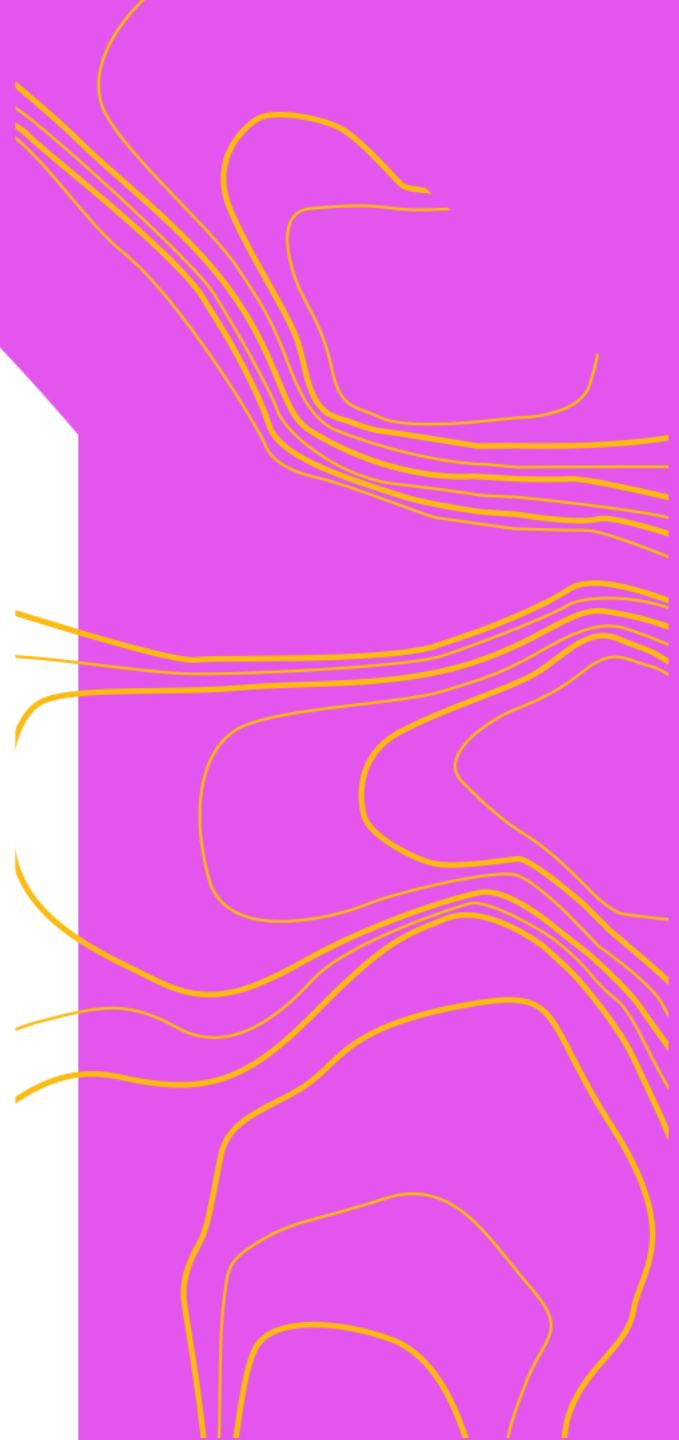




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# 2025 Bioinformatics and Biological Resources (BBR) Fund

