



# Welcome

The Place-based Impact Acceleration Account webinar will begin shortly



UK Research  
and Innovation



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and Innovation

# Place-based Impact Acceleration Account Round 2

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15<sup>th</sup> November 2023



UK Research  
and Innovation

## Asking questions

Please type your questions into the Q&A function

Unanswered questions will be addressed and circulated as a document after this session

Questions in the webinar are public, if you want to ask a specific or more private question please email [pbiaa@epsrc.ukri.org](mailto:pbiaa@epsrc.ukri.org)

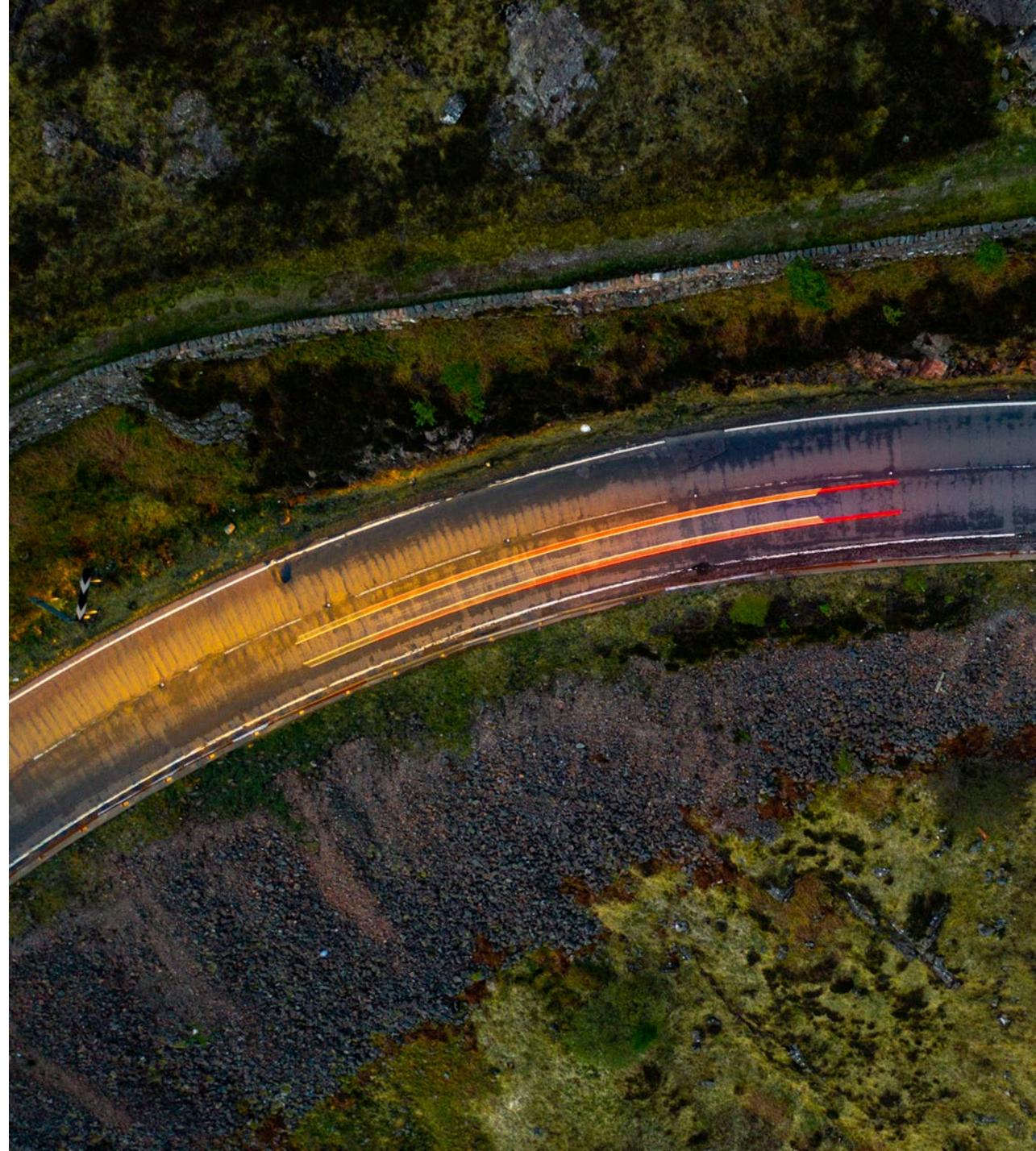
Webinar is being recorded

Full details of funding opportunity - <https://www.ukri.org/opportunity/place-based-impact-acceleration-account-round-2/>

