2023 Transformative Research Technologies (23TRT)

Launch date: Monday 26th June

BBSRC Staff

Name	Role
Oliver Huxley	Portfolio Manager - Transformative Technologies
Richard Brown	Senior Portfolio Manager - Transformative Technologies
Ian Lewis	Head of Transformative Technologies

Agenda and Purpose of the webinar

- Provide background to the 23TRT opportunity

- Clarify the scope of 23TRT

- Explain the application and assessment processes

- Introduce the new UKRI funding service (TFS)

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Background – BBSRC Transformative Technologies
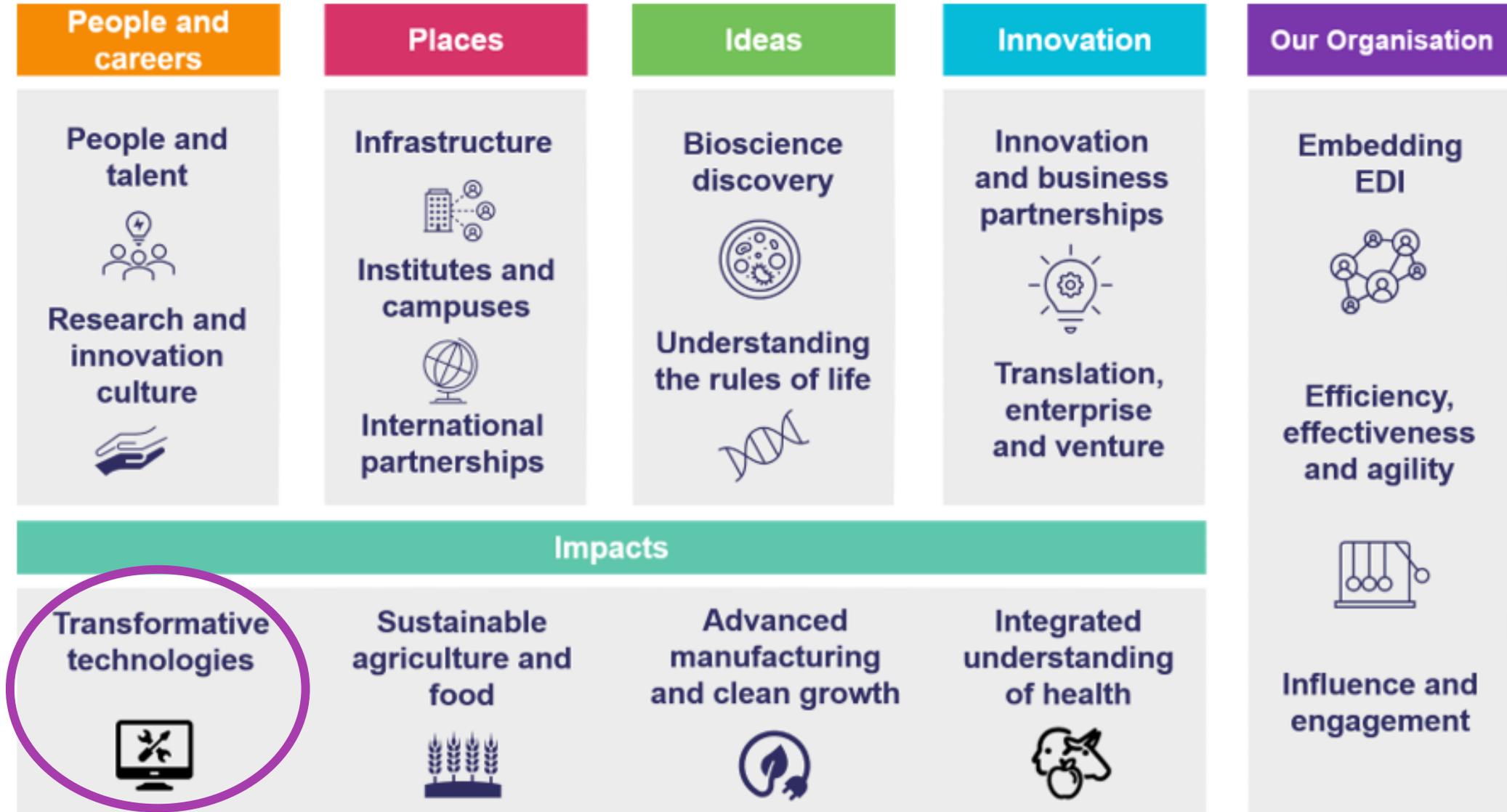
2023 Transformative Research Technologies

- Built on previous TRDF opportunities, while responding to the Review.

- Developing the tools, technologies and approaches that enable researchers to push the boundaries of bioscience discovery

- Open scope
  - Early-stage technology/software development
  - Spanning BBSRC remit
  - Cutting-edge enabling research technologies with the potential for transformative impact in bioscience research.