Applicant Webinar



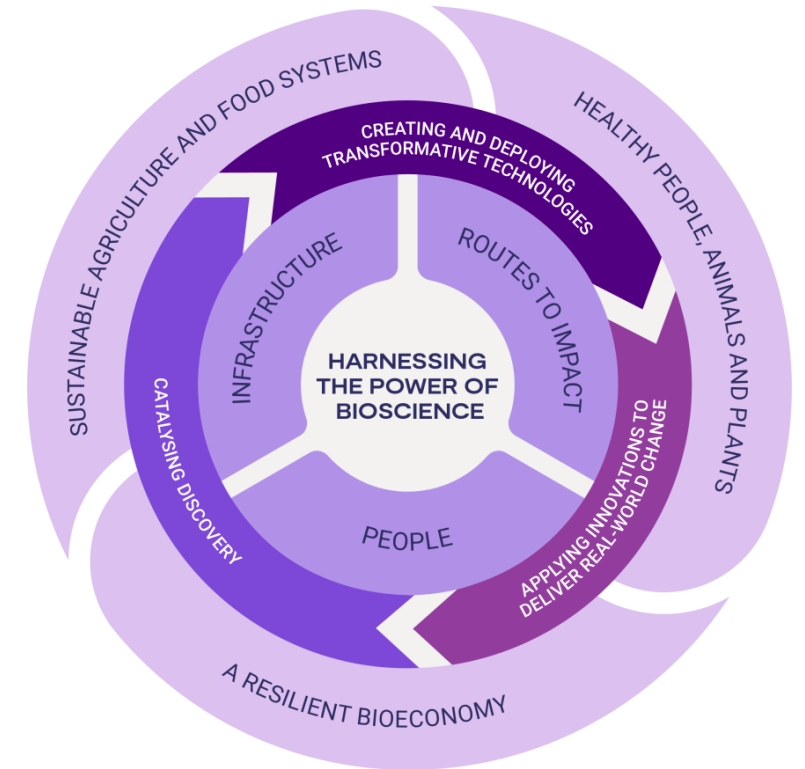
# Purpose

- Provide background to the 25BBR opportunity
- Clarify the scope of 25BBR
- Explain the application and assessment process



# BBSRC Forward Look for UK Bioscience

- BBSRC has launched a refreshed Forward Look for UK Bioscience
- Developed through broad and deep consultation with stakeholders across the landscape
- Long-term and high-level vision, ambition and commitments
- Underpins Strategic Delivery Plans (SDP) and provides a foundation for our input to Spending Reviews and allocations processes.



# BBSRC Forward Look: The Power of Bioscience

**Our vision is to harness the power of bioscience to deliver a healthy, sustainable and resilient future**

**Our ambition is to deliver three high-level and interconnected impacts**

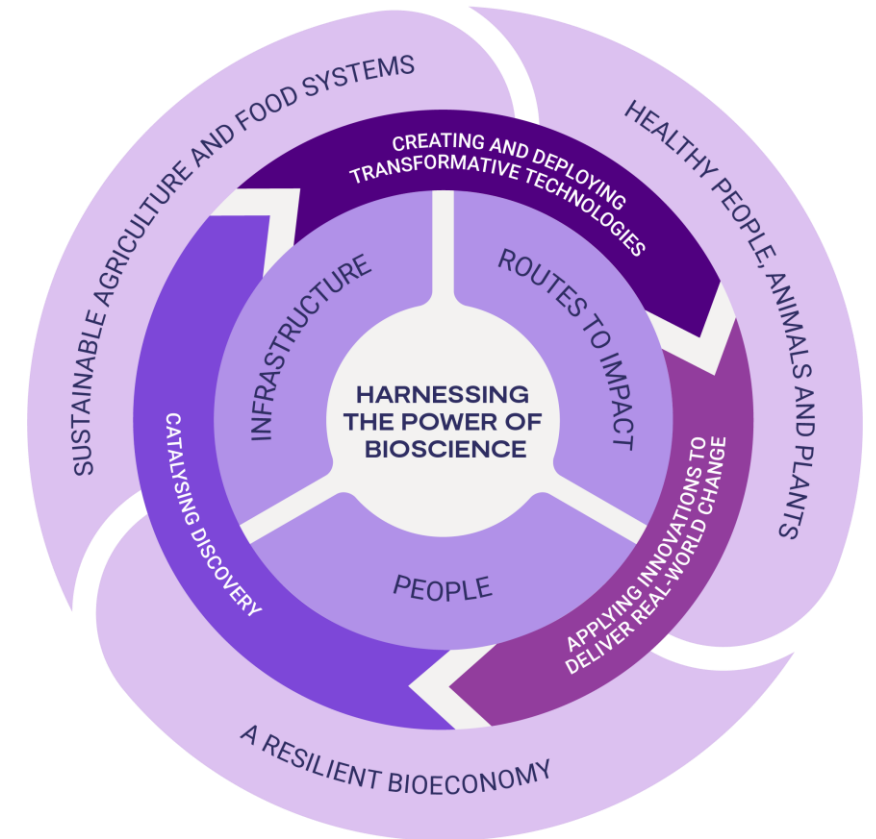
- Healthy people, animals and plants
- Sustainable agriculture and food systems
- A resilient bioeconomy

