

Balancing our portfolio



To maintain the UK's global research standing in light of increasing international competition, and with limited funding available to us, we must focus our portfolio of research and training in areas which are internationally excellent and nationally important.

EPSRC will continue to champion excellence across the engineering and physical sciences, investing in research, training and infrastructure that are judged as excellent by peer review.

EPSRC has a responsibility to set priorities to optimise the distribution of resources to achieve the best possible outcome for its investment. Balancing capability is how

EPSRC achieves this across the different research areas that make up its portfolio.

When we implemented the Shaping Capability strategy, as was, in 2011-12 we said that the strategic trajectories (grow/maintain/reduce) would be for the delivery plan period. We have now reached the end of this period so we need to ensure that our research area strategies support our future aspirations into the next delivery plan. The science landscape has continued to evolve and we need to ensure our strategies reflect the current landscape.

Our delivery approach will continue. We will aim to refresh all of the research area rationales in the near future.

In the coming months we will be working in partnership with you and other stakeholders to fill any knowledge gaps, collect further evidence to aid EPSRC in and or, gather advice on future priorities, developing research area narratives and set trajectories for the next delivery plan.

One form of engagement will be an online call for evidence which is scheduled for April 2016. Full details will follow in due course. In the meantime, you can keep updated by checking our website throughout March.

Further information:
<http://www.epsrc.ac.uk/about/plans>



EPSRC blog is 1 year old



Launched last year, the blog is about hosting debate, sharing thinking and providing new perspectives on issues affecting the engineering and physical sciences community.

The aim is to bring you comment and opinion from leading thinkers in research, innovation and science funding policy.

Contributors include scientists, engineers and experts at partner organisations, along with our own staff.

Further information:
<https://www.epsrc.ac.uk/blog/>



EPSRC fuels innovation and connects academia with industry to capitalise on world leading UK research

Visualising our Portfolio is the interactive tool that lets you:

Explore our £2.2bn portfolio of UK research

Connect with business expertise that could drive your research forward

Build your business collaborations and project partners

See your future at: www.epsrc.ac.uk/VoP

EPSRC film

The breadth and impact of EPSRC investments is showcased online in a new EPSRC film.

<https://www.epsrc.ac.uk/newsevents/multimedia/epsrcfilm/>

Our Delivery Plan Framework

Productivity, Connectedness, Resilience, Health



Over the last year we have been working with our partners to help make the case for science and engineering using an outcomes-focused approach which recognises the contribution our whole portfolio, including long-term fundamental research, makes to the success of the nation.

In association with our university and business partners, and with our Strategic Advisory Teams and Networks, we have identified four inter-linked outcomes which collectively underpin UK prosperity: **Productivity, Connectedness, Resilience** and **Health** – and developed ambitions within each of them. These outcomes will form the framework for our Delivery Plan and will be used in the following ways:

- A strategic expression of our plans which capture our value-add to the nation;
- Providing contextual opportunities for seeking additional funding from government;

- A framework to help researchers to think about their contribution to national and global challenges and to collaborate across disciplines

Our funding will be accessed through the familiar entry points of our capability disciplines including Mathematics, Physical Sciences, ICT and Engineering, with decisions based on excellence. We also remain committed to a similar balance of challenge-driven and investigator-led research to that of our last Delivery Plan. The ambitions will help determine the challenge-led aspect of our portfolio but provide aspirations for all.

A brief definition of the outcomes and associated ambitions is able to view on our website.

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