# Place-based Impact Acceleration Account Round 2

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- 2 What are we looking for
- 3 What activities can a PBIAA support
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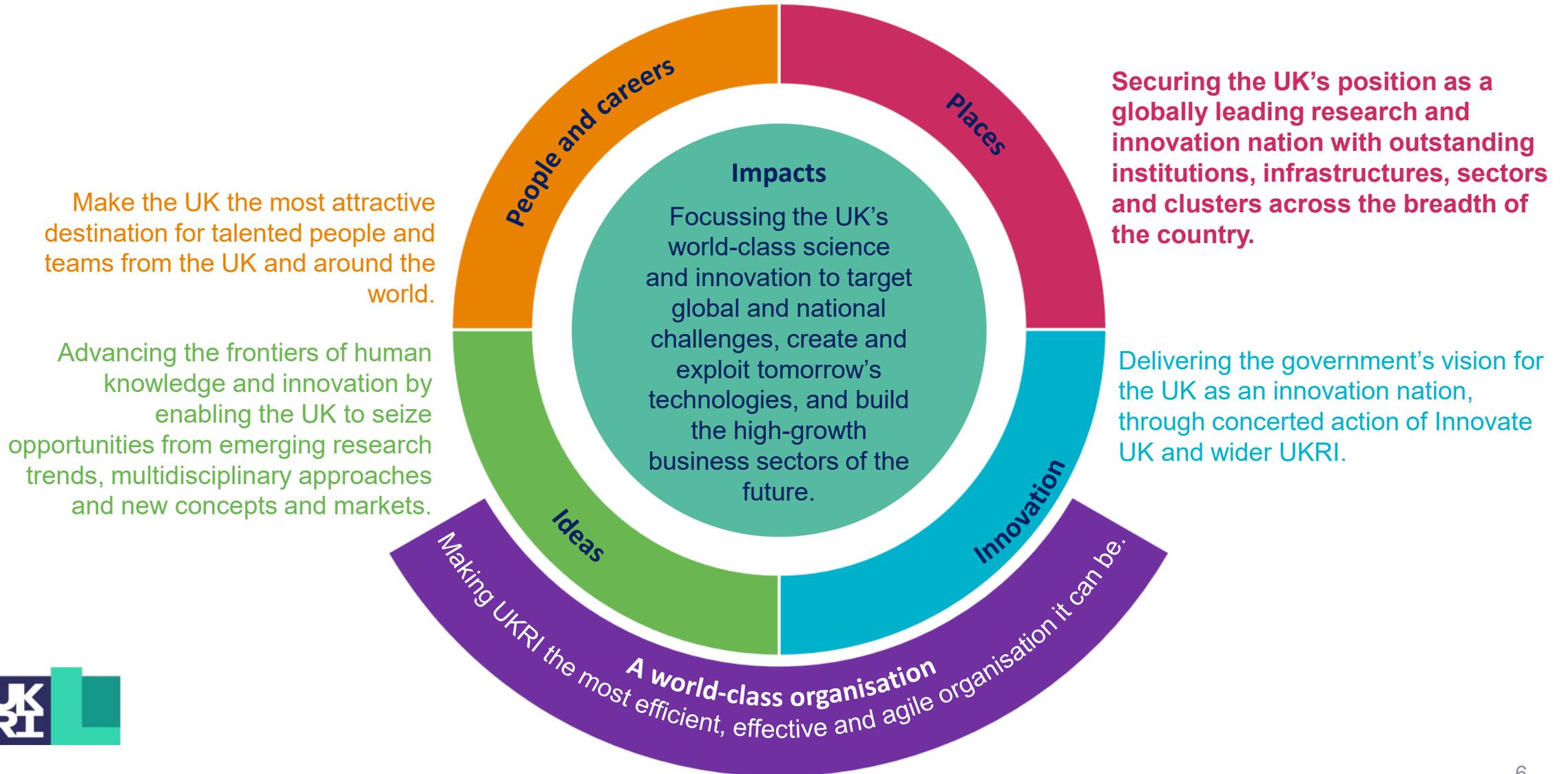




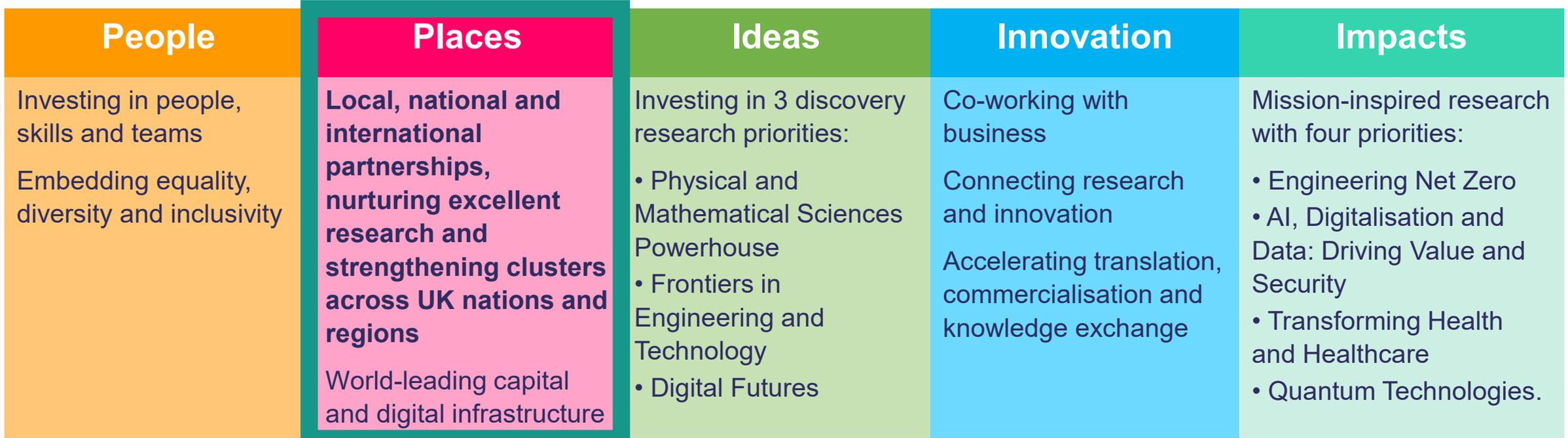
# Place-based Impact Acceleration Account

# UKRI Strategic Objectives

Our **strategic objectives** provide the framework for how we will achieve our vision and realise our principles through world-class:



