

Overview of NERC research funding in the present landscape

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UK Geoenergy Observatories training
Activity 2: ideas workshop
27 February 2019
National Railway Museum, York



The changing research and innovation landscape



UK Research and Innovation



What does UKRI mean for NERC and its community?



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- NERC continues with its remit for environmental science
- Wider collaborative working
- Core budget versus collective funds

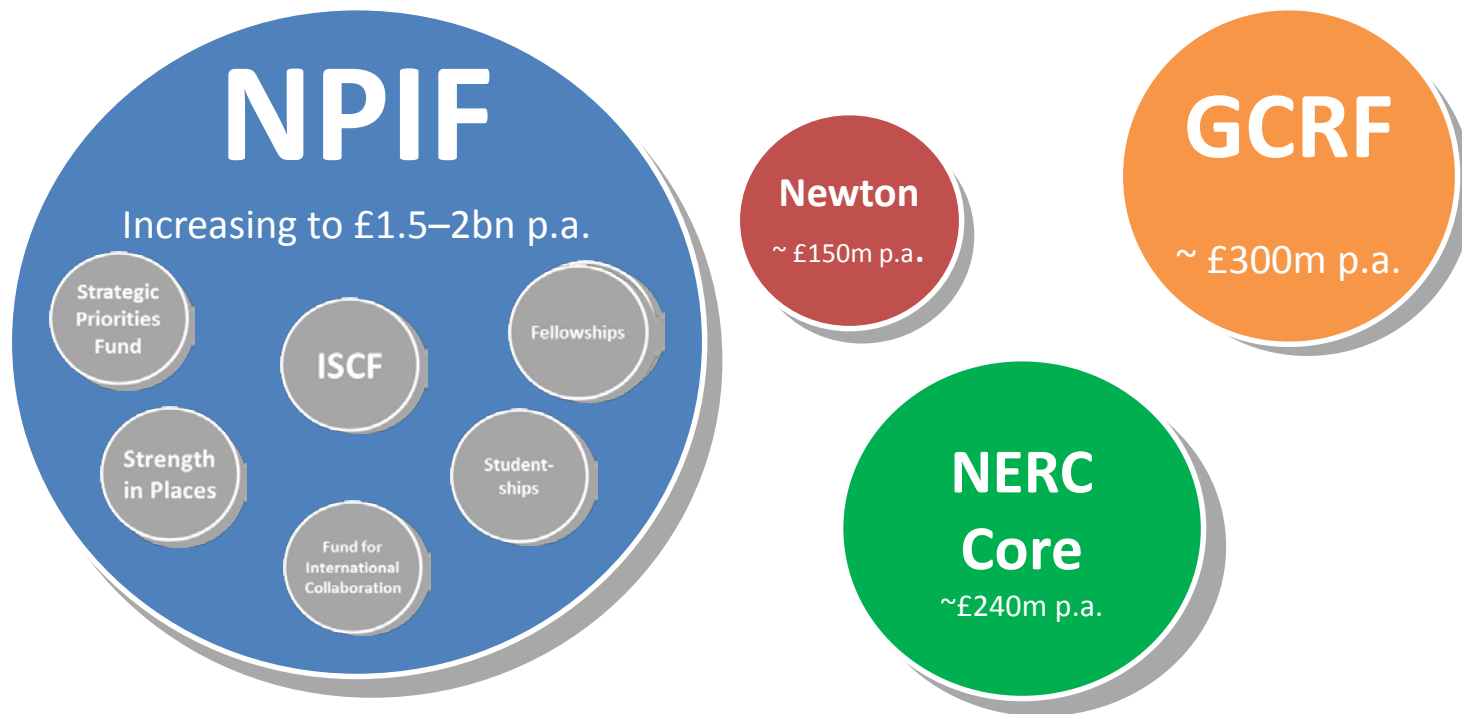


Overview of collective funds

Financial year 18/19 onwards



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Science and research funding allocation: 2016 to 2020: [The allocation of science and research funding 2016/17 to 2019/20](#)



Overview of NERC funding



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Innovation

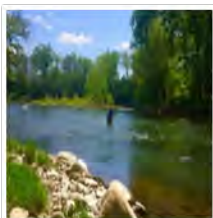


Research
Careers

National
Capability



Capital



Research



Public
Engagement

NERC is the UK's leading public funder of environmental science research and the second largest globally



Strategic research and discovery science



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- **Discovery Science (19.6%)**
 - Curiosity driven, fundamental questions
 - Standards <£800k, closing dates in January & July
 - Large grants <£3.7m, two stage process annually
- **Strategic Research (21.1%)**
 - NERC's strategic priorities, major scientific questions
 - Unconventional Hydrocarbons
 - NERC & ESRC
 - £8m 2018-2022
 - 7 projects, 5 challenges
 - Interdisciplinary



Fellowships



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- **Future Leaders Fellowships (from UKRI collective funds)**
 - Aim to develop, retain, attract, and sustain talent across the academic, business and interdisciplinary boundaries
 - 6 waves in total, up to 550 new fellows over 3 years
 - Wave 3 April 2019, wave 4 October 2019
 - Funding up to £1.2m over 4 years

- **Independent Research Fellowships (from NERC core budget)**
 - Aim to develop scientific leadership skills, research programmes and international recognition
 - 5 years support for early career researchers
 - Annual deadline usually in October of each year
 - Total funding £7m annually



Other training

- UKGEOS training activities
 - Activity 1 site visits – AO to be published in March 2019 (indicative)
 - Activity 2 ideas workshop – today
 - Activity 3 internships – AO to be published in April 2019 (indicative)
- Data tree – free online course on research data management funded by NERC
- Further information on funding and training opportunities:
 - NERC website
 - Social media channels
 - List servers
 - Senior colleagues, research offices



Writing a successful research proposal

- Some do's 😊:
 - Read the AO/ submission guidance and the NERC Grants Handbook
 - Seek advice from colleagues, supervisors, admissions offices, NERC
 - Realistic deliverables
 - Be succinct and to the point
 - Link your work packages

- Some don'ts 😞:
 - Overuse of technical language
 - Lack of detail on the work plan and delivery of objectives
 - Different writing styles between work packages



What happens after submission

- Programme Managers
- External reviewers
- Panel meeting
- Funding recommendations
- Communicating the outcome



Summary

- The changing research landscape
- Strategic research and discovery science
- Talk to colleagues, research offices and NERC
- Any questions 