

EPSRC

Engineering and Physical Sciences
Research Council

ENGINEERING AND PHYSICAL SCIENCES RESEARCH COUNCIL



WHAT WE DO



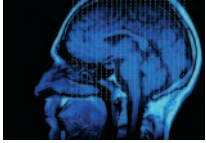
1 who we are

We are the main UK government agency for funding research and training in engineering and the physical sciences, investing around £740 million a year in a broad range of subjects – from mathematics to materials science, and from information technology to structural engineering.

2 what we do

- We invest in the best of UK science and engineering research through funding to universities and other science based organisations, and use independent guidance to help us achieve this.
- We support post-graduate training to ensure the ongoing supply of research experts for academia and business.
- We manage a portfolio of research and training projects and take a strategic overview of all physical sciences and engineering.
- We actively promote public engagement with science and engineering and work with a wide range of organisations in this area.





3 key priority areas

Our high-level priorities and plans for the period 2008/9 to 2010/11 are outlined in our Delivery Plan, these respond to the challenges facing society and the economy and focus on seven main priority themes:

Essential platform for a healthy research base

Providing an essential platform for the sort of open-ended, globally competitive research which supports a vibrant and sustainable research environment and ensures the UK is well placed to respond to future challenges.

Securing the future supply of world class researchers

Supporting talented individuals without whom there cannot be a healthy research base.

Towards better knowledge exchange and exploitation

Working together with people and organisations that receive EPSRC funding in order to maximise the impact of the UK's investment in science and engineering.

Energy

Bringing together all aspects of energy-related research and training, including power generation and supply, demand reduction, transport and alternative fuels, and working closely with the new Energy Technologies Institute (ETI).

Digital economy

Increasing the impact of Information Communications Technology (ICT) in transforming how business, government and society operates.

Nanoscience through engineering to application

Pulling basic research through to application by using a grand challenge approach.

Towards next generation healthcare

Working with relevant partners to improve the pull-through of research results to clinical products and practice.

4 working with others

In order to meet the priorities set out in our Delivery Plan, we work with a range of people and organisations:

Working with Government and universities

We receive funding from and report directly to the Government's Department for Innovation, Universities and Skills (DIUS). The funding we receive is then distributed to universities and researchers.

We have framework agreements with the 12 universities that have the greatest ability to generate impact from our funding. These agreements are intended to provide a more structured and systematic basis for our discussions with them and to identify activities we can work on together.

We also work with other Government departments and agencies like the Technology Strategy Board (TSB) and the Energy Technologies Institute (ETI) to ensure that our priorities are complementary and to the benefit of society and the economy.

Working with the other Research Councils

We work with the other Research Councils on joint projects and on cross-Council programmes in areas that are of high relevance and importance to society today such as environmental change,

global threats to security and ageing. This joint approach ensures a holistic understanding of real issues that we face today and in the future.

Working with international funding agencies and organisations

Research is international and many challenges we face are global. We use our comprehensive knowledge of UK research and our growing understanding of the global scene to enable the best UK researchers to work with the best partners from around the world. <http://www.epsrc.ac.uk/International>

Working with business and other users

We work with over 30 strategic partners in both the private and public sector. Almost 40% of the research we fund has business involvement.

These partnerships are mutually beneficial, not only are we able to promote knowledge exchange, to better understand the needs of our users and to raise additional funds to complement the funding we receive from Government, but working with us provides many benefits including access to young researchers for potential future employment, access to research findings and access to skilled academics and their research teams, to name but a few. <http://www.epsrc.ac.uk/Business>

Working with the public

Through our Public Engagement Programme, we offer a range of opportunities for our research community to communicate the excitement of fundamental and applied research, and to create a dialogue about science and engineering with the public. <http://www.epsrc.ac.uk/PublicEngagement>

5 get in contact

You can find out more about EPSRC and how you can work with us by visiting our website

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