- 50% increase in funding pot, 20% increase in maximum award size

Max Award Value	BBSRC Budget
£225k (£180k - 80%fEC)	£3M

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BBSRC's Review of Technology Development in the Biosciences

- Published November 2022 - carried out in recognition of its critical importance in enabling world-class bioscience research

Underpinning Themes

- Funding landscape

- Peer review

- Skills and training

- Research technology professionals (RTPs)

- Culture change

- Terminology

- The support landscape of infrastructure

Review of technology development in the biosciences

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Responding to the review of Technology Development in the Biosciences

23TRT implements multiple recommendations from this review:

- Increase funding pot (50%) and award size (20%)
- Ensure clarity about what 23TRT's scope and aims are
- Recognize diversity of applicants and roles in the success of projects.
- Improve our peer review processes to ensure 23TRT delivers on its aims

Review of technology development in the biosciences

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Applicants

- **Standard BBSRC eligibility rules apply**

- New harmonized grant roles being used across UKRI:
  E.g. Project Lead (Principal Investigator) and Project Co-Lead (Co-Investigator)

- Use of Resume for Researcher and Innovators (R4RI) to demonstrate a broader set of skills and experiences relevant to the project

- All about having the expertise and experience required to demonstrate capability to deliver the proposed project.

- Interdisciplinary collaborations - problem owner/solution provider approach is available.

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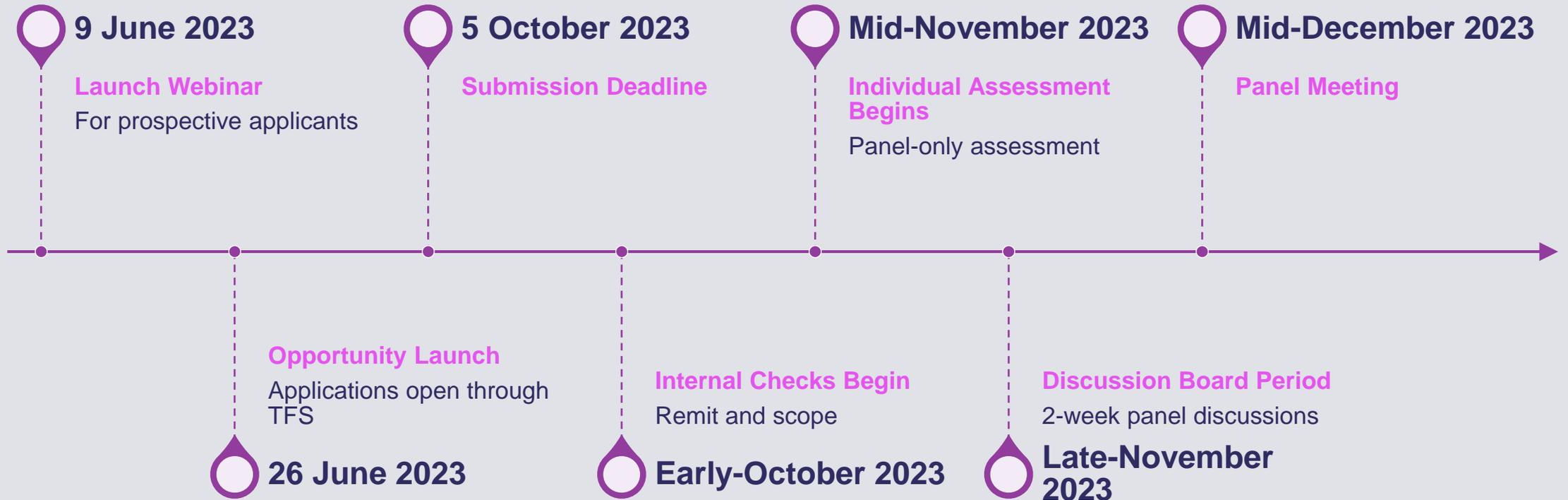
Research Technology Professionals (RTPs)

- Technician Commitment – recognition of RTPs

- **RTPs/RSEs are eligible to apply as project lead/project co-lead**

- **Provision of relevant training and upskilling opportunities should be costed.**

Assessment Criteria

- Vision
  - Focus on the idea
- Approach
  - Focus on the delivery
- Applicant and team capability to deliver
- Resources and cost justification
- Ethics and responsible research and innovation (RRI)

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Timeline

9 June 2023

Launch Webinar
For prospective applicants

5 October 2023

Submission Deadline

Mid-November 2023

Individual Assessment Begins
Panel-only assessment

Mid-December 2023

Panel Meeting

Opportunity Launch
Applications open through TFS

26 June 2023

Internal Checks Begin
Remit and scope

Early-October 2023

Discussion Board Period
2-week panel discussions

Late-November 2023

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Subject to demand

Assessment Process

- Interdisciplinary panel across BBSRC remit
- Fast track assessment process with no external peer review
- Each proposal assessed and scored by 3 panel members with relevant expertise
- We ensure that panel members are unable to influence the assessment of conflicted applications
- We aim to promote panel-wide discussion of proposals in the penultimate week.
- Panel meeting in the final week to produce funding recommendation to BBSRC.

