

UK-Ireland Collaboration in the Digital Humanities Research Networking Call

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II. Introduction

The Arts and Humanities Research Council of the UK (AHRC) and the Irish Research Council (IRC) are collaborating on a new funding programme that aims to deliver a transformational impact on Digital Humanities research in the UK and Ireland. The programme will exploit complementary strengths in the Digital Humanities between world-leading centres of excellence in the UK and Ireland, leading to new partnerships and cross-disciplinary projects, building capacity and enhancing the integration of humanities and technology in Digital Humanities development.

This call is intended to support the development of networks of researchers, practitioners and wider partners across the UK and Ireland focussed on the development of Digital Humanities research and skills in both countries. The call builds on the 'UK-Ireland Collaboration in the Digital Humanities' scoping workshop that took place in Dublin from 22nd-23rd October 2019.

The AHRC will provide up to **£30,000** full economic cost (fEC), paid at 80%, for the UK costs of each funded research network. The Irish Research Council will provide up to **€12,500** (covering 100% of costs). Each network must start by **14th May 2020** and can be between 6-12months in duration.

This call will close for applications on Thursday 20th February 2020. Applications should be submitted by the UK PI through the Je-S system by **4pm on Thursday 20th February 2020**, and will need to go through the appropriate institution submission process prior to this. **The Irish PI must submit the PDF copy of the research proposal submitted through J-eS to the IRC by 11:59pm on 20th February 2020.** **Applicants missing any of these submission steps will be automatically disqualified.**

All Investigators named on the Je-S application form, whether based in the UK or Ireland, must have a Je-S account. Where a named investigator does not already have a Je-S account, one can be easily set up, but please note that the process can take a number of days. It is therefore strongly recommended that the process is started well before the application deadline. Je-S accounts can be created on the Je-S site [here](#). If you require assistance with the process please contact the Je-S Helpdesk at JeSHelp@je-s.ukri.org or +44 (0)1793 44 4164.

Please also refer to the FAQs document for this call as this contains additional information and will be regularly updated by the UK and Irish funding partners.

It is expected that 8-10 awards will be made under this call, with the aim of achieving a balanced portfolio of awards across the three thematic areas, (subject to proposals meeting the criteria and quality standards detailed above).

III. Context

A. UK-Ireland: the value of enhanced collaboration

Given the growth of fields such as critical digital studies, machine learning, data science and artificial intelligence, Digital Humanities represents a transformative and rapidly developing field in both Ireland and the UK. It uses information and communication technologies to preserve artefacts, to make them more accessible to researchers and the public, and to analyse and mine their information

in new and previously impossible ways. There are world-leading centres of excellence in the Digital Humanities field in the UK and Ireland, and both countries possess significant strengths which provide a fertile ground for joint innovative projects, based on complementarity and expertise sharing.

In the UK, there has been significant investment in digitization projects, which has resulted in a vast corpus of digitized material, especially in the fields of humanities and social science. Most UK infrastructure has mainly been constructed through national frameworks such as AHDS and JISC. In Ireland, the main focus has been on cross-disciplinary collaborations with Information and Communications Technology, and Digital Humanities capacity has been strongly aligned with EU frameworks, including DARIAH.

The UK-Ireland Collaboration in the Digital Humanities programme seeks to exploit these complementary strengths by establishing new research partnerships that will deliver a transformational impact on Digital Humanities research in the UK and Ireland. It is anticipated that enhanced collaboration will achieve a broad range of academic, social and economic impacts, for example by fostering new partnerships with the creative industries sector; enhancing public access to and engagement with cultural heritage; creating new standards in open access; and supporting new learning, educational and professional skills. More specifically, closer collaboration between Ireland and the UK will yield transformative step-changes in Digital Humanities scholarship including:

- The continued critical problematisation of digital humanities, its pro-social values and relevance to contemporary digital discussions of democracy, and engaged citizenship in a networked world;
- The integration of innovative technologies and interpretative methodologies such as Big Data and AI systems within the field of the humanities;
- The strengthening of world-class research capacity for interdisciplinary challenge-based research;
- A skills pipeline that produces digital humanists who are able to work across the humanities and technology sectors.

