

# Springboard Award guidance notes MEC/SBA/24/ver1

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### 1. Introduction

The purpose of this document is to provide applicants with the necessary information and guidance to enable them to complete and submit applications, for research funding, to Moorfields Eye Charity (MEC) under the schemes detailed within.

### 1.1 Moorfields Eye Charity and strategy

The principal way we support Moorfields Eye Hospital NHS Foundation Trust (the trust) and its academic partner University College London Institute of Ophthalmology (IoO) is by providing financial support, through grant making. In addition our activities include the provision of non-financial support, such as advice and partnership making, and we use our other resources of knowledge, expertise and time. We are working in partnership with the trust and UCL to create Oriel, a new world class integrated centre for advancing clinical care, teaching and research in 2026-27. The new facility will benefit millions of patients in London, the UK and across the world.



#### Core belief

People's sight matters



### Mission

Improving eye health by funding innovation in research, education and care to benefit Moorfields' patients



#### Vision

Moorfields Eye Charity's support enables Moorfields and UCL to provide world-leading eye care, research and education from the Oriel centre benefiting patients across the UK and globally.

Our strategy outlines five main objectives which include ambitions to:

- create a world class integrated centre for advancing eye health, teaching and research in 2026-27
- be the leading charity for research into eye health
- support patient care
- support sharing knowledge
- · shape national policy.

### Read our strategy here.

#### 1.2 Purpose and remit of MEC Springboard Awards

The MEC Springboard Award offers the exciting opportunity for early career researchers to develop novel ideas and generate preliminary data that will go on to form part of larger, competitive, grant applications to external funders.

This scheme is intended to support **early-stage researchers** who are aiming to establish or develop their own independent research programme.

Please note that the scope and eligibility of this scheme changed with effect from April 2022. Applicants are advised to refer to section 1.5 on eligibility below for further details.

This scheme is not intended to:

- provide bridging salary support
- complete or extend an existing project
- be used in combination with other small grants as a mechanism to commutatively fund a (typical/large) project grant
- top-up or co-fund even with other schemes of a similar remit.

It is expected that a competitive proposal(s) for a larger project will be submitted to an external funding organisation within a year of the completion of the Springboard Award.

Springboard Award proposals must identify the programme(s) and funding bodies to which future applications will be submitted and describe how the Springboard Award will result in a more competitive proposal for submission to the named external funders.

### 1.3 Application assessment considerations

This is a response mode, competitive funding scheme for hypothesis driven research with applications accepted twice a year. External peer review will be carried out on applications.

Each application will be judged, as appropriate, against a number of criteria including but not limited to:

- fit to remit
- eligibility and appropriateness of applicants
- intrinsic merit and strength of the work
- potential for the award to provide a basis for further research support from external funders
- potential impact/outcomes of the research (current and future larger project) on the academic or clinical field of study
- likelihood that the proposed work will commence and be completed during the award period.

**For awarded grants:** The following is not an exhaustive list of rules and expectations on awarded grants but are representative of key elements applicants should be aware of prior to applying for funding.

- No cost extensions, variations or supplements to awarded grants will not normally be considered.
- Awards are expected to commence within three months of the award date unless agreed, in writing, by MEC.
- Extensive delays to the start of the award or stalling of work may result in the award being withdrawn/terminated.

Applications which require ethical approval should be conscious of these considerations.

### 1.4 Types of applications

There are two types of Springboard Award. For each application, you can select only one type. If research assistance is not being requested, the application must make it clear who will carry out the work and confirm that they will have the dedicated time to do so.

		Maximum duration	Maximum award
(i)	Research expenses/materials only	12 month	£50,000
(ii)	Including salary support for research assistance	18 month	£180,000

There is normally a £7,500 minimum funding request on both types of applications.

### 1.5 Eligibility and suitability

The principal applicant will hold an academic or clinical post with the trust or the IoO and will be in receipt of salary funding for the duration of the grant.

Research active clinical, nurses, optometrists, allied health professionals and research assistants may apply as principal applicant. Applicants who are unsure where they fit in the below career categories should contact the MEC grants and research team on moorfields.eyecharity.researchgrants@nhs.net.

Researchers who are currently employed on a grant held by another individual are required to provide details of their current supervisor/manager and include a letter of support (from the current manager/supervisor). The letter must include, at a minimum:

- statement of support for the application and proposed work
- confirmation that the applicant will have time/support to carry out this work.