# EPSRC – Our delivery plan objectives:



Supported by a World Class Organisation



# What does place mean to EPSRC?

- Understanding priorities from across the UK to inform our national strategy
- Ensuring we listen to a diversity of voices

**Local, regional and national insights**



- Identifying the places that benefit from our investments
- Considering where we can align new activity to place-based priorities

**Impacts and benefits**



- Understanding where research, innovation, infrastructure and training is carried out across the UK

**Distribution of our portfolio**



# What is a Place Based IAA?

*Impact funding that will support the capabilities of a cluster to enhance regional growth*

## Key features of PBIAAs are:

- targeted at both a (scientific) theme and a place, supporting the development of a cluster
- Delivered through a consortium (two universities minimum)
- Co-created with civic bodies and with significant business collaboration

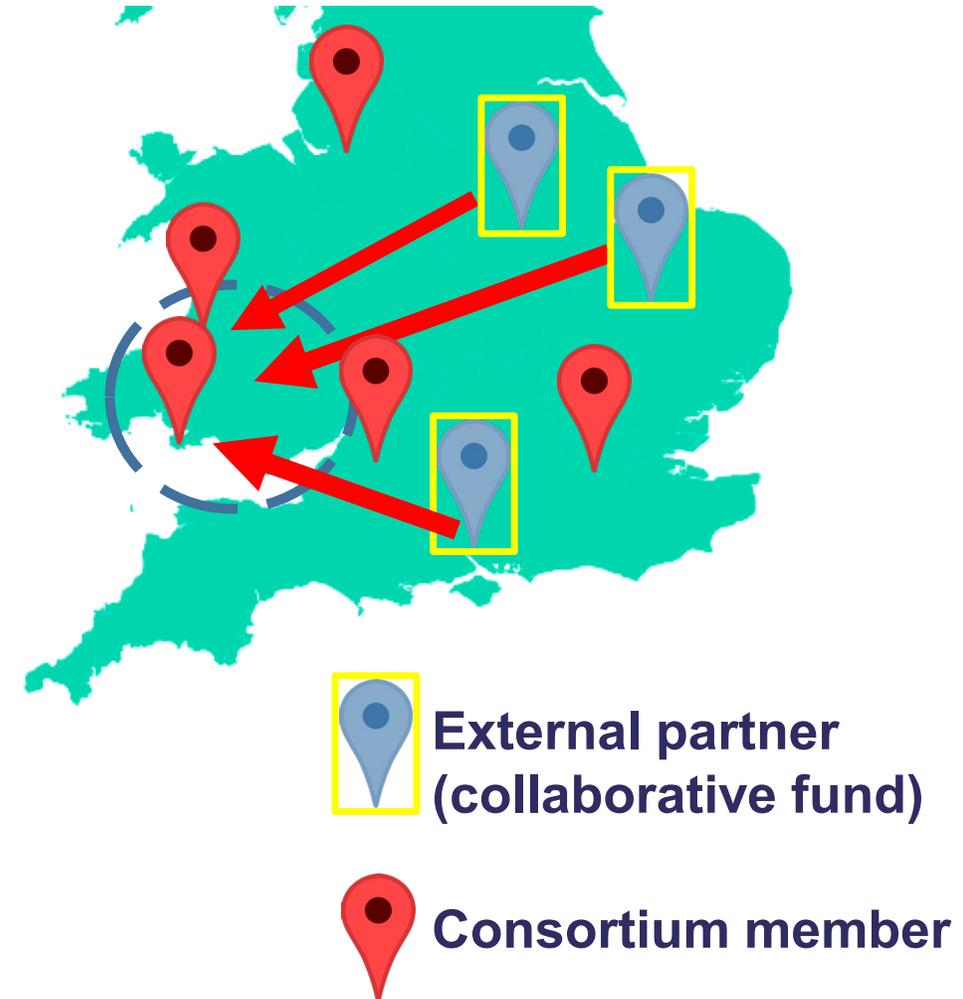
## Why are we doing this?

- support a high density of impact activity within a cluster
- broaden access to EPSRC impact funding
- Deliver activity that is locally relevant contributing to regional growth

# What should a Place Based IAA do?

- ❑ Consortiums to deliver impact activities to benefit a research and innovation cluster within the defined place
- ❑ Accelerate a research portfolio that is relevant to a local economy –
  - align impact and translational efforts to local strategic intent in collaboration with local partners at scale
  - Co-created with civic actors to align with civic ambitions
- ❑ Multi-institutional and multi-partner collaboration
- ❑ Agile funding reach broader range of partners and stakeholders

