**EPSRC Strategic Infrastructure Outlines – Internal Selection Proforma**

Outline proforma for applications to the internal selection process for the EPSRC Strategic Infrastructure Outlines call: <https://www.ukri.org/opportunity/strategic-infrastructure-outlines/>

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| **Core team** - List the key members of your team and assign them roles from the following:* project lead (PL)
* project co-lead (UK) (PcL)
* project co-lead (international) (PcL (I))
* researcher co-lead (RcL)
* specialist
* grant manager
* professional enabling staff
* research and innovation associate
* technician
* visiting researcher

Only list one individual as project lead. Find out more about [**UKRI’s core team roles in funding applications**](https://www.ukri.org/publications/roles-in-funding-applications/roles-in-funding-applications-eligibility-responsibilities-and-costings-guidance/) |
| *Response* |
| **Summary** (Word limit: 250)In plain English, provide a summary we can use to identify the most suitable experts to assess your application. This summary should be suitable for a variety of readers, for example:* opinion-formers
* policymakers
* the public
* the wider research community
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| *Response* |
| **Outline theme classification** (Word limit: 30)Which EPSRC theme does your application fit into? Please choose the primary [**EPSRC theme**](https://www.ukri.org/councils/epsrc/remit-programmes-and-priorities/our-research-portfolio-and-priorities/#contents-list) your application fits into by using the following theme categories:* physical sciences
* information and communication technologies (ICT)
* engineering
* digital economy
* mathematical sciences
* quantum technologies
* healthcare technologies
* manufacturing and circular economy
* energy and decarbonisation
* digital research infrastructure (central processing units or computing hardware)

If applicable, you can choose a secondary EPSRC theme which the research area will be enabled by the proposed infrastructure. Please do not provide more than two EPSRC themes for this section. |
| *Response* |
| **Outline resubmission** (Word limit: 10)Is your application an agreed resubmission? In this section, please state one of the following depending on if your application is a resubmission agreed with EPSRC:* this is a resubmission agreed with EPSRC
* this is a new application
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| *Response* |
| **Outline purpose and vision** (Word limit: 330)Why is this infrastructure needed, and why should we support it? What the assessors are looking for in your response Provide evidence on how the infrastructure sought will:* enable transformative research that cannot be achieved elsewhere
* enhance and complement the existing regional or national research capability
* underpin [**EPSRC research areas**](https://www.ukri.org/councils/epsrc/remit-programmes-and-priorities/our-research-portfolio-and-priorities/) and meet [**EPSRC’s six world-class objectives and eight strategic priorities**](https://www.ukri.org/councils/epsrc/remit-programmes-and-priorities/our-research-portfolio-and-priorities/#contents-list)
* have a strong demand from the user base

You may demonstrate elements of your responses in visual form if relevant. Further details are provided in the Funding Service. References may be included within this section. |
| *Response* |
| **Outline Approach, accessibility and sustainability** (Word limit: 550)What are your plans to manage and sustain the proposed infrastructure during and beyond the end of this funding? What the assessors are looking for in your response:For approach, evidence how you will:* effectively manage the infrastructure
* identify, prioritise, support and maximise users across the landscape

For accessibility, evidence how you will:* consider and demonstrate your pathway to ensuring and improving accessibility of this infrastructure and its user diversity during and beyond the duration of this grant

For sustainability, evidence how your plan will include:* an appropriate cost recovery model
* training and development of specialist technical staff
* steps to enhance the environmental sustainability of the proposed infrastructure
* development or expansion of the user base after the initial period of funding

You may demonstrate elements of your responses in visual form if relevant. Further details are provided in the Funding Service. References may be included within this section. |
| *Response* |
| **Outline Applicant and host institution capability to deliver** (Word limit: 300)Why are you and your host institution the right individual, team and place to procure and manage this infrastructure? What the assessors are looking for in your response:Provide evidence of how you, and if relevant your team, have:* the relevant experience, appropriate to your career stage, to deliver the proposed work
* the right balance of skills and expertise to cover the proposed work, including the appropriate leadership and management skills on your approach to develop others

For the host institution, provide evidence of:* why it is the most appropriate place for the proposed infrastructure
* how it will use its existing capacity to best complement the proposed infrastructure
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| *Response* |
| **Outline costs**What are the expected costs of the proposed infrastructure?What the assessors are looking for in your response:* provide the approximate total values in GBP (£) including VAT for the expected directly incurred, directly allocated, indirect costs and exceptions
* view the guidance on the costs you can apply for
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| *Response* |
| **Outline justification of resources** (Word limit: 250)What will you need to deliver your proposed infrastructure and how is the cost justified? What the assessors are looking for in your response:* make a clear distinction between cost of equipment items and the cost of any associated resources. State the anticipated funds that would be requested from:
	+ EPSRC
	+ host institution and project partners including the nature and level of contributions if applicable
* describe the timescales associated with procurement of the equipment and when you anticipate you will spend any capital provision made
* ensure the costs are as accurate as possible at this stage. The costs in a full proposal must be within + or -10% of the outline proposal

Assessors are not looking for detailed costs or a line-by-line breakdown of all project resources. Overall, they want you to demonstrate how the resources you anticipate needing for your proposed work:* are comprehensive, appropriate, and justified
* represent the optimal use of resources to achieve the intended outcomes
* maximise potential outcomes and impacts
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| *Response* |

The completed form should be submitted to researchoffice.fundingstrategy@imperial.ac.uk, outlines will be considered at the College’s [Research Advisory Group (RAG)](https://www.imperial.ac.uk/about/leadership-and-strategy/provost/vice-provost-research/rag/).

Outlines will be considered three times across 2024/2025 as per the following timetable.

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| **Round** | **Deadline for Internal Submission** | **RAG date for Assessment** |
| 1 | 2 October 2024 | 22 October 2024 |
| 2 | 8 January 2025 | 29 January 2024 |
| 3 | 17 March 2025 | 7 April 2025 |

Applications should be submitted to EPSRC no more than four weeks after approval to submit by RAG.