# Interim Longitudinal Population Studies outline application template

Outline applications should be structured using the headings listed below.

## 1. Title of the Longitudinal Population Study (LPS)

## 2. Principal Investigator

Name, affiliation, contact details

## 3. Co-Investigators and environment

Name individual co-investigators and collaborators and outline the role they will play in the study. Explain how the study team are well qualified to carry out the proposed activity. Describe the environment in which the research will take place or the infrastructure that will be maintained.

## 4. LPS summary

Summarise the LPS, including the study population, sample size, age range, gender, ethnicity and geographical location.

## 6. Strategic need and importance

Explain the strategic need for this LPS and the research questions it will address, highlighting:

* The unique need for this LPS and the scientific niche that it occupies. If there are similar LPS nationally or internationally you should explain the added value of this proposal
* Specific research questions that could be addressed by the LPS over the next 5-10 years and their strategic importance
* How continued support will add value and enable new research that couldn’t be done using the existing resource, or other existing national/international LPS or data sources
* Follow-up rates and attrition clearly from initiation to the most recent data collection. If data are collected through multiple methods (e.g. mail/internet questionnaire, hands-on clinic assessment, record linkage) show coverage and attrition for each of these separately

## 7. Impact (existing LPS only)

To demonstrate the impact of an existing LPS, provide:

* The three to five most important outputs over the previous funding period (normally 5 years); these could include scientific, policy or capacity-building-related impact
* Publications, including the proportion generated outside of the lead institution(s)
* Details of LPS assets, i.e. biosamples and data (including linkages with routine data); these may be included in an annex or as a reference to a website if these are clearly documented

## 8. Proposed work

Outline the planned work, giving sufficient methodological information to show that the aims are feasible. Include, as relevant:

* + Resources or facilities to be used or maintained
* Details of any plans to collaborate with other existing LPS
  + Management arrangements
  + Transition plan, if the LPS is moving from collection to curation, including issues such as attrition and consent

## 9. Best practice in maintaining LPS infrastructure (Security, Discoverability, Access, Curation and Sharing)

[UKRI data principles](https://www.ukri.org/manage-your-award/publishing-your-research-findings/making-your-research-data-open/) and [MRC data policy](https://www.ukri.org/publications/mrc-data-sharing-policy/) state that research data be held securely but made widely available to bona fide members of the research community to support secondary data analysis so that the use of existing data is maximised. MRC will monitor this at the outline application stage and follow-up funded LPS.

In your application you must:

* Provide a url for the study website and describe the principles of the governance arrangements and processes for access, curation and sharing of data and/or samples, clarifying how these comply with UKRI policy
* Indicate in precise terms how the LPS is “discovered” and accessed by other scientists
* Explain who makes decisions on access, and what the criteria and conditions are
* Set out the time frame from data/sample generation to new data and samples being made available to the wider research community
* Explain the data preservation strategy and standards
* Describe the national and international reach of the resource, including types of organisation and their geographical location
* Include the following table about data usage over the last 5 years, counting the current year as year ‘0’

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Metric to be provided | -4 | -3 | -2 | -1 | 0 |
| Number of applications to access existing LPS data |  |  |  |  |  |
| Number of applications approved |  |  |  |  |  |
| Median time and range (in days) for access committee decisions\* |  |  |  |  |  |
| Median time and range (in days) for releasing the  data\* |  |  |  |  |  |
| Where appropriate, the number of applications to use depletable biological samples |  |  |  |  |  |
| Number of approvals for the use of depletable samples |  |  |  |  |  |
| Median time and range (in days) between  submission of application and transfer of samples\* |  |  |  |  |  |
| Number of applications to add new data to the resource |  |  |  |  |  |
| Number of the above applications that were approved |  |  |  |  |  |

\*The timing of requests should start when a formal approach is made.

Please ensure that all the approved studies are posted on the LPS website so that

data requests and research projects are not unknowingly duplicated.

## 10. Future Strategy & Sustainability

Please describe:

* The expected lifespan of the LPS and how many further data/sample collections are anticipated beyond the funding term requested
* The strategic approach for the longer-term future of the project beyond the present funding sought.
* What requests for associate research are anticipated in the next 5-year period and beyond and which will be prioritised
* When it is projected that on-going support for the LPS will be for routine data linkage and maintenance costs only

## 11. Resources Requested

Include details of:

* The estimated total cost and duration of the proposal
* The resources needed, including the estimated cost for each of the different elements, such as sample storage, data management, etc.
* Whether other funders are contributing to the LPS costs (who are they, what element of the study does their contribution fund and over what time period?)