Example: South Wales  
focused PBIAA



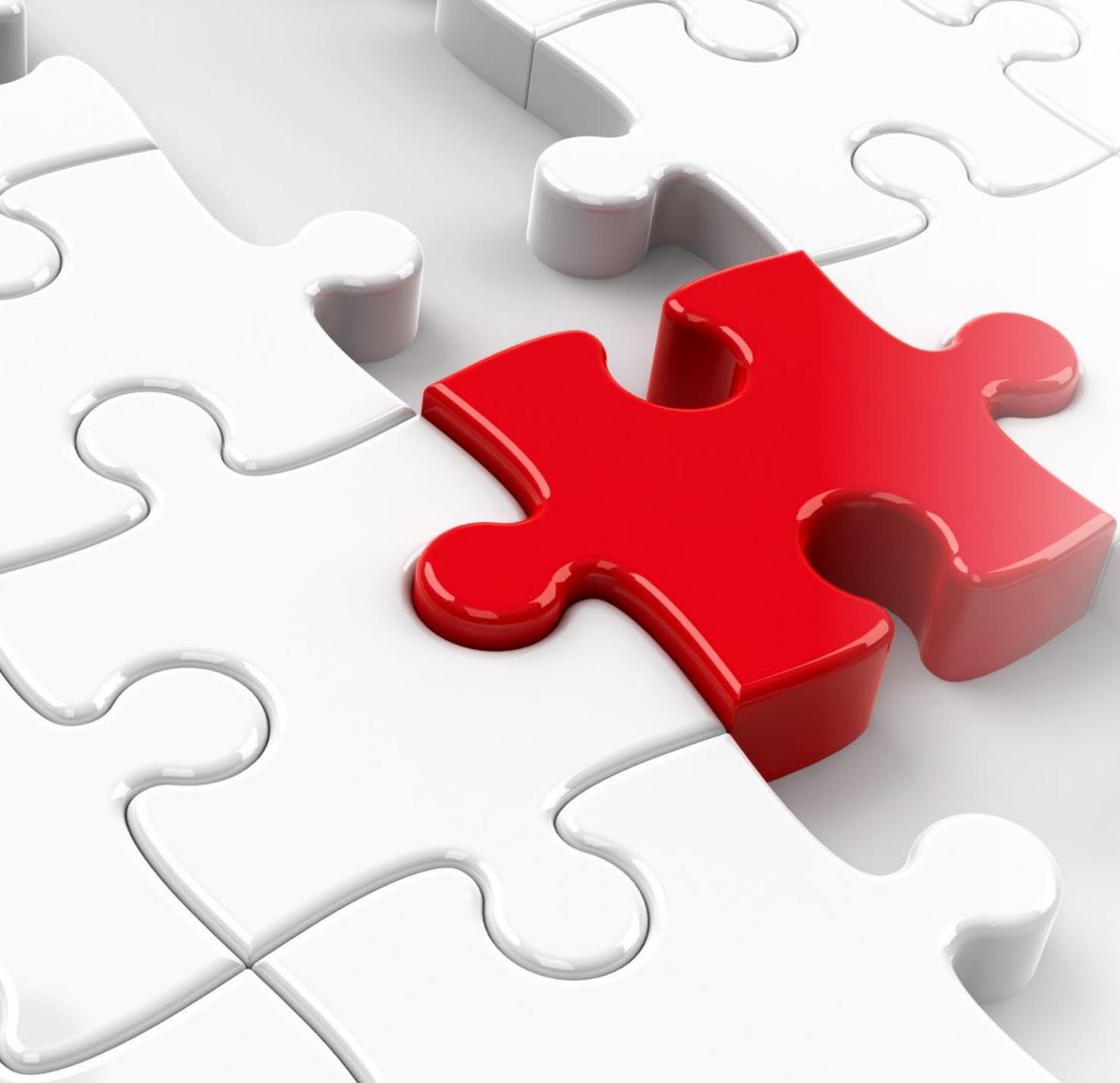
# What PBIAAs should aim to deliver for cluster benefit

These benefits may include (but are not restricted to):

- local and regional economic growth, skills development, job creation or retention
- cluster development including through knowledge diffusion, supply chain development, small and medium-sized enterprise growth, generation and growth of spin outs
- increased private investment in a specific place
- development of research, development and innovation infrastructures

Hypothetical Northern Ireland focused PBIAA





# Partnership

- ❑ Partners and stakeholders essential to the success of the PBIAA to enhance cluster capability and drive regional growth.
- ❑ Clear evidence of genuine, co-creation and co-delivery with civic partner
- ❑ Informed by partnership, impact activities tailored to the needs of the place and aligned with civic ambitions
- ❑ Sustainable collaboration in research impact between UK universities, with civic bodies and businesses.

# Co-creation with a civic organisation

- Proposals must be:
  - co-created with 1 or more civic actors,
  - align with civic ambitions
- interest in developing the identified cluster
- a civic organisation has a mandate from the local population and an interest or responsibility for the development of the place



# PBIAA Round 1

38 applications received across all regions and nations of the UK

10 PBIAAs funded

- 7 established clusters
- 3 emerging clusters

£41m commitment from EPSRC

100 project partners (business and civic)

