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ACCELERATING IMPACT

A decorative graphic consisting of several horizontal bars of varying lengths and colors, including blue, green, and yellow, positioned below the main title.

EPSRC

Pioneering research
and skills

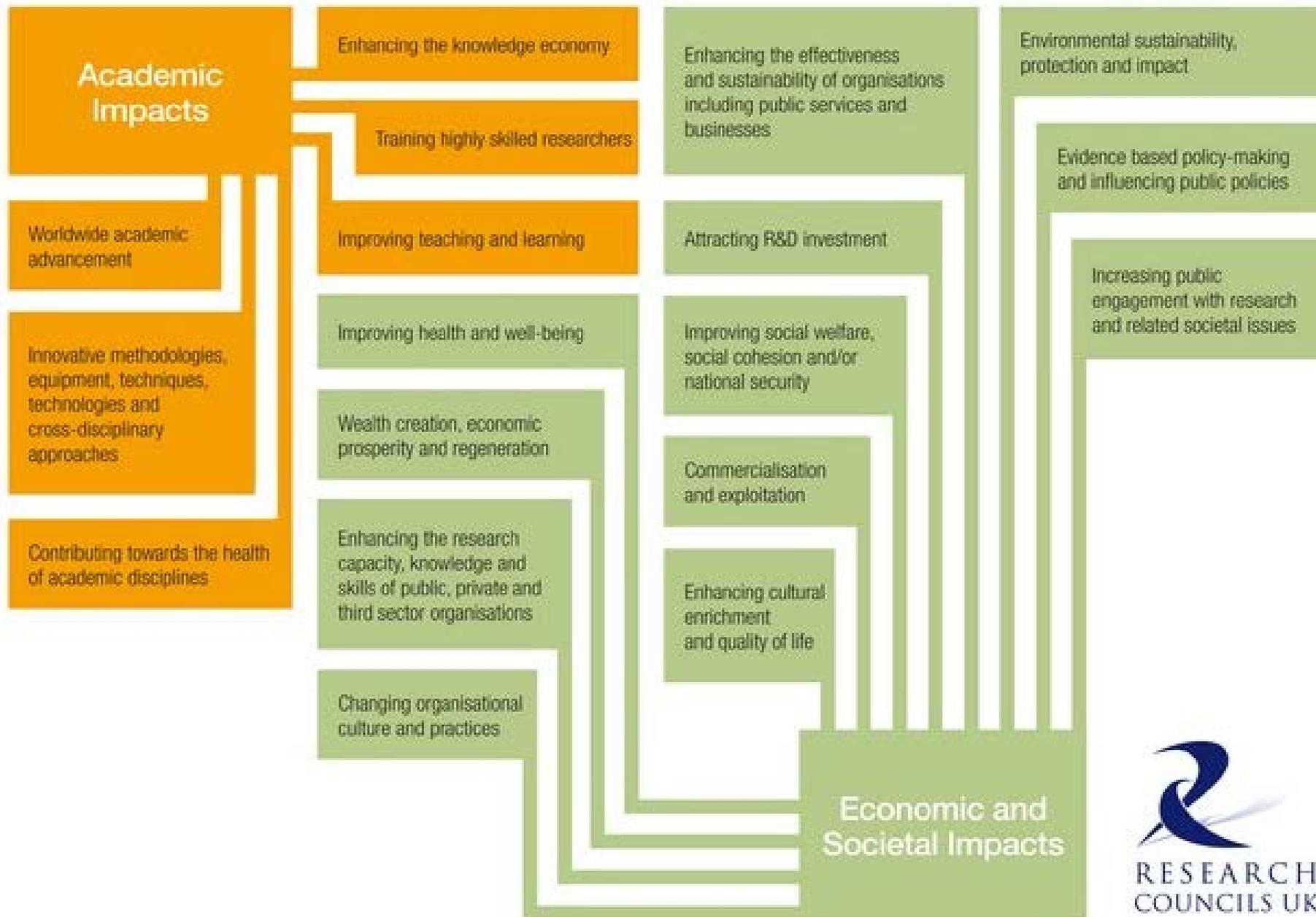
WHAT IS IMPACT?

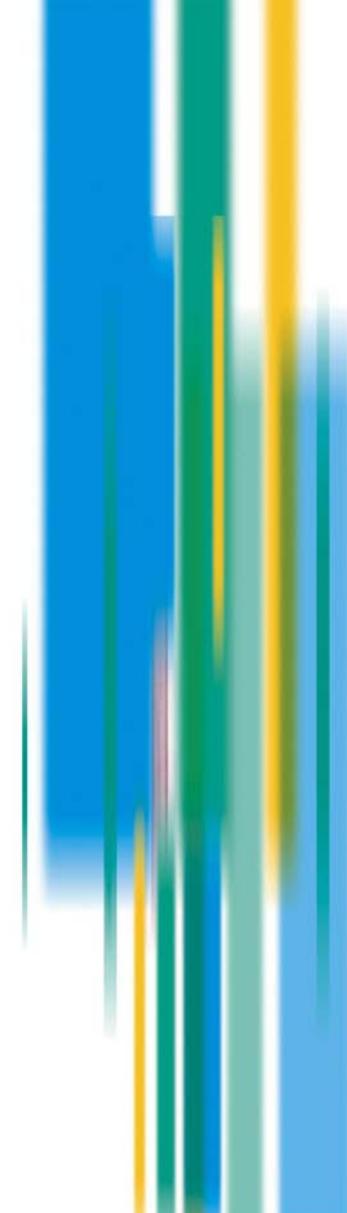
Impact is the demonstrable contribution that excellent research makes to society and the economy. Impact embraces all the extremely diverse ways in which research-related knowledge and skills benefit individual, organisations and nations by:

- fostering global economic performance, and specifically the economic competitiveness of the United Kingdom;
- increasing the effectiveness of public services and policy;
- enhancing quality of life, health and creative output.

