

## **Rapid Research in Covid -19 programme (RARC-19 programme) call Q&A**

### **Q – Can a University submit more than one portfolio application?**

No. We will only accept a single application from a University for a portfolio of Covid-19 research which should be drawn from the best ideas from research investigators in that Institution. However, Universities can choose to work in collaboration to submit a single portfolio application for research projects across their Institutions.

### **Q – What is the maximum funding available for each portfolio application and what is the total funding available for this call?**

We are inviting applications for portfolios of research projects that address key areas outlined in the call. The total value of a portfolio application should not exceed £1.25 million. The funds available for this call are considerably in excess of £1.25 million.

Funding decisions will be made at both the portfolio and individual project levels.

### **Q – Can projects within portfolio applications include co-investigators from other institutions?**

Yes, co-investigators from other institutions can be included in projects within a portfolio application from a single University.

### **Q – Should applications involving Health Boards take into account the prioritised support for studies as part of the UK-wide prioritisation process introduced by NIHR?**

Yes. Health Board R&D offices will be aware of the prioritised list of studies (<https://www.nihr.ac.uk/covid-19/urgent-public-health-studies-covid-19.htm>) and will be able to guide applicants on the potential implications.

Where support of the NHS for use of resources is required then evidence of the support of the local nodal Health Board, or special Boards (as appropriate) must be provided with the application.

### **Q. – Is CSO paying Full Economic Costs on these awards**

No. CSO standard grants are normally awarded at 80% of the Full Economic Cost. Given the exceptional nature of this call, CSO will not be applying its standard costing model. For salary costs, both Directly Incurred and Directly Allocated staff costs should be included. However no FEC related overhead (including Estates Costs) should be applied.

### **Q – I am a researcher with a potential idea for a research project – what should I do?**

Please talk to your University research lead or office about your idea, whether your University is putting together a portfolio application, and who is leading on that within your

University. CSO cannot enter into discussions with individual investigators about ideas for projects.

**Q – Can commercial companies or third sector organisations submit applications?**

No. A portfolio application must be led and submitted by Scottish University, although projects within research portfolios that involve collaboration with industry or the third sector are welcomed. However, CSO will not broker relationships between industry or third sector organisations and Universities to explore collaborative projects; these must be explored by investigators themselves.