B. Fund for International Collaboration

In the UK, the programme is supported by £4 million of funding secured by the AHRC through the UKRI (UK Research and Innovation) [Fund for International Collaboration](#). The Irish component of projects will be supported by funding from the IRC.

This call for Research Networks is the second phase in a suite of activity that will be delivered through the programme and which comprises:

- A scoping workshop (see III C);
- [This Research Networking call](#)
- A mid-term conference
- A call for longer, larger Research Grants

C. Scoping Workshop

From 22nd-23rd October 2019, a workshop co-sponsored by the AHRC and the IRC on 'UK-Ireland Collaboration in the Digital Humanities' took place in Dublin. The workshop brought together approximately 60 academic and cultural institution experts from the UK and Ireland in order to:

- Enable the experts to network and explore the current environment of Digital Humanities, foster bilateral and inter-sectoral cooperation and identify opportunities for collaborative research between the UK and Ireland in the field;
- Identify the priority thematic areas to be taken forward by the partners and which might be embedded in future collaborative activities/funding calls;
- Gather participants' input on some features of future funding calls, so to align them to the needs and priorities of the UK-Ireland research community.

Discussions focused on the three thematic areas: contemporary/disruptive approaches; cultural heritage and the creative industries; and societal challenges. The workshop was a critical early-phase activity in building partnerships around the vision of the programme and shaping its thematic priorities, including the focus of this networking call. A report of the workshop, including recommendations for future activity, can be found on the call page on the AHRC and IRC website (from w/c 9th December). It is advised that applicants refer to this report when completing their proposal.

Please note that attendance at the Digital Humanities Networking Workshop (October 2019) is not a pre-condition of application to this call.

IV. Scope of the Networking Call

This networking call builds upon the input gathered during the Digital Humanities Networking Workshop (Dublin, 22-23 October 2019), which informed the eligible themes and cross-cutting issues. Such networking phase aims at being a stepping stone to larger international research grants, as it provides the opportunity for the development of robust ties and genuine collaboration between partners.

A. Aims and objectives

This call for UK-Ireland Research Networks aims to support a broad range of networking and partnership development activities between researchers and wider stakeholders in the UK and Ireland. Specifically, the call aims to support a diverse range of projects that:

- Build on the momentum of the workshop and establish new networks around defined thematic areas which generate new lines of enquiry and stimulate new debate;
- Build and consolidate new partnerships between researchers and stakeholders in the UK and Ireland and provide a platform for longer-term collaboration;
- Deliver innovative research networking activities that are appropriately tailored to the themes and areas being addressed, such as workshops, seminars and / or other events and outreach, engagement and knowledge exchange activity;
- Are genuinely collaborative and involve a balance of Research Organisations and stakeholders in both countries;

- Promote the sharing of best practice and knowledge exchange between institutions in the UK and Ireland and clearly demonstrate the specific added value of enhanced collaboration in the field.

B. Themes

The networks should take innovative, interdisciplinary approaches to explore the following broad and inclusive themes:

- **Digital Humanities, Emerging Technologies and Research Practices**
Including engagement with areas which might include, but are not limited to:
 - Advanced technologies such as AI and machine learning
 - Overcoming silos and bridging disciplines
 - Methods for capacity building: innovative researchers and wider practices
- **Digital Humanities and Social Innovation**
Including engagement with areas which might include, but are not limited to:
 - Engagement with communities- nationally and internationally
 - Sustainable practices for societal impact
 - Resilient societies and inclusive practices
- **Digital Humanities, Cultural Heritage and the Creative Industries**
Including engagement with areas which might include, but are not limited to:
 - Creative industries and technological development
 - Uncovering, preserving and widening accessibility to hidden heritages
 - Cross-sectoral collaborative partnerships and creative exchange

Projects must be principally framed around one theme, although it is acceptable to include activity that sits across or outside of these themes where there is a clear rationale to do so. Applicants are encouraged to recognise the breadth and inclusivity of the themes.

