**Research Catalyst Fund**

Applications are invited for funding of collaborative projects that help mature development of the system’s research themes and establish our distinctive strengths and needs as we seek substantial external funding in these areas of Health and Social Care Research:

* addressing health inequalities
* digital and data enabled research
* sustainable healthcare
* translational research

**Funding available:** NHS Sussex has generously allocated £30,000 towards this call which will be administered centrally by the Health Research Partnership Team.

Applications are expected to be in the region of £7,000 to £10,000 and funding can be requested to cover:

* Patient and Public Involvement and Engagement activities
* Co-production activities
* Consumables
* Conference and travel
* Dissemination and publishing

Requests for costs to cover small items of equipment may be considered if spending is achievable in the timeline and in accordance with the Institutions’ procurement rules.

Please contact us via email with any budget-related queries and general advice: [healthresearchpartnership@bsms.ac.uk](mailto:healthresearchpartnership@bsms.ac.uk)

**Eligibility:**

This call is open to applicants across Sussex working in research-active institutions at any career stage. This includes researchers at Universities, NHS Trusts, Primary care and out of hospital settings, Local Authorities, Voluntary, community and Social Enterprises.

Proposals involving Early Career Researcher development are particularly encouraged with the appropriate support and group of collaborators. Proposals must have a strong focus on co-production and impact. If you are seeking a collaborative partner for your project, please get in touch for early advice and guidance.

Applicants should demonstrate previous experience of working in place-based themes relevant to HRP

* addressing health inequalities
* digital and data enabled research
* sustainable healthcare
* translational research

**Assessment Criteria:**

Proposals will be evaluated against the level to which it addresses the strategic aims of our partnership, specifically:

* Development of collaborative research addressing local and national priorities
* Strength of patient and public co-production/involvement and engagement plans, with a strong focus on increasing diversity in research participation and involvement (We strongly recommend collaborating with relevant VSCEs and to seek out advice and support from your organisation and/or from the Research Engagement Network)
* Development of a multidisciplinary research workforce
* Strength of pathway towards a high-quality proposal for substantive funding
* Clear pathway to evidence-driven improvements in services
* Development of commercial and charitable partnerships

Applications should clearly demonstrate a strong collaborative approach to research co-production and impact plans.

**How your application will be assessed:**

All applications will be considered by members of the HRP Executive Group. All applications will be provided with feedback and guidance even if not awarded.

**Timeline**

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| **Call Opening date:** | October 2024 |
| **Closing date:** | 30 November 2024 |
| **Funding decision:** | December 2024 |
| **Project start date:** | January/February 2025 |
| **Spending deadline:** | September 2025 |

**How to apply:**

Please send your completed Application form to [healthresearchpartnership@bsms.ac.uk](mailto:healthresearchpartnership@bsms.ac.uk)

**Research Catalyst Fund**

Application form

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Name of applicant:** |  |
| **Current position:** |  |
| **Host organisation:** |  |
| **Co-applicant name & Institution:** |  |
| **Co-applicant name & Institution:** |  |
| **Project Title:** |  |
| **Brief Project description (max. 300 words)** |  |
| **Aims and Objectives (max. 150 words):** |  |
| **Anticipated Project Impact (max. 150 words):** |  |
| **Resources requested (£ total and brief breakdown)** |  |

**SECTION 1**

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| **Collaborative research addressing local and national priorities (300 words):**  *Describe how your research addresses local and national priorities for health and care research.* |
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| **Development of a multidisciplinary research workforce (300 words):**  *Describe how your project will support development of multi and trans-disciplinary health and care research in Sussex.* |
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| **Strength of patient and public co-production/involvement and engagement plans (300 words).**  *How has your research been driven by public, community or patient involvement and how will it contribute to and improve the quality and strength of PPIE and research co-production in your field of research?* |
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| **Pathway to evidence-driven improvements in services (300 words)**  *What is the pathway for your research to deliver benefits for the population of Sussex, patients, service users or service providers* |
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| **Scope for commercial and charitable partnerships (300 words)**  *Describe the opportunities your project will create in developing new partnerships with industry, charities or the voluntary sector and how you will maximise these.* |
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| **Future funding opportunities**  *How will your project strengthen the pathway towards a high-quality proposal for substantive funding in the near future?* |
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**SECTION 2. Eligibility and Research Experience**

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| **Previous Experience:**  *Please provide details of your previous work on the Partnership’s identified place-based areas - addressing health inequalities, digital and data enabled research, sustainable healthcare, translational research* |
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| **Previous Collaborative work:**  *Please provide details of previous projects with a strong focus on co-production:* |
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| **Return application to** [**healthresearchpartnership@bsms.ac.uk**](mailto:healthresearchpartnership@bsms.ac.uk) **by 30 November 2024** |