**We will achieve our ambition through**

- Catalysing discovery
- Creating and deploying transformative technologies
- Applying innovations to deliver real-world change

**Our commitment**

- To provide leadership and catalyse collaborative working to support the people, infrastructure and routes to impact that will deliver progress.



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# Aim

**Funding to implement, improve or consolidate bioinformatics or biological resources in support of UK bioscience, helping to drive forwards progress in bioscience research and innovation.**

**Funding for up to 5 years**

**Total fund: £7,000,000**

**Maximum award:  
£2,000,000 at 100% FEC**

**Earliest start date:  
1 July 2026**

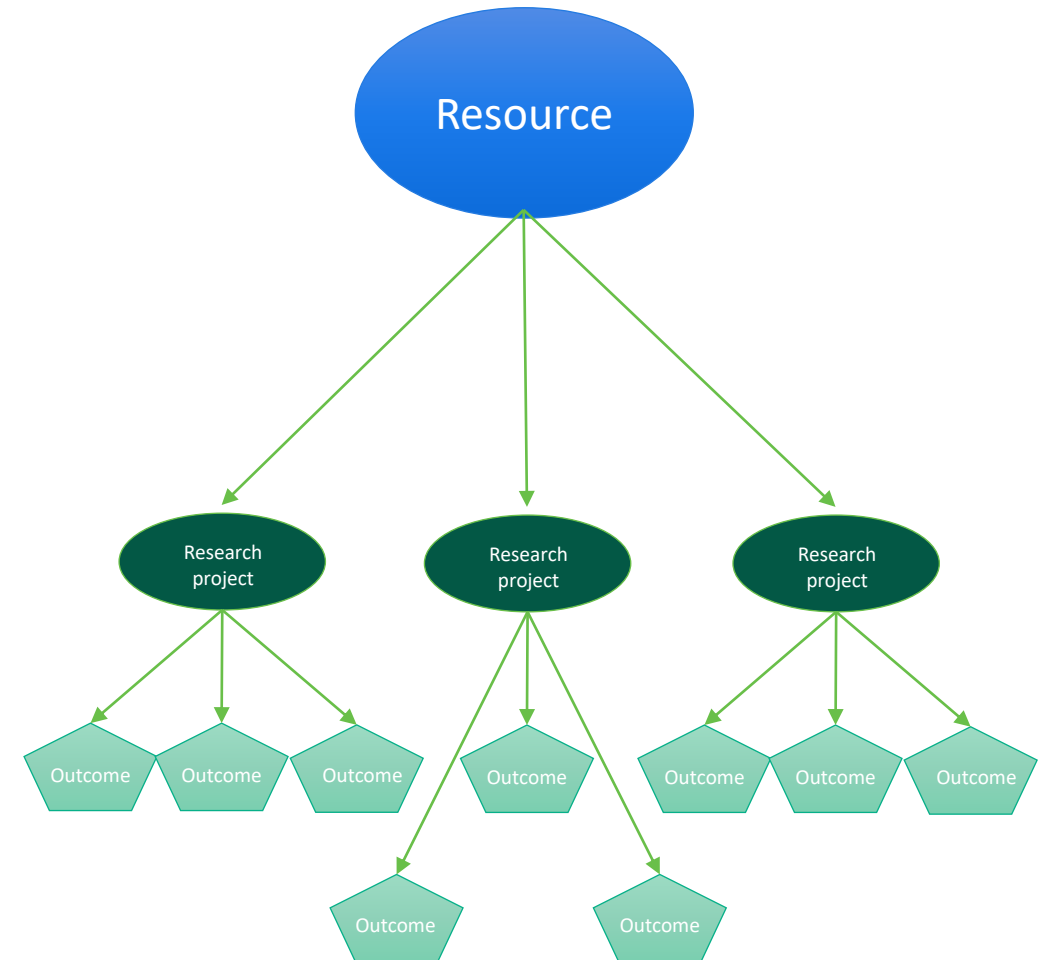
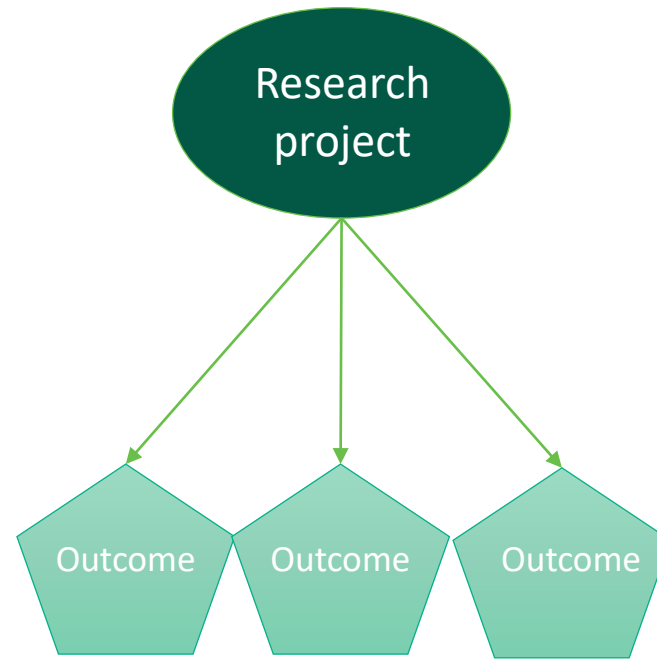