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Demand Management

- We are expecting significant demand for this opportunity
  - Due to TRDF not running since 2020
  - Open across BBSRC remit

- Consider carefully whether your application is within remit and scope. You should clearly articulate how the proposed project addresses 23TRT scope.

- You can only apply as Project Lead on one submitted application.

- You can still be member of a consortium on multiple applications provided you do not take a leading role as Project Lead.

- Applications with similar consortia will be in direct competition - this is not recommended unless the applications are in very different areas.

Out of Scope

- Platform technologies that are generically applicable to multiple research domains, outside of bioscience research.

- Applications with a focus on answering a research question, instead of developing cutting-edge technology to do so.

- Improvements of technologies where previous proof-of-concept has already been demonstrated, including applications with existing technologies already in use for comparable areas of bioscience.

- Direct application of off-the-shelf technology to research.

- Community databases and data infrastructures.

- Technologies for translational applications. The focus for this opportunity is on technologies for the discovery research community.

- Applications that exceed the cost and/or duration limits described for this opportunity.

- Applications that do not comply with BBSRC's resubmission policy.

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The new UKRI Funding Service (TFS)

Submitting your application

"We want to create an integrated research and innovation system that delivers for everyone" Professor **Dame Ottoline Leyser,** Chief Executive of UK Research and Innovation
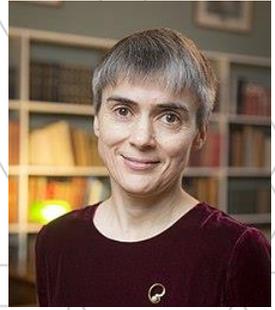
Our Vision

UKRI's Simpler and Better Funding (SBF) programme is creating a funding service that is easy to use and supports everyone involved in research funding.

The goal is that UKRI operates a single, consistent user-centred service that reduces the burden of finding, applying for and managing research funding, gives UKRI evidence to support funding the best ideas, can respond and adapt easily to change.

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Benefits of TFS

- Guidance and questions are consistent and in one place
- Questions reflect the assessment criteria
- Only ask for what we need once, when we need it.
- Fewer attachments.
- Accessible and intuitive interface
- Automated checks before submission e.g. word count

Approach

How are you going to deliver your proposed work?

▼ What the assessors are looking for in your response

You should:

- provide clearly defined, ambitious, and adventurous objectives
- describe a suitable programme of work to achieve the project aim(s), indicating the experimental and data analytical research to be undertaken
- identify any particularly innovative, unconventional methodologies or approaches that will be explored
- describe key milestones where you may need to make decisions, track, or evaluate progress
- demonstrate your awareness of any potential challenges, risks, or limitations of the proposed project
- describe any alternative approaches, or the learning potential in the event of negative results

It may be helpful to include a diagram that provides a visual overview. This can be uploaded as an 8MB PDF attachment.

Number your references in this section using a superscript citation style. Then include the details of these references in a corresponding list, in the 'References' section of this application.

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Application overview

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Contents

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1. Details   Edit

Summary

No content has been added.

Start date

No content has been added.

Duration

No content has been added.

2. Applicants   Edit

Name	Role	Organisation	Email
Matthew Weaver	Co-investigator	ZORG	matthew.weaver@ukri.org

3. Vision   Edit

▶ View application question

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4. Approach   Edit

▶ View application question

UKRI Organisational Change Working together for a simpler, better future

TFS Tips

- Complete your EDI profile – applications cannot be sent to the research office administrator unless this is completed
- Applications should be created by the project lead rather than a member of the project team or research office
- As soon as you start your research office administrator will have visibility of the application
- Your research office administrator will need time to approve the application - account for this!
    - Know who your contact is

How to get involved and stay up to date

- Simpler and Better newsletter
  - Information about the service
  - Updates
  - Sign up for events and demonstrations

Subscribe to our newsletter
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- Sign up for User research https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/W57Y9CQ

- Visit our website https://www.ukri.org/apply-for-funding/improving-your-funding-experience/

- UKRI Events https://www.ukri.org/events/

- Upcoming webinars and ARMA study tours

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Contact

For all queries, please email: support@funding-service.ukri.org

Ensure you reference "23TRT".

We aim to respond to emails within 2 working days.

Phone: 01793 547490

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