Applicants who hold tenure, open-ended contracts or are on personal fellowships (for the duration of the proposed grant) do not need a letter of support.

To be eligible, applicants will need to be able to be able to demonstrate that they are currently within one of the career progression stages outlined below.

Researchers should compare their skills and experience to the table below and state which career stage they fit within and why. Applicants are advised to also ensure that their CV (and / or linked ORCID) includes clear details that demonstrate their career stage.

The selected stage will be reviewed as part of the eligibility criteria checks and also by the decision-making panels / committees. The charity's decision on eligibility is final.

## This incorporates postdoctoral researchers who are at the early stages of developing their career and are just starting to: develop and deliver their own research projects and produce important research outputs **Developing** create their own research network which is independent from research their supervisor's contacts • learn leadership skills by, for example, organising workshops and supporting students. This incorporates researchers who are close to reaching independence. Their CV and track record will demonstrate: a record of novel research that has already produced an increasing number and wide range of research outputs • a set of collaborations with researchers in different research institutions and/or disciplines recognition of their expertise by being selected for opportunities Reaching such as peer review or conference presentations independence clear plans for their own independent research group continuing development of and putting into practice the relevant leadership skills required to run a research group, for example increased supervision of PhD students as principal supervisor beginning to apply for larger grants including personal fellowships and multi-year project/programme grants. This incorporates researchers who have recently reached independence and are embedding it. Their CV and track record will demonstrate that they are: leading a recently established and likely growing research group which is delivering novel research and research outputs from a number of programmes of research building up national and international collaborations **Embedding** planning to work towards becoming an internationally recognised independence research group securing increasing levels of funding for the research and usually across more than one programme of work embedding leadership skills, for example increased size of research group, evidence of supporting their staff to develop their own research careers.

### 1.5.1 Groups that are not eligible to apply

- PhD students.
- Researchers who are not in receipt of salary support for the duration of the proposed grant.

• Established and other researchers who cannot demonstrate that they are currently within one of the career progression stages required for this scheme.

### 1.5.2 Joint Principal Applicants

Joint applications will not normally be permitted on Springboard Awards.

### 1.5.3 Co-applicants

Co-applicants must hold an academic or research post (or equivalent) at a recognised organisation and be contributing significantly to the research project on a day-to-day or regular basis. Applicants are advised to review the description of collaborator versus coapplicant to ensure that they select the most appropriate category.

#### 1.5.4 Collaborator

Collaborators in this context are scientific/medical/academic colleagues, who are associated with the research proposal and named in the body of the application but who are not involved in the day-to-day/regular running of the project. Named collaborators must confirm their role as a collaborator by completing and signing the collaborator form (electronic signature is sufficient).

#### 1.6 Word count and format

Please follow these instructions when completing the form as this will help to avoid any unnecessary delay in the assessment of your application.

- You must ensure that all relevant sections of the form are completed.
- Answers should be entered in the text boxes provided. Additional pages will also be accepted but only where instruction is given.
- Please adhere to word and/or character limits where they are specified; applications exceeding word limit guidelines may not be processed further.
- Please use a typeface 11 point Arial font. If a typeface used is too small, the application will not be processed.
- If abbreviations are used, please ensure these are fully explained to assist the reader.

### 1.7 How to submit your application form

Applicants must submit an application form by the advertised funding call deadlines. However, applicants should be aware that at least two weeks is required for the internal processing/sign off of applications by the relevant Research Offices prior to the submission of applications to the MEC office. It is the responsibility of the applicants to make themselves aware of any internal deadlines as these will not be advertised by MEC.

The application form must be submitted electronically in the formats requested.

### 1.8 What happens next

Receipt of your application by MEC will normally be acknowledged within two working days. Within two weeks of the closing date for submissions MEC grant management staff will conduct an administrative review of the application to confirm that it meets the submission criteria. MEC reserves the right not to process the application should it not meet the following criteria:

• satisfactory completion of application requirements

- eligibility and suitability for the programme applied for
- research proposal within the funding remit of MEC.

Applications meeting submission criteria will be reviewed by the MEC Scientific Advisory Panel and considered in competition with all other applications. Please note that additional external experts may be involved in this process as required. Funding recommendations will be submitted to the relevant trustee committee where final funding decisions will be made. Decisions will normally be released to applicants within two weeks of the trustee meeting at which they are discussed.