C. Cross Cutting Issues

As detailed in sections VII (Application Process and Format), and VIII (Assessment process and Criteria), research proposals should also engage with the following cross-cutting research areas:

- **Sustainability:** How will the network's impact and outputs last beyond the funding period?
- **Inclusion:** Equality and diversity activities are encouraged for this call in order to foster innovation and inclusion. Early career researchers should be included in the network's activities where appropriate.
- **Engagement and Impact:** Networks should generate new models of working together and bring together Digital Humanities researchers and non-academic partners, as well as user communities beyond academia (including, where appropriate, community-led and community-based research networks).
- **Interdisciplinarity:** Interdisciplinary submissions to this call are encouraged, provided the focus of the network and its proposed activities fit within the remit of the Digital

Humanities. Interdisciplinary activities should advance knowledge and understanding in the fields concerned and be evident in the composition of the consortium.

Applicants are also encouraged to consider the environmental impact of consortium activities (i.e. lower carbon modes of transport and the use of digital methods of collaboration).

D. Distinctive features of this Research Networking scheme

- The maximum amount that can be applied for by UK applicants is £30,000 (fEC) and €12,500 for Irish applicants;
- Only UK costs can be costed into the requested Je-S budget, Irish costs should be included in the non-UK Component attachment ('Budget form for Irish Costs');
- The earliest proposal start date is 1st May 2020 and the latest start date is 14th May 2020;
- The proposal must have a duration of 6-12 months;
- Project Principal Investigators must meet standard AHRC and IRC eligibility rules;
- There must be a Principal Investigator from each country; the inclusion of additional Co-Investigators is permitted;

UK applicants should follow the standard requirements for the Research Networking Scheme as set out in the [AHRC Research Funding Guide](#), with the exceptions outlined above.

V. Eligibility

Proposals must include at least one researcher from both the UK and Ireland and must have a Principal Investigator (PI) in each country. The Je-S submission portal allows for only one Principal Investigator to be included in a proposal. On the Je-S form, the Principal Investigator is therefore the UK PI and the Irish PI needs to be recorded as a Co-Investigator. The division of Investigator roles is only a technical requirement for the purposes of submission via the Je-S System. The UK and Ireland Investigators will otherwise officially be considered Co-Principal Investigators in the spirit of genuine collaboration. All Investigators and network participants should be named in the Case for Support. UK-based applicants' expenses will be covered by the AHRC and Ireland-based applicants' expenses will be covered by the Irish Research Council for funding, as per the respective funding rules.

An individual can only be named as Principal Investigator on one proposal but may be involved in others in a different capacity, subject to the feasibility of being involved with more than one project.

Co-Investigators from other countries can be included within the UK costs in accordance with AHRC's International Co-Investigator policy, where it can be demonstrated that they will add value to the project. Please refer to the [AHRC Research Funding Guide](#) for further information on AHRC's International Co-I policy and which costs are eligible within a UK budget.

UK applicants

Standard eligibility criteria (see section 3 of the AHRC's [Research Funding Guide](#)) will apply to this call for UK investigators and research organisations. This means that the UK Principal Investigator must be resident in the UK and contracted to a UK institution eligible to receive funding from UKRI.

The UK component must fall within the remit of the Arts and Humanities Research Council.

Full details of all project partner organisations should be included in the application and be accompanied by a Project Partner Letter of Support. Guidance on what needs to be included in a Project Partner Letter of Support is provided on page 53 of the AHRC [Research Funding Guide](#).

Irish applicants:

- Irish eligibility rules are in line with the IRC's remit and mainstream procedures;
- **The Irish Principal Investigator and Co-Investigators can be active in all disciplinary areas as per the Irish Research Council's pan-disciplinary mandate, provided that the consortium's scope falls into the Digital Humanities field.**
- **Irish PIs must be contracted by an Irish HEI, with a contract of sufficient duration to carry out the proposed research from the project start date until project end date.**
- There are no restrictions on the eligibility of non-academic partners (museums, cultural institutions, private companies, NGOs).

VI. Guidance on Costs and Project Timescales

The AHRC and IRC will jointly fund successful applications. As each funder will cover the costs of the respective research community (applying different rules and mechanisms), separate budgets are required for the UK and Irish costs. The UK budget should be entered onto the Je-S form and the Ireland budget should be included as an attachment (Non-UK Component; [please see relevant form](#)).