£7.8m contributions from project partners

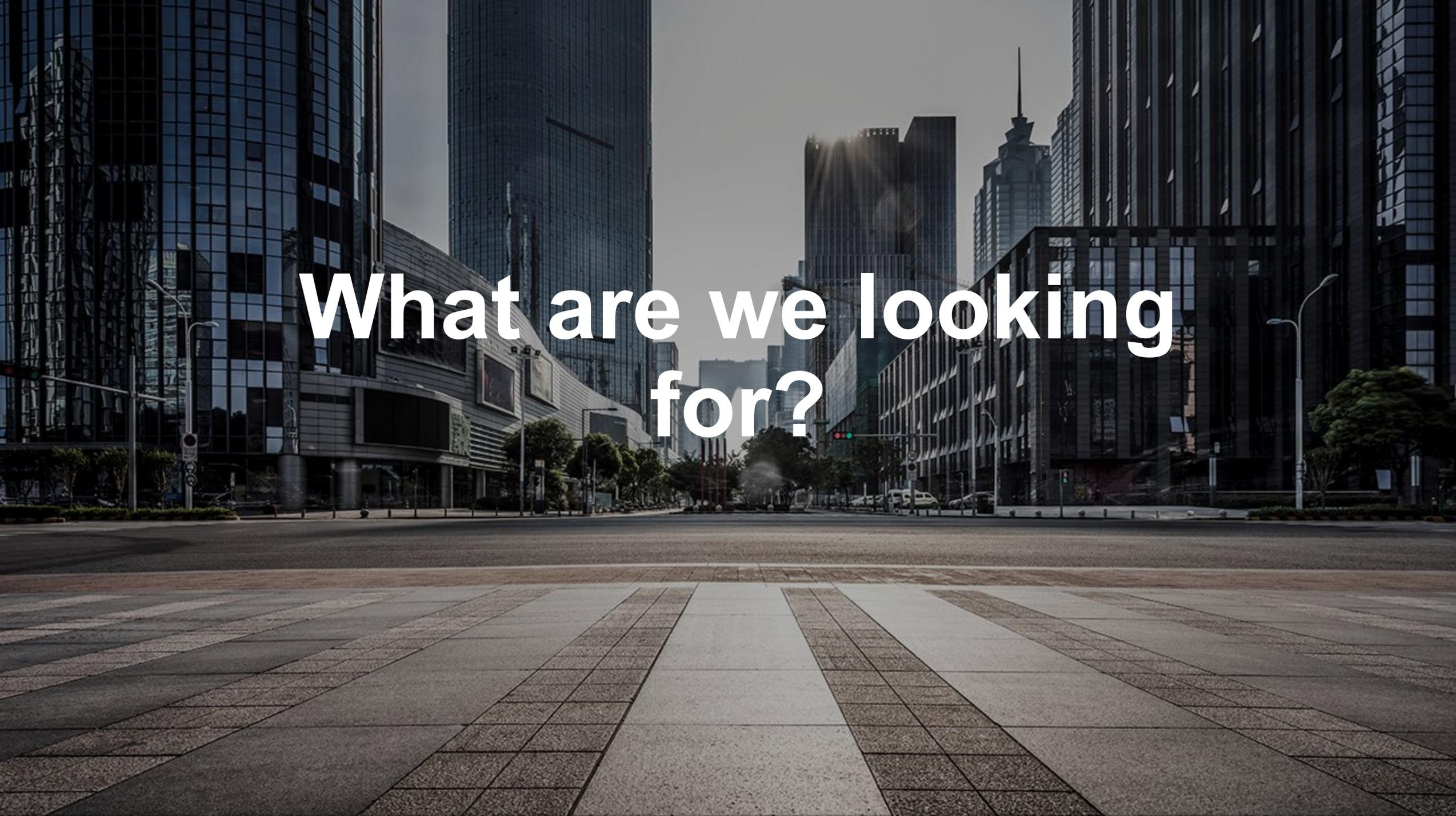
13 out of 30 universities involved in PBIAA R1 don't hold a current EPSRC IAA



# PBIAA Round 1

| Title   | University Partners   |
|---|---|
| The Park Royal Net Zero programme   | Brunel, Harper Adams  |
| Great Western Supercluster of Hydrogen Impact for Future Technologies (GW-SHIFT)                                    | Bath, Exeter, Bristol, Cardiff, Plymouth, South Wales, Birmingham       |
| Accelerating Impact of Community healthCarE in Tayside (AICCET)   | Heriot Watt, Glasgow, Dundee, NHS Tayside, Edinburgh Napier, St Andrews |
| Greater Lincolnshire and North Cambridgeshire (LINCAM) region agricultural technologies (agri-tech) cluster project | Lincoln, Cambridge  |
| Northern Net Zero Accelerator: energy systems integration for a decarbonised economy                                | Newcastle, Durham, Hull, Northumbria, Sunderland, Teesside              |
| The Industrial Biotechnology Innovation Cluster project   | Manchester, Liverpool, Manchester Metropolitan, Salford                 |
| PBIAA in Photonic Technologies in Scotland's Central Belt   | Glasgow, Strathclyde, St Andrews, Heriot Watt                           |
| The South Wales Compound Semiconductor Place Based Impact Accelerator (PBIA)  | Cardiff, Swansea  |
| The SWITCH to Net Zero Buildings  | Swansea, Cardiff University, South Wales                                |
| Innovating medical technologies across the Yorkshire region   | Leeds, Sheffield  |





**What are we looking  
for?**

# PBIAA Round 2 Opportunity

Proposals must:

- ❑ be co-created with civic actors
- ❑ be aligned with civic ambitions
- ❑ engage local business and other stakeholders
- ❑ involve at least two universities
- ❑ include a flexible consortium fund
- ❑ include a collaboration fund to draw from the full breadth of UK R&D activity



Illustration of city, town and country scape. Image credit: Tracy Worrall, Politics Home

**Intent to submit**  
**Call closes**

**15 February 2024**  
**21 March 2024**

Any questions? Email [pbiaa@epsrc.ukri.org](mailto:pbiaa@epsrc.ukri.org)

# Delivery



£20M available through 2 funding streams

Emerging or nascent clusters: 2 to 4 awards with max £2.5M per award

Established or mature clusters: estimate 2 to 4 awards with max £5M per award



4 years duration



Funding requested

Management costs – funded at 80% fEC

Project funds – funded at 100% fEC

# Eligibility

- Project Lead – domain expert and from an organisation eligible for UKRI funding
- Standard UKRI eligibility criteria applies
- Institutions may submit only one application as lead – can be involved in more applications
- Collaboration with at least one other university and a civic body is mandatory
- Civic and Businesses key element - expected to be project partners
- Applicant team should include relevant domain experts

