

Annex A: Enhancing place-based partnerships in public engagement:

2019-20 Bid Template

Please complete this template and submit it to publicengagement@re.ukri.org by 17:00 on Monday 21 October 2019.

Documents must be submitted as follows: a. Proposals should take the form of a single PDF document covering the submission and any evidence to support the case. This should include supporting letters from your collaborative partner/s, your PVC of Research (or equivalent) and any research organisation collaborative partner in the case of a bid from several institutions. If your institution is submitting more than one bid (e.g. one as lead and one as partner), the PVC supporting letter should include a clear narrative as to why this is the case. b. Proposals should be predominately text-based. You should use Arial font and text should be no smaller than font size 10. Please do not alter the page margins. Please refer to the notes contained within this template (these are meant as guidance only) as well as the eligibility criteria for assessing bids as outlined in the guidance document, noting in particular the objectives of the funding scheme (see paragraph 14, call guidance).

Section 1: Project summary			
Project title:	Raising community voice for future health research		
Collaborative partner(s):	University of Leicester, Leicester Citizens (part of Citizens UK), University Hospitals of Leicester NHS Trust		
Named Person	Organisation	Role	Email
Prof Jason Hughes	University of Leicester	Professor	Redacted
Dr Marie Nugent	University of Leicester	Engagement Manager	Mn218@le.ac.uk
Rebecca Pritchard	University Hospitals of Leicester	Public Involvement Manager	Rp237@le.ac.uk
Redacted	Redacted	Redacted	Redacted
Total funding requested from UKRI (e.g. between £10,000 - £40,000):			
Total (£): 35,086			
Total match commitment:			
Cash (£): 3934.16 (UoL)			
In-kind (£): 31,717.22 (All partners)			
Section 2: Rationale and activity			
Please provide a description of your rationale and activity/activities, including:			
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• the research and innovation issues that the project is seeking to address based on identified need and evidence (e.g. alignment with collaborative partner priorities and the extent to which the activity can respond to that requirement or need);• the aims and expectations of the challenges that the project might address. A list of challenge areas, considerations and activities are offered at Annex B;• the extent to which the plan involves collaboration with other universities;• the extent to which the proposal / project evidences added value: e.g. does it describe new activity, or will it create a step change in existing activity;• the scale at which the project will operate, noting relevance and sensitivity to research and innovation issues identified and the region and community / communities engaged;• the geographical context of the partnership(s) and project activity (e.g. defining the places and geographies as contextualised by the Indices of Multiple Deprivation (IMD)¹ – see paragraph 16, call guidance);			

• organisations which have been consulted in the development of the project and will be collaborators during the funded period. If helpful, the table below can be used to identify what each partner needs and can offer in the project:

As one of the most diverse cities in Europe, Leicester constitutes an ideal empirical crucible within which to explore the complex interdependencies between diversity, place, power, inequality, identity and health/wellbeing issues, concerns and outcomes. Both University Hospitals of Leicester NHS Trust (UHL) and the University of Leicester (UoL) are seeking to better explore these interdependencies through instituting a strategic shift towards research priority-setting and practice that is properly community-centric, locally responsive, and co-productive in the development of expertise in the issues affecting the different health populations of a place. Moreover, UHL and UoL are looking to develop a sustained collaborative, citizen-centric engagement with local communities to co-develop policies and practices that effectively target structural inequalities and disadvantages in health as these play out at local levels.

UHL/UoL are exploring how best to work with existing partners to foster new modes of engagement that empower local citizens to become involved in/with research as active agents/experts in their own lives. This forms part of a wider UHL/UoL drive to change institutional cultures of engagement, building upon several areas of existing excellent practice, and supporting others at earlier stages of implementation, including the recent development of a Public Engagement Unit. Partnership working between UoL, UHL (Leicester Diabetes Centre and Centre for BME Health) and Aakash Odedra Dance Company (AODC) has begun exploring culturally popular arts as a medium to engage seldom heard groups, with particular consideration of intersectional exclusion targeting deprived Asian women, and as a means of dismantling both real and perceived power. This has had the further advantage of engaging wider groups by creating wider appeal.

This project will establish the first phase of a longer-term priority-setting partnership to inform the health research objectives of UHL and UoL co-developing place-based insights through developing and utilising innovative modes of community engagement facilitated by Leicester Citizens and community arts partners notably including AODC.

Leicester Citizens has an excellent track-record of utilising action-learning techniques to train local citizens to work as community brokers in the co-creation of research-based knowledge. Likewise, since April 2017 UoL and UHL have worked with AODC to use arts-based approaches to engage women from BME backgrounds with health science. Through employing a combination of these participatory/engagement methodologies, the project will seek to achieve three inter-related objectives:

1. Identify how UoL/UHL can better engage citizens from different backgrounds and places in the coproduction of knowledge in ways attuned to the power dynamics involved in this engagement
2. Building on the above, co-develop place-based priorities for research into health and wellbeing in key disadvantaged areas in Leicester
3. Lay the foundations for a longer-term programme of UHL/UoL engagement with local communities in health/inequalities research and targeted policy development

The project will focus on the areas of Belgrave, Spinney Hill, Oadby and South Wigston. Belgrave and Spinney Hill are LSOAs predominantly in the first and second quintile of deprivation (with one exception each); high populations of people from BME backgrounds; population-dense inner-city areas. Oadby and South Wigston are ostensibly more varied LSOAs from 1–9, however these areas

exhibit some of the risks affecting diasporic populations in less deprived places, such as high incidences of COPD, lung disease and diabetes (Leicestershire Joint Strategic Needs Assessment 2018).