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# Bioinformatics and Biological Resources: Research Project vs Resource Funding

**Biological Resources:**  
Materials that underpin cutting edge bioscience research (cultures, genetic libraries, mutant lines)

**Bioinformatics Resources:**  
Management, analysis, and sharing of large/complex datasets (databases, software suites)



# Scope

Establishment of a **new and innovative resource** that will be beneficial to a broader BBSRC user base

**Maturation and subsequent maintenance** of a project-based resource into a community-based one

**Further development or essential maintenance of an existing community resource**, with well-established access mechanisms, to increase its relevance, quality and utility

**Association, or integration of distinct resources** that will create an upgraded resource with a greater value than the sum of the parts



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**“State-of-the-art, well maintained software tools enabling cutting-edge analysis, workflows and ultimately novel insights from bioscience data, such as from AI and machine learning”**



# Out of Scope

No primary relevance to BBSRC's remit and mission  
(e.g. generic software platforms applicable to any area of research)

The expected use of the resource and user communities **lack a clear focus within the biosciences** (e.g. biomedical and clinical data)

Primary aim is to address specific research hypotheses or questions, versus **building or enhancing a community resource**

Creation of data that could be placed in existing repositories, or that **lack strong justification for why there is a specific need to generate data as part of resource provision**

Resources already **suitably supported via other means**

Resources that only provide **institutional, or restricted access**

**Collections of preserved, non-recoverable specimens**, for example, herbaria, formalin-fixed material

**Archive-only resources** without active usage



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# Assessment Criteria for 25BBR

25BBR is run on The Funding Service, the Assessment Criteria are:

**Vision**

**Approach**

**Community  
demand**

**Applicant and  
team capability  
to deliver**

**Project partners**

**Management  
strategy**

**Data  
management  
and sharing**

**Resources and  
cost  
justification**

# Trusted Research & Innovation

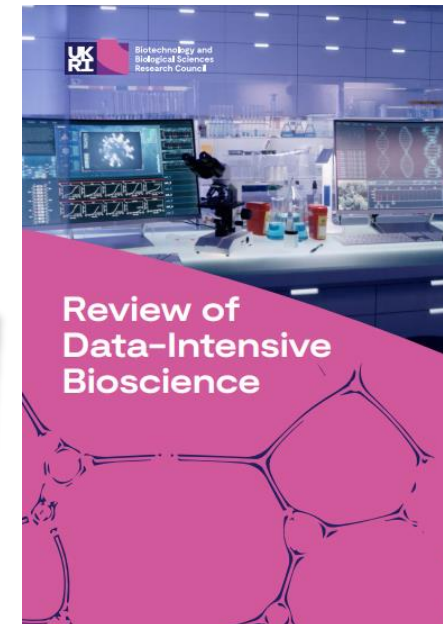
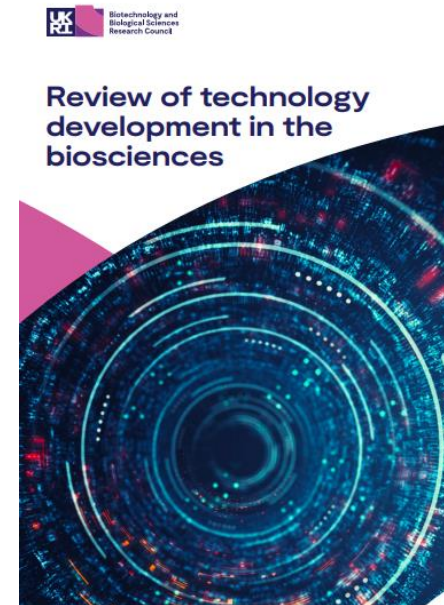
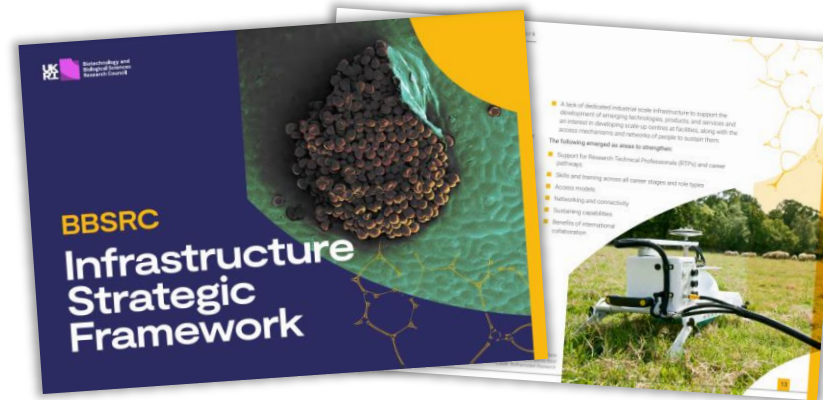
Does the proposed work involve international collaboration in a sensitive research or technology area?

Demonstrate how your proposed international collaboration relates to Trusted Research and Innovation, including:

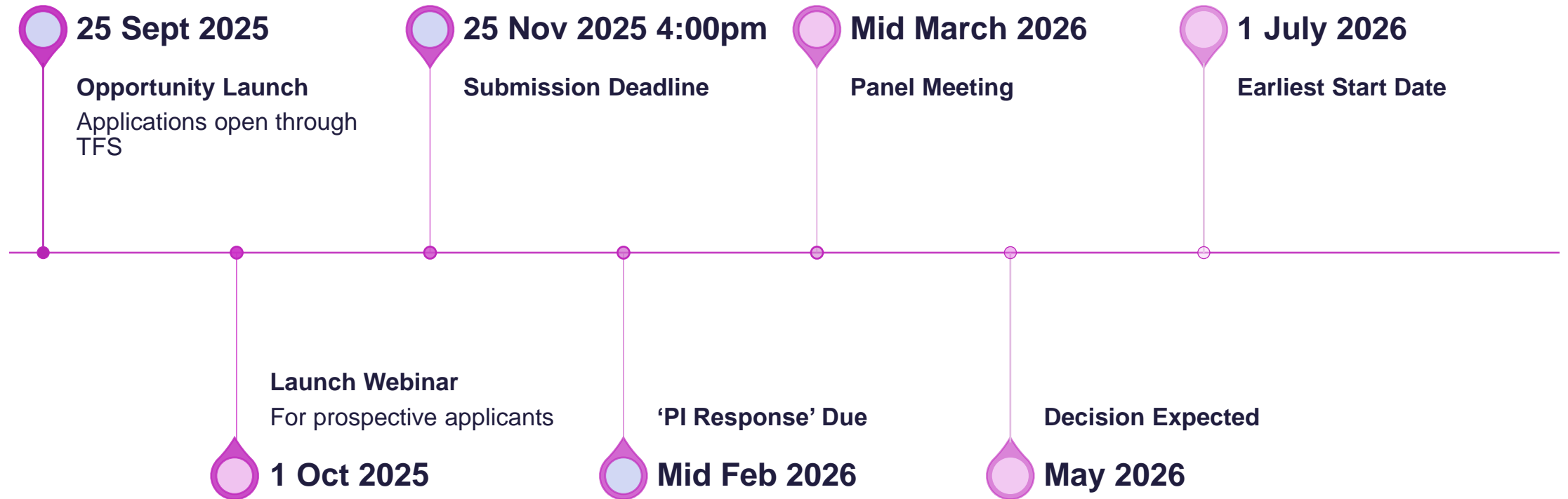
- list the countries your international project co-leads, project partners and visiting researchers, or other collaborators are based in
- if international collaboration is involved, explain whether this project is relevant to one or more of the [17 areas](#) of the UK National Security and Investment (NSI) Act
- if one or more of the [17 areas](#) of the UK National Security and Investment (NSI) Act are involved, please identify which areas

