# Cabinet Office logo

Biological Security Strategy Call for Evidence: response form

# Guidance for respondents

It is recommended that you read the full [Biological Security Strategy Call for Evidence](https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/biological-security-strategy-call-for-evidence) document before completing your response. Please note that the text boxes used in this form can be expanded to accommodate additional text.

* You do not need to respond to all of the questions if they are not all relevant to you.
* The questions asked are very broad in nature. This is to give you the scope to focus on a specific sub-issue or priority, according to your own, or your organisation's, area of expertise.
* There is no minimum word limit. We strongly encourage a maximum limit of 500 words per question (not including references). We recommend providing responses which contextualise, and summarise the key points of, the evidence they reference, as these are likely to be most effective. Given the volume of responses expected, submissions exceeding this recommended length may not be read in their entirety.
* Please include references in your response where applicable. We request that you include a bibliography at the end of your response, within the box provided. This does not count towards the recommended word limit.

Responses should be submitted no later than **11:45pm BST on Tuesday 29th March 2022,** with early responses encouraged where possible.

For further information on how we handle your personal data please read the [Biological Security Strategy Call for Evidence Privacy Notice.](https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/biological-security-strategy-call-for-evidence/privacy-notice-for-the-biological-security-strategy-call-for-evidence)

Please send your completed response form, attaching any papers you have referenced, to: biosecuritystrategy@cabinetoffice.gov.uk. Please reference “**Biological Security Strategy Call for Evidence 2022**” in the subject line.

# Questions

## General information

### 1. Full name (required)

### 2. Email address (required)

### 3. Are you responding (please tick as appropriate):

**[ ]** as an individual (and acting in a personal capacity)

[ ]  as a representative of a business, firm or trade body

[ ]  as a representative of an academic or research organisation

[ ]  other (please specify below)

### 4. If you are responding as an individual (acting in a personal capacity), what is your occupation?

### 5. If you are responding as a representative of a business, firm or trade body:

a) what is the name of the business, firm or trade body?

b) what is your position in the business, firm or trade body?

c) what sector is the organisation most closely related?

d) please give an indication of the size of the organisation (approximate number of employees)?

### 6. If you are responding as a representative of an academic or research organisation, please give the name of this organisation.

### 7. Which of the following most closely describes your level of knowledge of biological security related issues?

[ ]  Expert understanding of biological security

[ ]  Good insight into some aspects of biological security

[ ]  General interest

### 8. The Privacy Notice can be found on the Biological Security Strategy Call for Evidence webpage. Please tick as appropriate (required)

[ ]  [If you are responding as an individual only] I have read the Biological Security Strategy Call for Evidence Privacy Notice and am content for my name to be published alongside my response.

[ ]  [If you are responding as an individual only] I have read the Biological Security Strategy Call for Evidence Privacy Notice and am not content for my name to be published alongside my response.

[ ]  [If you are responding on behalf of an organisation only] I have read the Biological Security Strategy Call for Evidence Privacy Notice and understand that any responses submitted by organisations or representatives of organisations may be published in full.

### 9. Are you happy to be contacted directly about your response?

[ ]  Yes

[ ]  No

## Call for Evidence questions

Please provide your responses to each question in the boxes below. While there is no minimum word limit, we strongly encourage a maximum limit of 500 words per question (not including references).

### **Question 1: What are the key biological security opportunities, challenges, threats and vulnerabilities facing the UK:**

a. now?

b. in five years?

c. in 10 years?

###

### **Question 2: How can the UK capitalise on the identified opportunities?**

a. What are the key global, regional and domestic trends affecting UK biological security out to 2030?

b. How should the Government prioritise its efforts to identify and respond to these?

c. How do new mitigations which emerged through the COVID-19 pandemic (such as mRNA vaccines) alter the risk landscape?

d. How might surveillance tools and capabilities enhance our resilience to natural hazards and malicious biological threats?

e. Are there successful examples of surveillance and/or wider approaches and capabilities for mitigating biological risks in other countries that we can learn from?

f. What future steps should the UK take to maximise our resilience to and preparedness for natural hazards, accidental release, malicious biological threats and emerging zoonotic pathogens?

g. What role would health systems overseas (including in Low and Middle Income Countries) and their resilience play?

h. Should research and laboratory standards, safety and security play more of a role (domestic and international), and what else should we be doing?

### **Question 3: What lessons can we learn from the UK’s biological security delivery since 2018, including but not limited to COVID-19?**

a. Which are the key successes we should look to develop and build on, and where are areas for development?

b. How can the future development and delivery of the strategy be improved by adjustments to UK systems, capabilities and the UK life sciences industry?

c. Should the UK have a single accountable role or body responsible for meeting the full range of biological threats?

d. What can we learn from other countries' biological security practises and experiences?

e. How should the UK engage with, support or influence, existing multilateral and other international collaborative efforts towards biological security to improve the impact of our strategy?

### **Question 4: How should progress be monitored and evaluated, and how often should the strategy be refreshed?**

a. Are there successful approaches in other countries that we can learn from?

b. How should UK collaborations, investments, and interventions be designed to assure the development and delivery of the strategy?