

An EPSRC perspective: the value of KE skills, maximising impact, ECR opportunities

Dr Chris White, Living With Environmental Change Theme

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Pioneering research
and skills

Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council

Introduction

- Who are EPSRC?
- Knowledge Exchange & Impact
- Early Career Opportunities

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Who are EPSRC?

- **EPSRC is the main UK government agency for funding research and training in engineering and the physical sciences, investing more than £850 million a year.**
- **We invest in world-leading discovery, ingenious people and in promoting innovation that all fuel long-term growth.**
- **Our research and training investments underpin the UK Government's Industrial Strategies and the "8 Great Technologies".**

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The UK Innovation Landscape

Discover

Understand

Integrate

Validate

Deploy

Research Councils UK (RCUK)

Technology Strategy Board (TSB)

Charities & Intermediate Bodies

European Commission (EC)
& Overseas Bodies

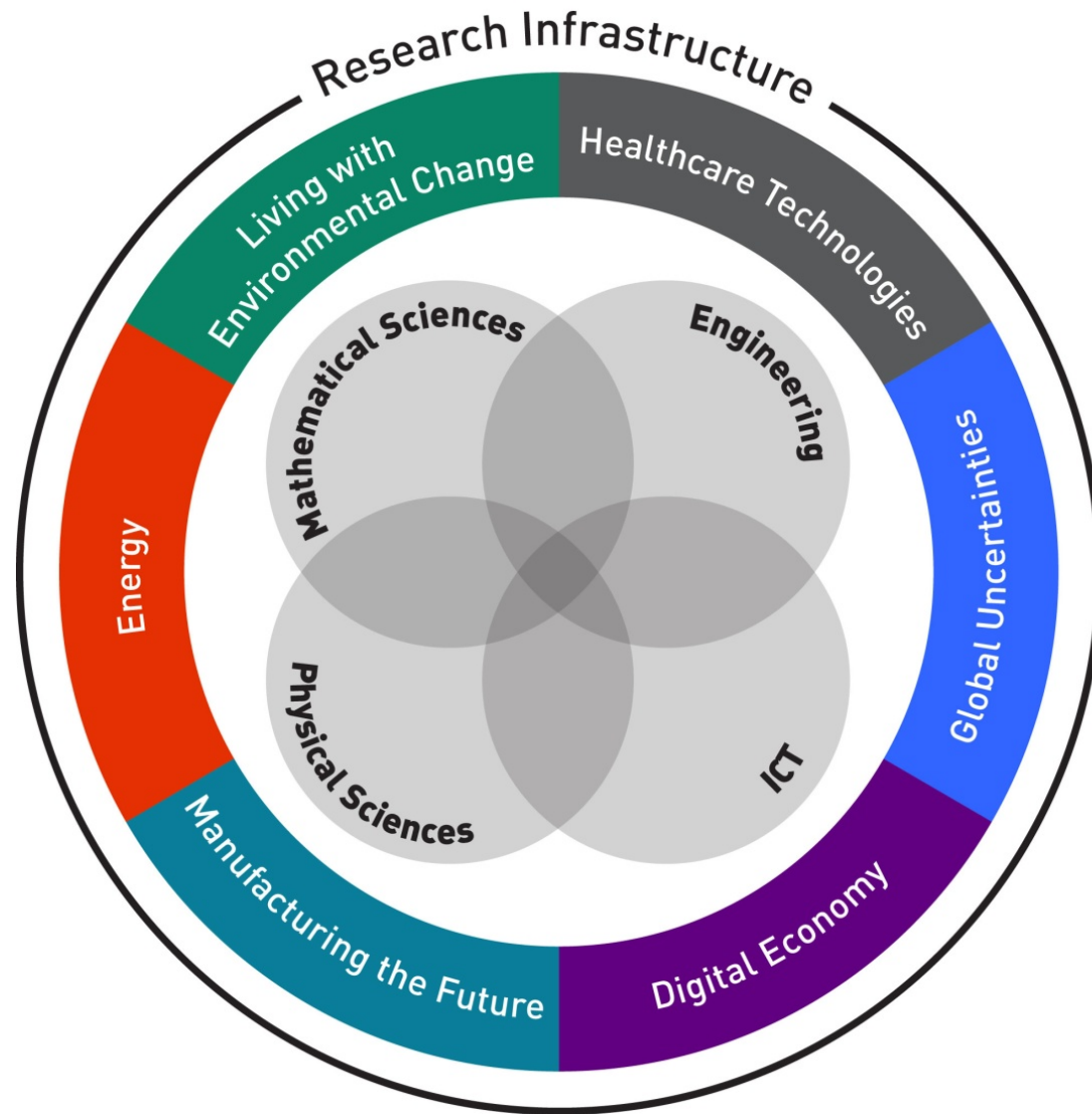
Industrial Organisations

Universities & Research Institutes

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EPSRC Themes



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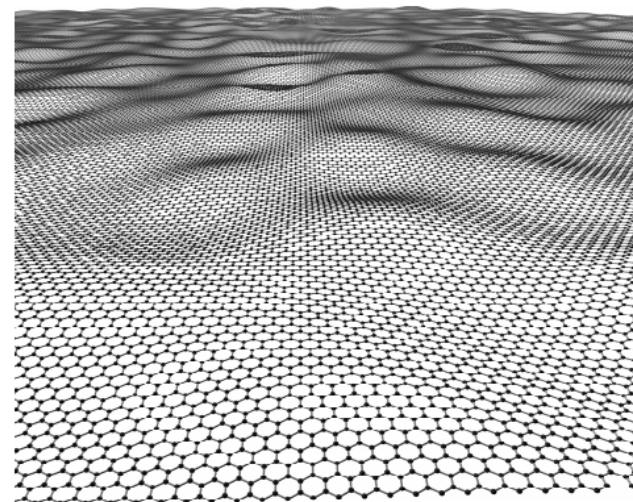
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EPSRC **LEADERS** **RESEARCH**
CAPABILITY **RESEARCHERS**
IMPACT **CHALLENGES**
FOCUS **FUTURE** **SKILLS** **CREATIVITY**
OF **CHALLENGES**
PARTNERSHIP
EXCELLENCE **EUK**

STRATEGIC PLAN 2010

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Artistic impression of a simulated graphene sheet by Jussi Jager. Image courtesy of the University of Manchester.

DELIVERY PLAN 2011-2015

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www.epsrc.ac.uk/about/plans/Pages/ourplans.aspx

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Strategic Goals

- Developing leaders
- Shaping capability
- Delivering impact

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CAPABILITY
IMPACT
SKILLS
CREATIVITY
CHALLENGES
PARTNERSHIP