The following eligibility rules for the UK and Ireland budgets apply:

Eligible costs for the UK budget (AHRC):

- Networking activity including travel and subsistence for the UK Principal Investigator and UK network participants to attend project-related events both in the UK and Ireland;
- Organisation of seminars/conferences/networking events in the UK;
- Other costs that are essential for the delivery of the project and are eligible according to standard AHRC guidance (see section 2 of the AHRC's [Research Funding Guide](#)).
- Website management/data costs should be costed to the UK budget.

Salary costs for the UK Principal Investigator and a UK Co-investigator can be included for:

- The time spent overseeing and providing intellectual input to the activities;
- The cost of setting up and coordinating the activities (for example the salary costs of a coordinator)
- Associated Indirect and Estates costs.

Please note that the time spent by the UK Principal Investigator on the coordination of the activities is not expected to form the majority of the cost of the proposal.

Eligible costs for the Ireland budget (IRC):

As specified in the 'Budget form for Irish Costs', the following costs are eligible for Irish participants.

- Travel expenses, within Ireland and to the UK, of HEI project staff (including ESRs);
 - Travel expenses, within Ireland and to the UK, of non-academic partners representatives;
 - Organisation of joint events;
 - Teaching buy out;
 - Dissemination and public outreach costs;
 - Consultancy services;
- Staff costs are not eligible costs.
 - Successful Irish applicants will receive 100% of costs they applied for (up to €12,500).

VII. Application Process and Format

The application process and format as published in the AHRC *Research Funding Guide* will apply for this call, apart from the specific requirements outlined in **Section IV B** of this document.

The PI in the UK will be responsible for submitting a joint UK-Ireland proposal via the Research Council's Joint Electronic System (Je-S), and the PI in Ireland will be responsible for submitting a PDF copy of the joint proposal (all items) attached to the Irish Research Council via email (digital.humanities@research.ie).

Applications should be submitted through the Je-S system by **4pm on Thursday 20th February 2020**, and will need to go through the appropriate institution submission process prior to this. **The Irish PI must submit the PDF copy of the research proposal submitted through J-eS and Non-UK component document to the IRC by 11:59pm on 20th February 2020. Missing any of these deadlines will result in the disqualification of the proposal.**

Je-S submission

You should submit your proposal using the Research Councils' Joint electronic Submission (Je-S) System (<https://je-s.rcuk.ac.uk/>).

To prepare a proposal form in Je-S:

- log-in to your account and choose 'Documents' from the menu;
- then select 'New Document';
- 'AHRC' as the Council,
- 'Standard Proposal' as the Document Type;
- 'Research Networking' as the Scheme;
- 'AHRC UK-Ireland Digital Humanities Research Networking 20 Feb 2020' as the Call/Type/Mode; and
- 'Create Document'.

Je-S will then create a proposal form, displaying the relevant section headings. Using the Blue Question Marks and the 'Help' link at the top of each section will provide guidance relevant to that section of the form.

All Investigators named on the Je-S application form, whether based in the UK or Ireland, must have a Je-S account. Where a named investigator does not already have a Je-S account, one can be easily

set up, but please note that the process can take a number of days. It is therefore strongly recommended that the process is started well before the application deadline. Je-S accounts can be created on the Je-S site [here](#). During account set-up an account type of **'An Applicant on a Standard/Outline Proposal'** must be selected. If you require assistance with the process please contact the Je-S Helpdesk at JeSHelp@je-s.ukri.org or +44 (0)1793 44 4164.

Please note that selecting 'Submit document' on your proposal form in Je-S initially submits the proposal to your host organisation's administration, not to AHRC.

Please remember to allow sufficient time for collecting materials from all of the consortium's participants (e.g. CVs, letters of support). Also, please consider your organisation's submission process, allowing time for internal deadlines before the Call closing date.

Please note that no staff costs should be included for the Irish PI/ Co-Is in the Je-S form. In the Investigator section, zero should be entered into the fields which ask for 'Salary Rate' and 'Total number of hours to be **charged** to the grant over the duration of the grant' for the Irish PI/Co-I. No costs should be included on the Je-S form that will be incurred by the Ireland-based members of the project team - only costs incurred by the UK team should be included. Irish costs (and further in-cash/in-kind contributions) must be listed in the 'Budget form for Irish costs', to be uploaded in the 'Non-UK Component' section.

To download a pdf format document of the Je-S application, please follow the instructions below.