The project will build upon an outstanding established portfolio of cross-disciplinary biomedical and health research at UoL, bringing together two longstanding centres of excellence and community-focused studies in the City of Leicester:

- Leicester Diabetes Research Centre which has a national reputation for innovative approaches to community engagement within and beyond Leicester
- An ongoing community study of South Wigston based on the work of the ground-breaking sociologist Norbert Elias in the 1960s (Elias and Scotson 1965)

This project will comprise four phases:

1. 16x (four per place: two for younger people, two for older adults) creative arts-based workshops focusing on soliciting engagement with community members in each of the key regions
2. Training four Community Representatives in action learning/knowledge co-production roles
3. Four action-learning health and wellbeing research priority-setting partnerships workshops facilitated by Leicester Citizens and Community Representatives with UHL/UoL health researchers
4. Collation of research priorities and review of arts-based and action learning engagement techniques in facilitating dialogue between UoL/UHL and communities

This project is supported by the community and engagement networks of all listed organisations, further expansion will be supported and brokered by Local Authority colleagues (Philippa Fisher for the County and Cllr Kirk Master for the City). All listed partners have been involved in the development of this proposal and it has been reviewed by the several public involvement groups in UHL infrastructure.

Research organisation partner(s) offers	Research organisation partner(s) needs
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Application of research expertise• People-power in the form of students and staff• Access to facilities and resources beyond research project funding	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Facilitated access to community groups• Training in community engagement with research• To better understand the perspective of the community in regards to health needs and UoL
Collaborative partner(s) offers	Collaborative partner(s) needs
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Expertise in community engagement• Tools and training for facilitating open dialogue• Experience in raising community voice and addressing power imbalance	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Improve access to relevant research expertise• Opportunity to influence factors affecting community needs• Strengthen links to and influence on UoL

Section 3: Strategy

Please provide information on the strategic fit of your plan. Including:

- Clear link with the (appropriate) research organisation's strategy and, where possible and appropriate, local and / or regional priorities.

The University's strategic plan has a focus on developing local impact. We have been successful with bids to a number of institutional funds which include funds to develop public engagement such as the Wellcome Institutional Strategic Support Fund and ESRC Impact Accelerator Account which help develop projects for community engagement. As part of the Wellcome ISSF programme, we have appointed a Public Engagement Manager for the College of Life Sciences and we are rolling out a

more co-ordinated approach to public engagement across the institution, with a focus on embedding engagement within the research process, over the next 2 years.

The NIHR Leicester BRC and Leicester Diabetes Strategy includes three objectives relating to this project:

- Developing co-production in research: Priority setting will enhance our understanding of the research needs in communities we work with so we are better able to steer our research towards meeting local needs.
- Develop the roles of co-investigators and public representatives: The Leicester Citizens approach will empower local community leadership in a sustainable way.
- Seek improvement in involvement and engagement and contribute to the evidence base: The project is an opportunity to explore good practice in a range of areas, examining both effective and ineffective engagement, working with communities more widely and the Community Representatives specifically, and exploring whether arts are effective at dismantling power structures and enabling development of communities of interest.

Leicester Citizens' 'Argument for change' strategy is supported by this project (taken from Leicester Citizens):

'If you want change, you need power. We prefer relational power. In order to build relationships you need to understand self-interest. Understanding self-interest and building relationships is done most effectively using one-to-one conversations. Leaders build relationships with followers, peer leaders, and power. With this power you make change through research-action-evaluation. Relational leaders and relational institutions create the most relational power and enable the most change. The relational culture within our institutions can be strengthened using the tools and practices of community organising. Leicester Citizens strategy makes a priority of developing institutional leaders in areas of economic deprivation in order to develop sustainable patterns of fair and effective democracy and decision-making.'

Leicester City Council and Leicestershire County Council have published their Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategies and both clearly articulate an understanding of the role of place in determining quality of life outcomes and in fact make this a focus of their approaches: 'Understanding the local environment and the influence it has on the population is very important to improving health and wellbeing.' We will inform, consult and share our findings from this project with our colleagues at Leicester City and County Councils.

This project supports various elements of UKRI's public engagement strategy in the following ways:

- Incentivising and supporting researchers to do engagement
- Measuring impact
- Under-representation including in relation to poverty, BME, young people, women
- Listening to public concerns about science and R&I
- Coproduction through priority setting will support future research justification, influence our research strategies
- Relevance of local communities in R&I

Section 4: Indicative funding request and use of funds

Up to £500,000 in funding is available until the end of FY 19/20. We expect to fund at least 15 proposals and have set a minimum threshold of £10,000 and maximum threshold of £40,000 for awards. Each bid may apply for funding to support up to 100% of eligible costs.

