

ESRC CRITERIA FOR SUPPORT OF KNOWLEDGE TRANSFER PARTNERSHIPS

Effective June 2011

The ESRC has reviewed its criteria for supporting KTP's in light of strategic changes that have taken place following the Comprehensive Spending Review.

THE ESRC'S DELIVERY PLAN 2011-2015

The social sciences are essential to developing the international competitiveness of UK business and the wellbeing of citizens in the UK and beyond. Following the Comprehensive Spending Review the ESRC has now decided to concentrate and direct our activities on **three priorities**:

- **Economic Performance and Sustainable Growth** – Enable the development of robust government and private sector strategies to ensure the sustainable growth of the UK economy.
- **Influencing Behaviour and Informing Interventions** – Create a better understanding of how and why people and organisations make decisions, and how these can be managed or influenced.
- **A Vibrant and Fair Society** – Develop ways to enhance the role and contributions of citizens, voluntary sector organisations and social enterprises to create a vibrant national and global society.

All KTPS seeking ESRC sponsorship must demonstrate how the project aligns with one or more of the three ESRC priorities listed above and how the partnership will maximise impact generation. The full ESRC Delivery Plan 2011-2015 can be accessed via the following link <http://www.esrc.ac.uk/publications/delivery-plan/index.aspx>

BUSINESS SECTORS

The ESRC will only support partnerships where the collaborating organisation is based in the **private sector***. Partnerships will have to demonstrate the application and co-production of social science knowledge and demonstrate alignment with our strategic priorities. This includes partnerships with businesses of all sizes.

We particularly encourage partnerships with businesses in the following sectors:

- Financial Services
- Retail

The ESRC will support KTPs with businesses outside of these sectors especially where the project aligns with one or more of the ESRC's key priorities. However priority will be given to partnerships involving businesses in the sectors identified above.

**the ESRC defines private sector in this instance as profit making organisations owned by individuals or groups, including social enterprises.*

ESRC Funded Capacity Building Clusters

The ESRC will continue to support partnerships submitted by ESRC funded Capacity Building Clusters and these will **not** be restricted to the private sector.

FUNDING ARRANGEMENTS

All projects should be undertaking new activity or adding value to existing partnerships. Where there may be potential for duplication or overlap the outline should demonstrate that the partnership has taken account of existing KTPs in order to avoid repeat projects. We welcome links being made with existing partnerships where appropriate, to share learning and best practice and assist with dissemination activity.

Funding will be approved on the following basis:

- All projects will be funded on a joint basis to a maximum of 50% unless a strong case is made for sole funding in the absence of another funder.

Duration of KTP

Unless there is a strong case, ESRC will only sponsor projects of up to two years in duration.

Participating HEIs and other research organisations

ESRC limits its support to partnerships involving HEI departments and will not fund projects involving Further Education Institutions