EXCELLENCEUK
RESEARCH
LEADERS
FOCUS
FUTURE
SNCO

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Delivering Impact

- **One of EPSRC's strategic goals as a long-term investor in UK research and training is to increase and accelerate the impact from our investments and maximise its potential for exploitation.**

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Delivering Impact

- New Impact is the demonstrable contribution that excellent research makes to society and the economy. Impact embraces all the extremely diverse ways in which research-related knowledge and skills benefit individual, organisations and nations by:
 - fostering global economic performance, and specifically the economic competitiveness of the United Kingdom;
 - increasing the effectiveness of public services and policy;
 - enhancing quality of life, health and creative output.
- **BUT REMEMBER – MOST IMPACT IS NOT USUALLY DELIVERED BY ACADEMICS**
- To deliver impact, potential uses or influences of research need to be considered at the earliest time
- So impact needs to be embedded in all activity from the concept of an idea – not an add-on

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On Grants: Pathways to Impact

Funding to Facilitate Potential Impacts

- Some specific **examples** of activities that could be requested are:
 - Secondments
 - Increased investigator time
 - Training activities
 - Employment of specialist staff
 - Marketing and publicity
 - Workshops, seminars and networking
 - Public engagement
 - Early-stage commercialisation exploration
- Evidence shows that these resources are heavily under-used by applicants!

With Universities: Impact Acceleration Accounts

- Focus on secondments and Proof of concept/follow on
- Strategic focus for impact engagement with key HEIs
- Based on algorithmic funding, covering 95% of our portfolio
- Let us know your success stories

ECR Opportunities

- Doctoral Prize – 2 years additional support post-PhD
- Fellowships: Post Doctoral
 - Sustainable & Resilient Infrastructure
 - End Use Energy Demand
 - Engineering Grand Challenges
 - Complexity
- Fellowships: Early Career, open in many research areas