# Proposal Costing

- Consortium management costs: 80% full economic cost. Up to 15% of the budget (to a maximum of £500,000)
  - PI and Col time to support the management of the award
  - PBIAA manager and/or administrator can be supported
- Consortium impact activities and collaborative fund 100% directly incurred costs

## Equipment

- Individual items of equipment between £10,000 and £400,000 can be included
- expect to see a robust strategic case for how equipment will maximise the impact from research
- The purchase of equipment to undertake non-impact focused research is out of scope for this opportunity.
- EPSRC will contribute 80% of the final purchase price

# Decision Making Process

## Proposal Review Process

- No postal peer review
- Applications will be assessed by an expert peer review panel
- Highly ranked proposals will be invited to interview



Model of a Town Centre. Image Credit: WSP

## Balanced Portfolio

- Based on the assessment of the expert panel we will aim to build a portfolio of PBIAA awards that are balanced geographically and by application domain and stream coverage.
- EPSRC resubmission policy applies, we reserve the right to invite resubmissions.



**What activities can a  
PBIAA support?**

# Activities a PBIAA can support

## Impact Activities

- engaging users and forging new partnerships
- building the cluster's capability and culture
- progressing towards commercial opportunities
- progressing research outputs towards impact e.g.
  - Proof of concept projects
  - Commercialisation
  - Market validation
  - Policy and third sector activities



Model of a Town Centre. Image Credit: WSP

## Collaborative Fund (Mandatory)

- Translate needs / insights from cluster into impact activities that enable funds to be available to universities beyond the consortium.
- Draw on the full strength of the UK.
- Open to institutions outside the cluster and with smaller or specialised world class portfolios.

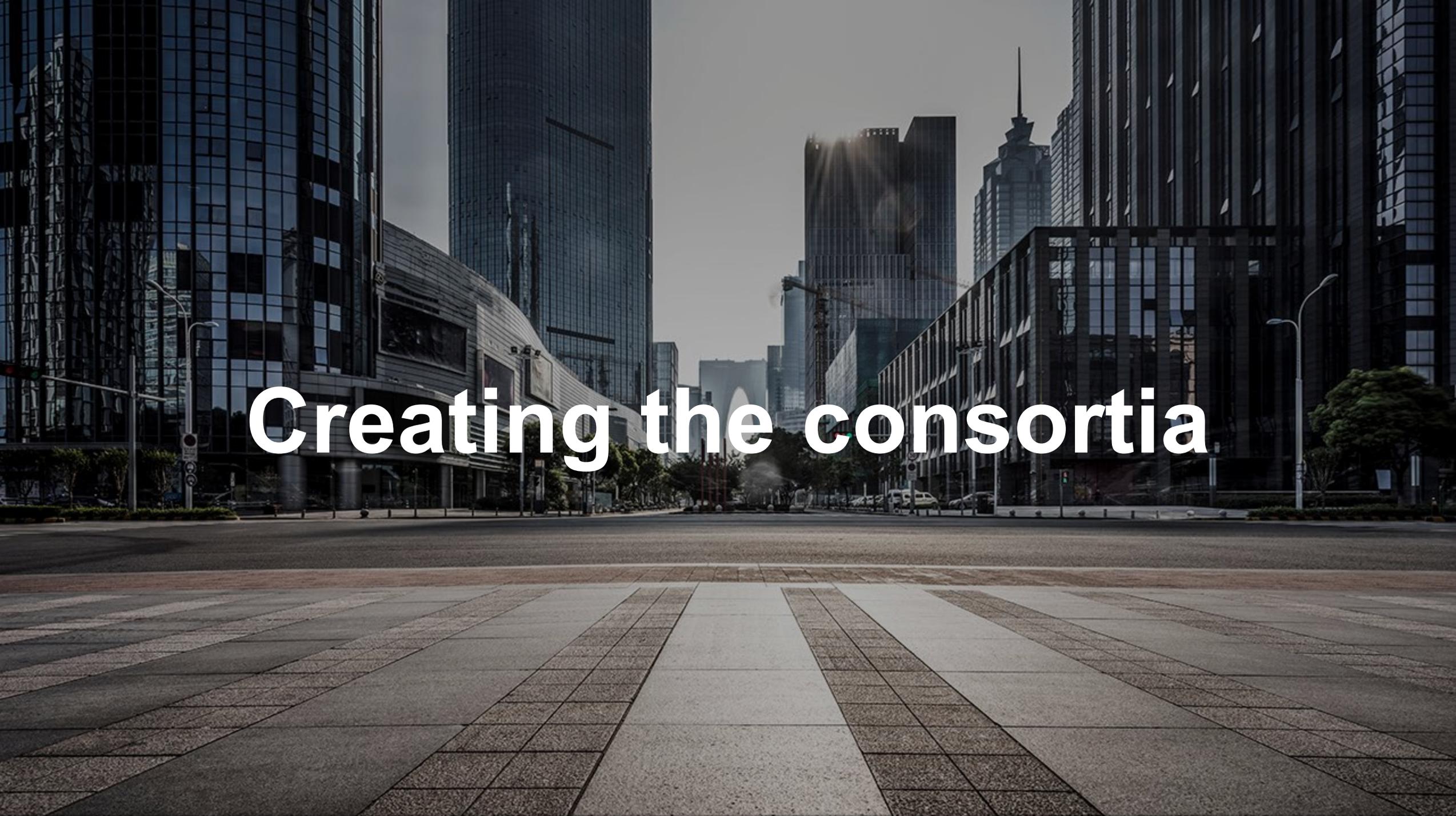
# Activities a PBIAA can support

## Public engagement

- collaborative relationships that engage publics both within the target place and beyond (where appropriate).
- we particularly encourage efforts to involve and engage with underrepresented groups.