Please note that a complete document including all attachments can only be generated once the application has been submitted to AHRC.

- Open the application (you may need to first tick the "Show documents submitted to Council" at the top of the screen)
- Select Document Actions at the top of the screen
- Select Print Document
- Select the option "Download the PDF version including attachments"

IRC submission

The Irish PI must submit the PDF copy of the research proposal submitted through J-eS (all items) to the IRC by **11:59pm on Thursday 20th February 2020**.

Files must be named as follows: IrishPI'sLASTname(IrishHEI)_UKinstitution_FileNAME (Example: Murphy(DCU)_LSE_CASEforSUPPORT)

As Irish applicants are required to set up a Je-S account, it is advisable to familiarise with the required procedures at an early stage.

Attachments

The following are a list of attachments that are permitted for this call. Please see Section 4 of the AHRC's [Research Funding Guide](#) for further information about these attachments:

Attachment	Requirement and maximum page limits (sides of A4)
Case for Support	Compulsory. Maximum of 7 sides of A4.
Curriculum Vitae	Compulsory for the PI, each Co-I and any named researchers, both in the UK and Ireland. Maximum of two sides of A4 for each researcher.
Publication Lists	Compulsory for the PI, each Co-I and any named researchers, both in the UK and Ireland. One side of A4 each for each researcher.
Justification of Resources	Compulsory. Maximum of two sides of A4.
Pathways to Impact	Compulsory. Maximum of two sides of A4.
Project Partner Letter of Support	Compulsory. Maximum of two sides of A4.
Non UK Component	Compulsory. Maximum of two sides of A4.
Letter of Support	Optional. Maximum of two sides of A4

All text based attachments should use an Arial or other standard sans-serif type font no smaller than point 11 and using standard (2cm) margins.

Case for Support attachment (7 sides of A4)

This is the body of your research proposal. You must outline clearly the rationale for the activities, the approach/methods to be taken and the context in which they will operate. The proposal should answer the following questions:

- What is the central theme of the proposed activity?
- Why is it important that this theme is explored?
- How will the proposed activities generate genuine collaboration between the UK and Ireland with the potential to deliver international best practice in research and innovation?

Please use the following headings to structure your Case for Support:

Rationale and excellence of the project

You should describe clearly the rationale, interdisciplinary approach and research context of the activities. Why are the proposed activities necessary to address this theme at this time? To what extent do the proposed activities generate fruitful and novel interaction? You will need to provide a clear explanation of how your activities cross both disciplinary and geographical boundaries, and how this adds value to the network.

Interdisciplinarity of the project

What is the research context in which the interdisciplinary activities will operate, and how will they advance knowledge and understanding in the fields concerned? How will you aim to take appropriate interdisciplinary approaches in the activities of the network? You should outline the non-academic partners that the network will engage with, and the value that intersectorality will add to the activities being undertaken.

Aims and objectives

You should describe the aims and objectives of the activities. What specific targets or outcomes will you have achieved by the end of the funding period?

Timetable of activities

You should give a clear timetable of activities, including events such as workshops, symposia and conferences. If a GANTT chart/timeline is to be included, it should be placed under this heading in the Case for Support document.

Key partners or participants

You should identify the specific partner organisations or participants, both in the UK and Ireland, who will be central to the success of the project, along with their expertise and availability. Will the project include early-career researchers? If applicable, how does their inclusion meet the objectives of the network? You should outline the non-academic partners that the network will engage with, and the value that they will add to the activities being undertaken. If applicable, spell out how the grant will be complemented by additional resources (either in-cash or in-kind).

Impact, Dissemination and Communication

Please provide examples of the kinds of outputs and outcomes you propose to generate during the award and their proposed focus.

For instance, applicants could consider mentioning the following sample networking outputs (non-exhaustive list):

- Panel discussion;
- Seminar;
- Workshop;
- Conference presentation;
- Publication in academic journal;
- Publication in public policy document;

Please explain further how the consortium's activities will be communicated to, and benefit, other researchers, cultural institutions and other relevant organisations, and feed into future research and development activities between the UK and Ireland. To which non-expert audiences (in both countries) will the activities and their outcomes be of interest and value? How will they be targeted? When appropriate, you should refer to the 'pathways to impact' document.

