHER2 website](#).