Illustration of city, town and country scape. Image credit: Tracy Worrall, Politics Home



**Creating the consortia**

# Two application streams

## Stream 1

- targeting emerging or nascent clusters
- estimate 2 to 4 awards
- maximum £2.5 million per award, (over 4 years)

## Stream 2

- targeting established or mature clusters
- estimate 2 to 4 awards
- maximum £5 million per award, (over 4 years)

## Why two streams?

- Emerging clusters are unlikely to be able to absorb as much impact funding
- Likely that the types of activities done through each stream may differ reflecting the clusters maturity
- Want to create new opportunities through immature clusters, as well as enable existing clusters to grow and strengthen

# The Consortia and its geographic focus

- Minimum of 2 universities *plus* other eligible research organisations and project partners as appropriate
- Consider which partners have the most to contribute to your place / cluster.
  - Holding an Institutional IAA is not a prerequisite to lead or be involved in a PBIAA consortium
  - Recognise the excellence that exists across the UK including in institutions with smaller or specialised world class portfolios.

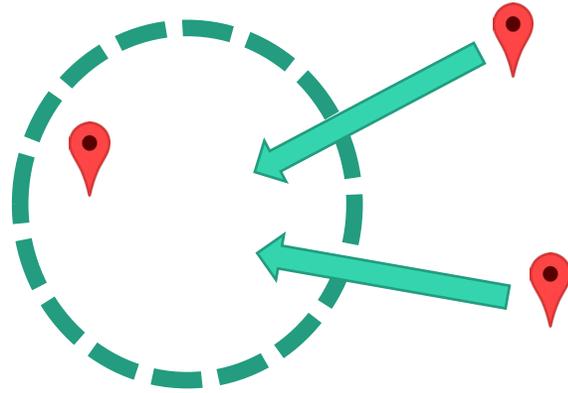
# Consortia models

 Consortium member

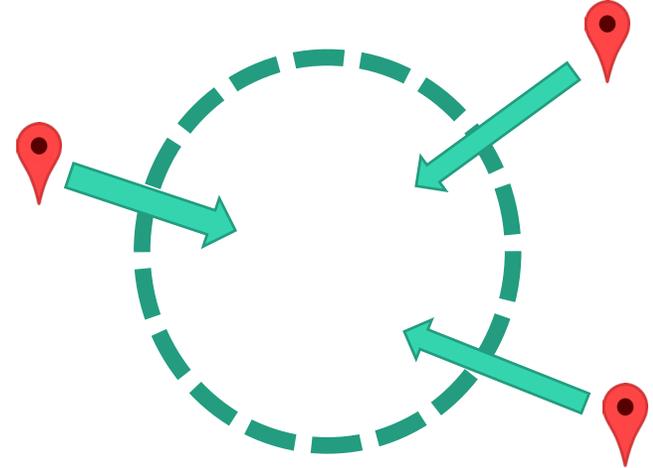
Consortia members all near the place/target cluster



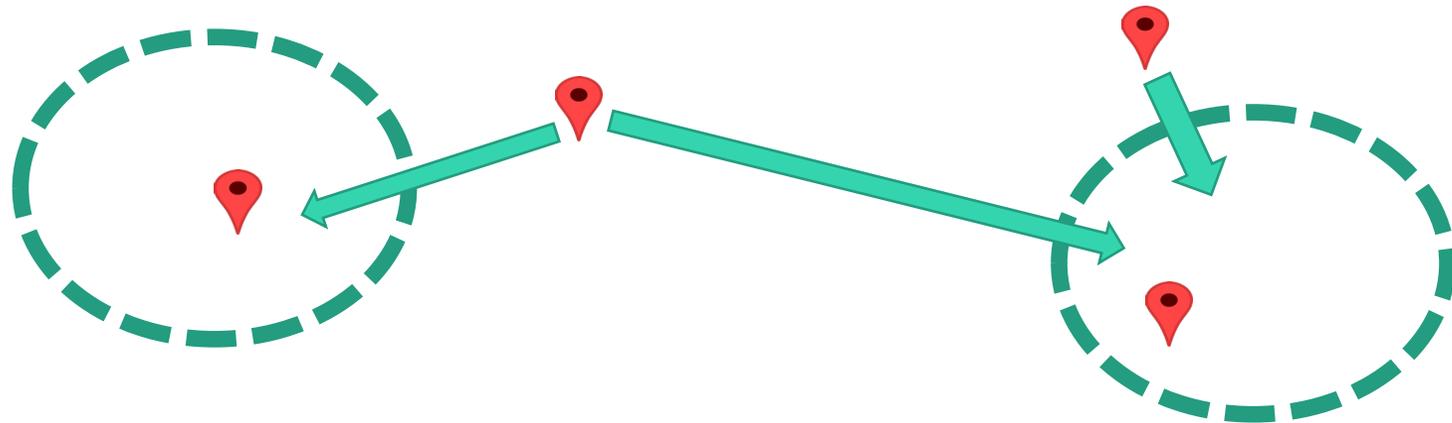
One or some consortia members in the place/cluster