Management and co-ordination

How will the activities be managed? How will the complexities of working between the UK and Ireland be accounted for, for example through administrative support in both countries? How will communications be managed and input between partners coordinated? What will be the roles of the principal investigators, the co-investigators, early-career researchers and other participants?

Data Management

All networking proposals should outline the Data Management processes and practices which are to be adopted for the research network, including the handling of personal data (even if it is the case where the consortium does not expect to *generate* data as an output). Improving the management and handling of research data is a priority both for AHRC and IRC. Please consider current legislation, existing standards and data repositories or archives in your disciplines, and in UK / Irish national and international contexts where appropriate. You should briefly introduce the types of data the research will create, outline how the data will be stored and how it will be shared.

Sustainability

You should identify how the networking activities will be sustainable, both in terms of activity outputs and the membership of the consortium network. How will the consortium's participants keep cooperating beyond the lifetime of the network? Is any future joint application planned, or any other follow-up activity? How will you ensure the sustainability of activity outputs (e.g. websites, social media..) beyond the lifetime of the project?

Justification of Resources attachment (2 sides of A4)

This statement should be used to justify the resources required to undertake the project. It should cover the **UK costs only**. The justification for Irish costs should be included in the Non-UK Component attachment.

Within the Justification of Resources document, you should:

- Explain why the indicated resources are needed, taking account of the nature and complexity of the research proposed. Please note that it is not sufficient merely to list what is required.
- Have regard for the breakdown of resources into the summary fund headings: Directly Incurred, Directly Allocated and (where appropriate) Exceptions.
- In the following cases, the basis of the costing need not be justified, but the need for the resources does need justification:
 - Investigator Time
 - Use of Internal Facilities
 - Shared Staff Costs
- Please attempt to be explicit about the need for the level of investigator time sought.
- Please do not justify estates and indirect costs.

Curriculum Vitae (max. 2 sides of A4 each)

A summary curriculum vitae should be attached as separate documents for each Principal Investigator and Co-Investigator or named postdoctoral researchers, both UK and Irish. CVs should include basic information about education, employment history, and academic responsibilities.

Publication List (max. 1 side of A4 each)

Summary lists of publications/research outputs should be attached as separate documents for each Principal Investigator and Co-Investigator. These should cover major peer-reviewed publications/outputs in the last five years. Brief articles, conference papers, etc. need not be included. You should asterisk those publications of particular relevance to your current research proposal and provide a short explanation for this (maximum two lines for each relevant publication).

Pathways to Impact (max. 2 sides of A4)

The Pathways to Impact attachment should describe in more detail how the potential impacts of the research beyond academia, as outlined in the Impact Summary section of the Je-S form, will be realised. When completing the attachment, you should consider (and address if appropriate) methods for communications and engagement (in both countries, emphasising the international element), collaboration and exploitation.

Project Partner Letters of Support (max. 2 sides of A4)

You should include letters of support from all organisations entered on the Je-S form as 'Project Partners'. A Project Partner is an organisation which contributes in cash or in kind to the project but which is not requesting any money.

More information about the requirements of the attachments and submission process can be found in the [Research Funding Guide](#)

VIII. Assessment Process and Criteria

In addition to standard research excellence criteria, proposals will be assessed against their fit to this call specification and their contributions to the issues identified in section 3 of this document.

Assessment Criteria

The panel will be asked to consider the following criteria when making recommendations to the AHRC and IRC for funding:

Excellence and Vision

- The extent to which the proposal meets the specific aims of the call and addresses the areas identified in this document;
- The quality, innovation and appropriateness of the proposed activities;
- The quality and suitability of the network in addressing the opportunities and challenges identified;
- The appropriateness of the research approaches; the extent to which other current research conducted in this area has been considered.

People, Partnerships and Management

- The experience and leadership qualities of the UK and Irish Principal Investigators, the interdisciplinary balance of expertise provided by the Co-Investigators, and the inclusion of early-career researchers where appropriate;
- The appropriateness of the network partners including cooperation with non-academic partners and communities;
- Whether the intended activities target audiences in both countries, emphasising the international element;
- Whether a realistic timetable, incorporating milestones, is presented which will achieve the network's aims and objectives.