# 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.

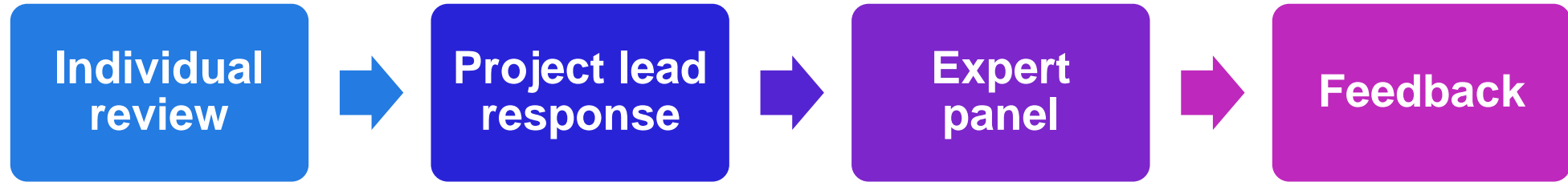


# Timeline



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# Assessment process



## Principles of assessment:

We support the San Francisco [declaration on research assessment](#) and recognise the relationship between research assessment and research integrity.

Find out about [the UKRI principles of assessment and decision making](#).

# Contact

For questions related specifically to 25BBR please contact  
[bbr.fund@bbsrc.ukri.org](mailto:bbr.fund@bbsrc.ukri.org)

Questions regarding the system of TFS should be directed to the helpdesk:  
[support@funding-service.ukri.org](mailto:support@funding-service.ukri.org)

TFS Helpdesk: 01793 547490

Ensure you reference “25BBR”.

We aim to respond to emails within five working days.



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A background image of a person with long, wavy brown hair, wearing a white shirt, resting their chin on their hand in a thoughtful pose. The image is partially obscured by a large, dark blue, curved shape on the left side of the slide.

# Questions?



# Community Demand

- Single PDF containing a maximum of 10 letters or emails of support
- **Mandatory for BBR**
- Avoiding generic support without identifying particular usage

## Letters of support aimed at demonstrating community demand should:

- outline the uniqueness and expected added value of the proposed resource to the UK bioscience research community and infrastructure landscape
- clearly explain the impact and benefit of the proposed resource on the writer's research and the associated community
- if possible explain where this supported research has already demonstrated or could have potential for particular scientific, economic or societal impact
- help to demonstrate the breadth of the relevant user community

# Management Strategy

Sound management of such important resources is essential to ensure the highest quality support for the UK bioscience community. Can be provided in visual form if relevant.

**Governance  
agreements**

**Project management  
and advisory structure**

**Project and risk  
management**

**Managing demand,  
access requests & user  
support**

**Advisory board  
(mandatory)**

**Considering user  
perspective, needs, and  
feedback**



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