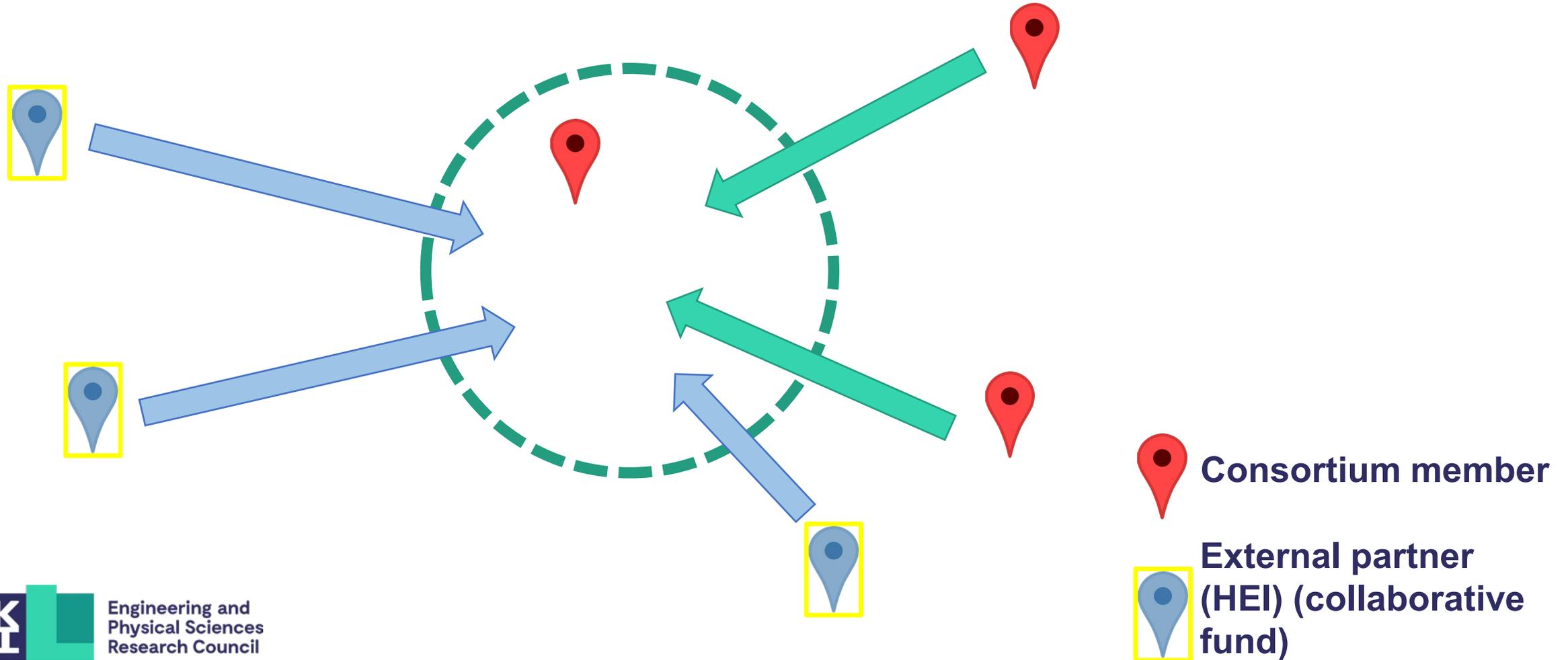
Consortia members *not* in the place/cluster



Consortia targeting several places *with unifying characteristics*



# Whatever the consortia model, all proposals need to include a collaborative fund



# Can we target more than one cluster in the same place?

- Each PBIAA should have a theme or domain and target a cluster
- We want you to achieve a high density of related impact activity within your target cluster
- It is acceptable to have multiple scientific themes being driven into a cluster if it is appropriate, but we don't want one PBIAA to address multiple unrelated clusters
- The standard IAA funding could be used to address multiple themes across multiple cluster, we don't want this model to be replicated in PBIAA



# Applying through TFS

# What is The Funding Service?

- **The Funding Service will replace Je-S as the service used to manage UKRI's research funding.**
- The transition from Je-S will affect everyone including applicants, panel members, research support staff and reviewers.
- The goal is that UKRI operates a single, consistent user-centred service that reduced the burden of finding, applying for and managing research funding, gives UKRI evidence to support funding the best ideas, and can respond and adapt easily to change.

# Approach to the application process



Moving towards question-and-answer format, making it easier for applicants to explain their idea, and easier for assessors to review it.



Central to this is the 'core question set'



These questions and areas of assessment have been developed from question sets and assessment criteria previously used in funding Opportunities across UKRI.



Can additionally include opportunity specific criteria

# Starting the application



EPSRC application submission through TFS will be made clear in published information on the UKRI [Funding Finder](#).



Start application via the opportunity Funding finder page by signing in or creating a Funding Service account.



Answer questions directly in the text boxes.

All questions and assessment criteria are listed in the How to apply section on the Funding finder page.

# Core application questions and areas of assessment

Vision

Approach

Applicant and  
Team Capability to  
Deliver

Resources and  
Cost Justification

Ethics and  
Responsible  
Research and  
Innovation

PBIAA Specific  
Criteria

# Further guidance for TFS

- SBF webpages: [About Simpler and Better Funding – UKRI](#)
  - [how applicants use the Funding Service](#)
  - [how research offices use the Funding Service](#)
  - [how reviewers use the Funding Service](#)
- Watch our [research office webinars about the new Funding Service](#).
- Contact [support@funding-service.ukri.org](mailto:support@funding-service.ukri.org)

# PBIAA Summary

Proposals must:

- be co-created with civic actors
- be aligned with civic ambitions
- engage business and local stakeholders
- involve at least 2 universities
- draw from the full breadth of UK research and development activity

£20 M available through 2 funding streams:

- Emerging or nascent clusters: 2 to 4 awards with max £2.5M per award, 4 years
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Questions?

# Thank you

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