

Governance & Policy Office: KE & Impact Support

How To Guide No. 2: RCUK Pathways to Impact (P2I) Part 1

The purpose of RCUK Pathways to Impact (P2I) is to encourage applicants to explore, from the outset, who could potentially benefit from their work in the longer term and consider what could be done to increase the chances of their research reaching beneficiaries. A well-written P2I is an essential component of your application if you want to secure funding from UK Research Councils.

Funders ask for explicit answers to the following questions under the Summary and Statement sections of the application, in order for you to **demonstrate the potential economic and social impact** of your research:

P2I Summary (up to 4,000 characters)

WHO will benefit from the research?

i.e. who are the beneficiaries of your research – who are you targeting with your impact?

HOW will they benefit from the research?

i.e. how will you ensure that they benefit from your research – how will you achieve this?

P2I Statement (up to 2 pages of A4)

WHAT will you do to ensure that the potential beneficiaries have the opportunity to engage with this research?

i.e. what specific activities, strategies and interventions do you intent to adopt to ensure that the potential beneficiaries outlined in the Summary have the opportunity to engage with your research and increase the likelihood of potential economic and societal impacts?

General points to address

Check the funder's definition of impact and what they require you to address under impact. This will be stated clearly in the funder's Guidance for Applicants document, available on the funder's website. E.g.

- [MRC](#)
- [BBSRC](#)
- [ESRC](#)

Look at what the funder's peer reviewers are asked to consider when assessing impact in proposals and ensure you address these areas in your application. E.g.

- [MRC](#)
- [BBSRC](#)
- [ESRC](#)

Answer the 'exam' questions of "[Who, How and What](#)", and cover what the funder is expecting to be included under impact. Specific helpful hints on this are in the How To Guide on P2I Part 2.

Contacts: The FBMH KE & Impact Officers can provide you with detailed feedback on your P2I summaries and statements. Please contact them as soon as you can for help and advice with your application:

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