

# Future frameworks for international collaboration on research and innovation

Adrian Smith call for evidence



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# Overview

Professor Sir Adrian Smith has been commissioned by the Secretary of State for Business Energy and Industrial Strategy and the Minister of State for Universities, Science, Research and Innovation to provide independent advice on the design of future UK funding schemes for international collaboration, innovation and curiosity-driven blue-skies research. Professor Graeme Reid from University College London will work with Sir Adrian during the preparation of this advice. The advice team will hold evidence gathering meetings across the UK. Alongside this the team are running a written call for evidence to inform this advice. Written submissions to this call for written evidence would be welcome by close of play on 24 May 2019.

The UK is committed to ongoing collaboration in research and innovation with partners across Europe and internationally. Global relationships in research and innovation are more important than ever. The UK would like the option to associate to Horizon Europe and is continuing to actively shape the development of that programme however we are also exploring in parallel credible and ambitious alternatives to deliver positive outcomes for science, research and innovation in the event that the UK does not associate.

Global relationships in research and innovation are more important than ever. Many of the world's greatest economic and social challenges can be addressed only through international partnerships. Furthermore, the UK Government is committed to raising total UK investment in R&D to 2.4% of GDP by 2027, and to 3 per cent in the longer term. International partnerships and collaboration will play an important part in helping to achieve these ambitions and in supporting the Industrial Strategy's Grand Challenges. Sir Adrian's advice will help the Government to ensure that the UK continues to be a global leader in science, research and innovation, and an attractive country for individuals to study and work. Furthermore, the advice will inform the upcoming Spending Review. You can find out further information about the advice being sought from the [Terms of Reference](#). Written contributions on a wide of issues relating to potential funding schemes are welcome. Submissions of less than 2500 words in total would be particularly welcome.

# How to respond

Responses to this call for evidence should be submitted by 24 May 2019.

By email:

[smith.advice@beis.gov.uk](mailto:smith.advice@beis.gov.uk)

By post:

Alice Roycroft  
1 Victoria Street (4th Floor, Victoria 3)  
Westminster  
London  
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Please contact us on 020 7215 8798 if you have any questions.

## Confidentiality and data protection information

Information provided in responses to this call for evidence may be subject to release to the public or other parties in accordance with the access to information law (these are primarily the Environmental Information Regulations 2004 (EIRs), Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) and the Data Protection Act 2018 (DPA)). To understand how your personal information will be treated please see [BEIS privacy policy](#).

BEIS / The Advice team may publish the content of your response to this call for evidence to make it available to the public without your personal name and private contact details (e.g. name, email address, etc).

If you say 'Yes' you want your response kept confidential, please clearly state what information you would like to be kept confidential and why. This is to help us balance these obligations for disclosure against any obligation of confidentiality. If we receive a request for the information that you have provided in your response to this consultation, we will take full account of your reasons for requesting confidentiality of your response, but we cannot guarantee that confidentiality can be maintained in all circumstances.

If you click on 'No' in response to the question asking if you would like anything in your response to be kept confidential, we will be able to release the content of your response to the public, but we won't make your personal name and private contact details publicly available.

# Introductory questions

1. What is your name?
2. What is your email address?
3. Are you responding as an individual or on behalf of an organisation?
4. If responding on behalf of an organisation,
  - a. What is your organisation?
  - b. What type of organisation are you?
    - Individual
    - Academic institute e.g. University / Research Institute
    - Small / medium business (up – 250 employees)
    - Large business (over 250 employees)
    - Public body
    - Learned society
    - Other
5. What region of the UK are you predominantly based in?
  - London
  - South East England
  - South West England
  - East of England
  - West Midlands
  - East Midlands
  - Yorkshire and the Humber
  - North West England
  - North East England
  - Scotland
  - Wales
  - Northern Ireland
  - Other
6. We have obligations under freedom of information laws and there is more information on this below. For the purposes of these laws, would you like your response to be confidential?  
(Required)
  - Yes
  - No
  - If you have answered yes, please give your reason

# Areas of Interest

We welcome written contributions on a wide range of issues relating to potential funding schemes. Areas of interest are:

1. Methods by which new funding arrangements can:

- support research discovery of outstanding quality in all disciplines through international partnerships;
- attract to the UK researchers of outstanding capability from around the world; and
- attract further R&D investment to the UK, thereby contributing to the Government's 2.4% agenda

2. The optimum balance of emphasis for any new funding arrangements in each of the following dimensions:

- European collaboration, Overseas Development Assistance and global collaboration;
- support for: outstanding individuals; blue-skies research; business innovation and research impact; and research facilities and infrastructure; and
- research and innovation domains (research disciplines, business sectors etc).

3. Methods and timescales for introducing any new funding arrangements for international collaboration, including those that

- reflect the ambitions of small and large businesses
- foster new systems of international peer review and funding

4. The roles of Government, UKRI, National Academies and other organisations in defining the agenda for European and international collaboration and administering any new funding arrangements for such activities.

5. Existing evidence on the efficiency and effectiveness of funding for international collaborations.

6. Any other issues relating to this work that you wish to bring to our attention

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