**UKRI Future Leader Fellowships (Round 10)**

**Newcastle University ‘Selection and Support’ Exercise Information**

**Newcastle University’s Selection and Support Exercise for Round 10** **of the UKRI Future Leader Fellowships is now open.**

Details of the Scheme are at: [Pre-announcement: Future Leaders Fellowships: round 10 – UKRI](https://www.ukri.org/opportunity/future-leaders-fellowships-round-10/)

The scheme is open to early career researchers and innovators from across business, universities, and other organisations, and welcomes applicants from around the world. Awards are for an ambitious programme of research and to support career development for up to four years, with the ability to extend for a further three years, to focus and continue your development. There is no lower or upper limit on the funding that can be requested. UKRI wants to fund the best fellows no matter what their background. The Future Leaders Fellowships scheme has been developed with unprecedented levels of flexibility to support applicants from a wide range of experiences, disciplines and sectors. Along with the web-link above, please see our briefing note, attached, for some guidance.

UKRI believes “*fostering inclusion is essential for a high-performing research and innovation (R&I) system. As the UK’s largest public funder of research and innovation we have a responsibility to ensure the health of the system as a whole, now and in the future. We need a diversity of people and ideas to achieve this*”. In line with this, and with Newcastle University’s own values, no applicant will be disadvantaged or receive less favourable treatment because of age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex or sexual orientation in our internal competition.

An **information session**, including Q&A will be held on Tuesday 26th November 2024 09:30 – 10:45 on Zoom (<https://newcastleuniversity.zoom.us/j/81233953195>). To sign-up, please complete the booking form at: <https://forms.office.com/e/epqmKStQW8>. Anyone interested in being considered as a Newcastle University applicant is encouraged to attend. All are welcome. The session will be recorded for those who cannot attend.

Newcastle University is limited by the funder in the number of applications that we can make to this competition. We will therefore be holding a **selection and support process**. This is for candidates currently at Newcastle and those who are not but wish to apply to hold a future leader fellowship here.

The timeline that we need to follow for our internal selection and support is given below.

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| **What is happening?** | **When?** |
| Information meeting for interested applicants | Tuesday 26th November 2024 09:15 – 10:45 UK timeZoom, registration link above |
| **Host Academic Unit approval must be given** (Please see below. You will need to include confirmation of this) | **Wednesday 15th January, Close of Business**  |
| **Internal submission deadline** for expressions of interest from interested applicants (details of what is needed are below) | **Monday 10th March, 12 noon UK time** |
| Internal selection panel meeting | 20th March 2025 |
| Communication of panel decisions to interested applicants  | No later than end of week of 31st March |
| Research Funding Development Team will support selected applicants.  | April onwards |
| UKRI full proposal deadline for Newcastle University’s selected applicants (note that there is no outline stage) | 18th June, 16:00 UK time |

Applicants must have the support of their host unit before applying. By submitting your proposal to this internal selection you are confirming that this is the case. For round 10 we are requesting to see evidence of this. This should be in the form of an email from your Head of Unit attached to your internal application. **Please contact the relevant Director of Expertise (or equivalent) to discuss your application as soon as possible and no later than 15th January 2025**. *If you are unsure who this should be please contact your local Research Funding Development Manager in the first instance. For external candidates please contact either Beth Davidson (**beth.davidson@ncl.ac.uk**) or Jo Gascoigne-Owens (**Johanna.gascoigne-owens@ncl.ac.uk**) who can advise you further.*

**Candidates should submit the following by the deadline (TBC but no earlier than Monday 10th March, 12 Noon UK time):**

1. A title of the proposed fellowship.
2. Identification of which Research Council remit(s) the proposed fellowship aligns to.
3. A statement on your primary area of research or innovation (up to 200 characters).
4. A statement on the research focus of the fellowship proposal (up to 2000 characters).
5. A detailed description of the 7-year programme of research (up to 4000 characters total). This should consist of a detailed description of the 4 year programme (3000 characters) and a description of activities envisaged in years 5-7 (1000 characters).
6. A description as to why the FLF is suitable for you, how will this fellowship change and develop your career and where you see yourself at the end (up to 1000 characters).
7. A description of how you have previously demonstrated leadership skills, what steps you will take to become a leader and what specific support you will arrange for this (up to 1000 characters).
8. An outline of any independent funding obtained to develop your ‘transition to independence’ and, if holding a tenured Faculty position, what full-time equivalent research time you have had in that post as well as any funding obtained to develop independence.

*Please note: if successful, academic Fellows’ full working time will be committed to the Fellowships. Academic Fellows would not be expected to be spending more than around six hours a week (pro-rated for part-time Fellows) on other commitments (or up to two sessions a week for Clinical Fellows) during the first two years of the Fellowship. These ‘extra’ activities must enhance your career development.*

1. For administrative purposes only and to ensure you receive the appropriate support for the development of your fellowship proposal could you please answer the following questions:
* Does Newcastle University own the preliminary research results, data, process or technology (Background IP) that you wish to use as a basis for the research programme in the fellowship? [Yes/No]
* Does any element of the research programme involve NHS staff, NHS patients or NHS premises? [Yes/No]
1. A *Curriculum Vitae* of up to 2 pages.

*Please note that UKRI ask applicants to submit this as an R4RI/Narrative CV (*[Résumé for Research and Innovation (R4RI): guidance – UKRI](https://www.ukri.org/apply-for-funding/how-to-apply/resume-for-research-and-innovation-r4ri-guidance/))*. This is a tailored CV specific to the project proposed. At this stage, we are happy to receive either a traditional CV or a narrative CV. If you submit a traditional CV, please highlight areas of particular relevance to your proposed FLF.*

1. Email evidence of School/Institute support for your application. This must come from the Head of School/ Institute and cannot be at subject level. Please make a PDF of this email and attach it to the end of your proposal.

Character limits do not include spaces.

Given the timings and timeframes we are all working with, we have tried to keep the information required to a minimum, whilst also giving our panel sufficient information to make an informed decision.

Your submission will be considered by a panel Chaired by our Pro Vice Chancellor for Research and Innovation, and including our Deans of Research and Innovation for each Faculty, our Dean of Research Culture and Strategy and our NUAcT fellowship programme lead. Your submission will be considered against the same assessment criteria as will be used by UKRI ([Pre-announcement: Future Leaders Fellowships: round 10 – UKRI](https://www.ukri.org/opportunity/future-leaders-fellowships-round-10/))

**Applications should be submitted through the Newcastle University recruitment portal by the deadline Monday 10th March 12 Noon UK time (TBC subject to change).**  Please attach the above information as follows:

* Items 1 to 9 and 11 as a single PDF in numerical order in the ‘cover letter’ field;
* Item 10 in the ‘CV’ field.

The portal will be open to applications in mid-February. Further information will be shared at this point on how to apply.

Please contact us if you have any questions about the scheme. Jo Gascoigne-Owens (Johanna.gascoigne-owens@ncl.ac.uk) or Beth Davidson (beth.davidson@ncl.ac.uk) will be happy to help with questions.