- Project funds should be appropriately split between the academic and community partner(s) / organisation(s) wherever possible, reflecting the objectives of the call. The lead research organisation(s) should ensure that adequate budget is made available to community partners, and that provision for access to that budget is simple and transparent.

The funding should not be used to support: indirect costs (e.g. use of offices etc.), staff costs over and above usual working time (e.g. redundancy, recruitment, additional childcare, insurance, overtime), any activity which is exploitative or brings UKRI into disrepute

Activity (delete / add as appropriate)	Amount of funding (£ '000)	Details (briefly list what funds will be spent on and the beneficiary (e.g. research organisation, collaborative partner)
Creative workshops x16	£8000	Venue hire, arts tutor hire, materials, facilitator time, light catering (UHL)
Training workshops for Community Representatives and core project team	£4000	Venue, materials, catering (Leicester Citizens)
Action learning workshops for priority setting x4	£4000	Venue, materials, catering (Leicester Citizens)
Community Representatives x4 pay (estimated on 8 weeks 0.5 FTE at Gr5)	£9117	Pay (UoL)
Project Officer (4 months fixed term UoL contract 0.6 FTE Gr6)	£7869	Pay (UoL)
Travel and other expenses budget for all	£3100	Meetings, attending relevant local events (UoL)
Total	£35,086	

Section 5:

Sustainability

- A clear description of the legacy that the pathfinder funding will provide, e.g. how will the activity, catalysed over the initial project period, be sustained, through follow-on funding, continued dialogue and collaboration or otherwise;
- The extent to which UKRI's funding is matched by research organisation and/or partners contributions, either cash or in kind, to fulfil the remainder of the project period (i.e. UKRI funding must be spent by 31 March 2020, with the match co-investment maintaining the project for the period 1 April 2020 - 31 May 2020).

This project will form a key part of a UoL/UHL push to build a much longer-term (multi-year) engagement with disadvantaged communities in Leicester laying the foundations for a nexus of dialogue and support, empowering citizens to provide genuine and meaningful input into the research agenda. A core aim is to develop and establish a set of processes, protocols and practices through which members of disadvantaged communities can be engaged as co-creators in the development of expertise about the complex intersection of locality, space and place, identity and inequalities, particularly those pertaining to health.

The engagement is predicated on a recognition of the fundamentally relational and processual character of health and wellbeing, a position which in turn owes much to the ‘figural’ (processual/relational) sociology of Norbert Elias. Elias — now regarded as one of the most important thinkers of the Twentieth Century — helped establish the Sociology Department at Leicester in the 1950s during which time he undertook a study of intra-community relations in the region (South Wigston) (Elias and Scotson 1965). Today counted among the most significant texts within community studies, *The Established and the Outsiders* elucidated the complex interplay of power, family, length of association — relations invisible to standard logics of social inequality such as class and ethnicity — which had a profound bearing on a range of social and economic outcomes, including those relating to health and wellbeing. While a great academic success, it later came to light that the community in South Wigston felt somewhat side-lined with regard to their involvement in shaping the depictions of place and the findings the study reached.

This project provides a key opportunity return to the region with a far more community-centric approach, one which draws upon the lessons of the past, but also lays a pathway for a responsive and adaptive programme of engagement in the future. UHL/UOL in partnership with Leicester Citizens and AODC will deliver:

- New methods and modalities for engaging members of disadvantaged communities involving them as co-producers in the development of local expertise
- A training package for researchers and community members with support from Leicester Citizens in priority setting to be shared across the research institutions
- A co-created set of health priorities for future research, which will be shared, and continuing dialogue on how this will be responded to
- Review of impact/effectiveness of arts-based engagement in facilitating/consolidating open dialogue
- Reflection on past research engagement processes with a focus on what has and has not been effective (particularly South Wigston)
- Clearly defined, institutionally-supported process for responding to future community engagement opportunities with Leicester Citizens and UoL

In short, the learning generated through this project will be fundamental to understanding how best to support engagement with research, such as the effectiveness of priority setting platforms, and would establish models of excellence for quality public engagement with research. It will also form a bedrock for an infrastructure of engagement, support, dialogue and adaptation between UHL/UOL, its community partners, and citizens within the local communities.

Activity	Match co-investment (£, cash or in-kind)	Details
Redacted Salary	Redacted	Leicester Citizens pay costs in-kind
Rebecca Pritchard salary	Redacted	UHL pay costs in-kind
Jason Hughes salary	Redacted	UoL pay costs in-kind
Marie Nugent salary	Redacted	UoL pay costs in-kind
Project Officer pay (1 April 2020 – 31 May 2020)	Redacted	UoL pay costs in-kind
Estate costs	Redacted	UoL in-kind
Indirects	Redacted	UoL in-kind
Total	£31,712.22	
Section 6: Commitment (as separate pdf(s))		

- Please provide a letter of support from PVC or equivalent detailing on-going / match co-investment and the legacy that the project will provide.
- Please provide a letter of support from the collaborative partner(s).