BUT REMEMBER – MOST IMPACT IS NOT USUALLY DELIVERED BY ACADEMICS

Pathways to Impact





THE CHALLENGE

- To shorten the time between the discovery of knowledge and the point at which it can deliver benefit
- To do this potential uses or influences of research need to be considered at the earliest time
- So impact needs to be embedded in all activity – not an add-on
- EPSRC is therefore embedding most of its impact activity to be delivered through its capability and challenge themes
- Some activity however, is still delivered by specific route....

SPECIAL ACTIVITIES TO DELIVER IMPACT

- Innovation and Knowledge Centres
 - Aim – to bring together industry and academia in a co-located environment to accelerate the uptake of emerging technologies
 - Stage gated funding (EPSRC, TSB, Other RCs)
 - 6 funded in areas from Medical Devices to Plastic Electronics
- Industrial CASE
 - Awarded to key company partners
 - Move to awarding over a longer period to drive strategic engagement

SPECIAL ACTIVITIES TO DELIVER IMPACT

- Coordinating engagement with the TSB
 - Strategic alignment
 - Partnering in KTP
- Leading strategic discussions and partnering with Universities
 - KTA/KTS – retaining key benefits of these
 - Sponsorship funding

Impact Acceleration Accounts for our university partners

- £20 million pa for 3 years – awards based on university EPSRC portfolio - £5 million to £200k in value.
- Emphasis on actions to deliver impact that work – drawing on the evidence base.
- Highly flexible funding that can be rapidly deployed.
- Sponsorship for mobility and engagement with users, development of research environments bringing users and academic researchers together.
- Follow-on-funding like activities including proof of concept.

Impact Acceleration Accounts for our university partners

- An expectation of different approaches for different sectors.
- Engagement with our university partners through our participation in their enterprise committees or similar.
- Emphasis on review and assessment of outcomes, not inputs - we will want to see the outcomes and receive updates on progress towards impact from our portfolio more frequently.
- Letter in preparation to go out to universities that we would like to hold an Impact Acceleration Account

EMBEDDING USING PATHWAYS TO IMPACT

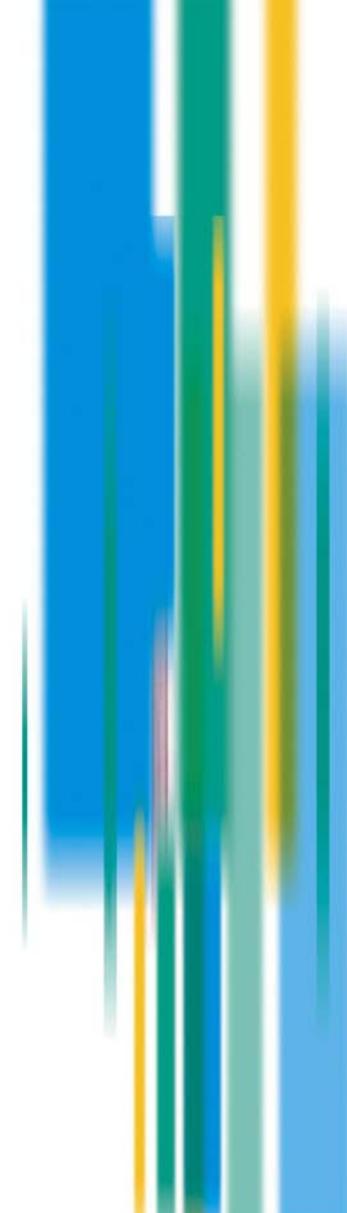
- Primary resource for enabling engagement with potential beneficiaries of research
- Available since 2009
- **Eligible costs** - can include employment of specialist knowledge transfer staff, consultancy fees, publication and marketing costs, public engagement activity, engagement events, networking activities, people exchange, etc
- Pathways to impact should be part of the earliest consideration for a research grant – consideration of potential impact should be core to developing the proposal

USE OF PATHWAYS TO IMPACT

- Dipstick of 25% of funded proposals covering range of grants types and themes
 - Quality of written support adequate
 - Costs only account for 2.5% of grant value
 - Mainly include costs for T&S, conferences, events
 - Minimal inclusion of secondments, proof of concept activity, up-skilling
 - Very little *resource* to support public engagement
- WE NEED TO MAKE SURE PTI ARE PROPERLY RESOURCED

BREAKOUT

- We want to get a sense of the breadth of beneficiaries of Engineering and Physical Science Research
- We want to understand what you have considered when you are writing your Pathways to Impact
- We don't think you are being ambitious enough or requesting enough resources to support Pathways to Impact – what more is needed?
- We want to know what we can do to help?
 - Think broadly
 - Not just process
 - Good examples we can use



**Who are the beneficiaries of your research
and how do you engage with them?**

**What have you considered when writing
Pathways to Impact and what resources
have you asked for?**

**In an ideal world what would you ask for to
support your engagement?**

What more can EPSRC do to help?

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