Value for Money

- The extent to which the activities will represent value for money;
- Whether the resources requested are reasonable and justifiable in the context of the proposed activity.

Outputs, Dissemination and Impact

- The appropriateness and effectiveness of the proposed dissemination methods, including knowledge exchange and engagement activities with the wider population;
- Whether the proposal demonstrates an appropriate strategy for the dissemination and exploitation of any outcomes, including the extent to which plans are in place to extend collaboration once the award has ended;
- The potential to lead to substantive new joint research and innovation collaborations.

Assessment Process

Following the deadline for submission, all proposals will be checked for eligibility, and eligible proposals will be reviewed, graded and ranked by a joint assessment panel, which will be comprised of members of the AHRC's Peer Review College and academic reviewers nominated by the Irish Research Council. The assessment panel will agree scores for each proposal, agree a ranked priority list of applications and make funding recommendations to the AHRC and the IRC.

There will not be a separate stage of individual peer review for each application prior to consideration by the Panel, and therefore applicants will not receive feedback on their applications in the form of individual peer reviewers' comments.

Additional Information on the Assessment Process:

After the deadline for submissions, PIs will be informed of any outstanding return for amendment requirements. Proposals will be returned in limited circumstances such as:

- The absence of attachments such as CVs, publication lists and letters of support;
- Required clarifications concerning budget costs and the justification of resources.

Five working days will be given for the return for amendment process. More information about this process will be provided at the relevant stage of the call.

It is expected that up to 8-10 awards will be made under this call, with the aim of having a balanced portfolio of awards across the thematic areas, (subject to proposals meeting the criteria and quality standards detailed above).

IX. Call timetable

Activity	Date
Call opens	Friday 29th November 2019
Deadline for submissions	Thursday 20 th February 2020
Assessment Panel meeting date	w/c 20th March 2020
Funding decisions to be issued	Mid-April 2020
Start date of awards	Earliest start date: 1 st May 2020 Latest start date: 14th May 2020

X. Scheme Requirements and Post-Award Reporting

UK PI requirements

Research Networking scheme requirements and post-award reporting as stated in the AHRC *Research Funding Guide* will apply to this call.

Award holders will be required to submit outputs, outcomes and impacts that arise from AHRC's funding through the Researchfish system. Information can be added to Researchfish at any point once the award has started, but award holders will also be required to 'submit' this information to AHRC at one 'Submission Period' each year. Award holders will receive an email with log-in details shortly after their award has started. More details on Researchfish are available on the UKRI website here: <https://www.ukri.org/funding/information-for-award-holders/research-outcomes1/>. While the UK partners will lead on the process, all consortium members are expected to give input to, and be timely informed about, the process. The UK PI can download the outcomes data from their researchfish® record. They can do this by going to the 'Personal Portfolio' section in the researchfish® website and clicking 'Download Personal Portfolio'.

Irish PI requirements

The Irish PI will be required to complete an impact report and financial report at the end of the project (templates will be supplied by the IRC to awardees), which must be submitted to the IRC (digital.humanities@research.ie).

Mid-Award Conference

In Autumn 2020, the AHRC and IRC plan to hold a Mid-Award Conference for the successful UK-Ireland networks. The conference will bring together award holders from this call, digital humanities experts,

and stakeholders including non-academic partners from the UK and Ireland. This will allow for award holders to share some of the outcomes already yielded from the successful networks, provide a platform to discuss the launch of the follow-up Research Grants call, and support the wider UK-Ireland networking and partnership development of this collaborative funding programme. As costs will be covered by the funders, such activity should not be included in the proposal's budget.

Contact Information

For queries about this call, such as eligible activities and costs or remit of the call:

UK applicants should contact AHRC at fic@ahrc.ukri.org or telephone: 01793 416060 (available Monday to Friday 8:30-16:30).

For queries on using Je-S such as creating and submitting the application form or Je-S account creation, please contact the Je-S Helpdesk on 01793 444164 or JeSHelp@je-s.ukri.org (available 08:30 – 17:00pm Monday – Thursday and 08:30 -16:30pm on Fridays).

Irish applicants should contact the IRC at digital.humanities@research.ie or telephone: +0353 1 2315000 (available Monday to Friday 9:00-17:30).