### 2. Guidance for completing the application form

### **Section 1: Application details**

### **Applicant details:**

- A maximum of two co-applicants are permitted.
- Named researcher: For type (ii) applications which include a salary request, name of research assistance salary post being requested can be included here. A copy of their CV using the additional CV template should also be attached to the application as an appendix.

### Proposal summary details:

- **Host institution:** Select the institution who will administer the grant (which is the institution to which the award letter will be issued).
- **Sponsor institution:** The sponsor is the organisation that takes on the overall responsibility for proportionate, effective arrangements being in place to set up, run and report a research project. All health and social care research should have a sponsor including all research that involves NHS patients, their tissues or information. A sponsor is not required for laboratory-only based projects. More detail on sponsors can be found on the <a href="Health Research authority website">Health Research authority website</a>. If you are unclear who should sponsor the project, please speak to the research offices.
- **Start date:** Should be at least four months **after** the deadline for receipt of applications by MEC.

# Section 2: Summary and classification of proposed research

These sections will be used by the trustees in particular so applicants are strongly advised to take time to prepare high quality responses.

**Plain English summary:** Applicants are strongly advised to spend time on this section. If the summary is too technical, exceeds the word limit or is not suitably presented for a lay audience, the section will be returned to applicants for revision. We reserve the right to hold processing of the entire application further if this section is not completed/revised to a satisfactory level.

Please visit the 'what we're funding' section of our website to appreciate the level of information we are expecting in this section.

The following requirements are in place:

- This section cannot exceed 350 words in total across the three sections. We recommend that this allocation can be split evenly across the three headings below.
- The section headings must be used and no additional headings can be included. See application form for headings and guidance.

Any summaries which do not fit within this limit or are not presented in a way which can be immediately used for communications with lay audiences, website and other publications will be returned to applicants to be revised.

#### Some do's and don't's:

- Avoid jargon.
- Keep it short and concise.
- Avoid including every detail about you, the team or the work proposed.

For awarded grants, the summary may be used by MEC in the dissemination of funded grants to public audiences. Potential channels for sharing include but are not limited to MEC/hospital website, press release, annual reports and other publications. Therefore, commercially sensitive or confidential information **should not** be included in this abstract. On occasion anonymised details of your project may be shared, for fundraising related activities only, during the decision-making process. In these instances, no details beyond those provided in the plain English summary and budget cost summary will be used without prior written consent.

### Fit to Moorfields Eye Charity strategy statement

This section should be used to demonstrate how the research will help contribute to MEC's strategic aims (available <a href="here">here</a>).

If all of the proposed work falls outside of these you should clearly explain the importance and relevance of your proposal to the trust/IoO and MEC and towards the understanding, prevention, treatment and cure of vision disorders.

**Impact and outcomes statement:** This statement should be as specific as possible and provide information that the trustees, MEC and external reviewers will find helpful in assessing the potential impact and outcomes of the proposed research activity.

As examples applicants should briefly outline previous indicators and potential future indicators for: the relevance of the research, changes to the state of knowledge within a field, industrial interest in their past or current work, collaborative projects, companies formed, problems solved, documented changes to public policy or guidelines or improvements in public health.

For all other sections, all tick boxes should be completed as appropriate.

### Section 3: Details of research

Applicants are reminded that it is the sole responsibility of the applicant to ensure that complete details of the research section are submitted as part of their application and that it, together with any appendices and references, provide all the necessary information needed

by reviewers, the MEC Scientific Advisory Panel and trustees to consider and make a funding decision.

**Aims and objectives:** These should be clear and limited to reflect the scope and remit of this scheme. Applicants are reminded to consider the differences between aims and objectives – see below our expectations for this section.

#### Aims:

- are broad statements of desired outcomes, or the general intentions of the research, which 'paint a picture' of your research project
- emphasise what is to be accomplished (not how it is to be accomplished)
- address the long-term project outcomes, reflecting the aspirations and expectations of the research topic.

### **Objectives** are subsidiary to aims and:

- are the steps you are going to take to answer your research questions or a specific list of tasks needed to accomplish the goals of the project
- · emphasise how aims are to be accomplished
- must be highly focused and feasible
- address the more immediate project outcomes
- make accurate use of concepts
- must be sensible and precisely described
- should read as an 'individual' statement to convey your intentions.

**Milestones:** Please provide details of key milestones which will reflect how you can assess that you are making progress towards achieving your aims and objectives. Relevant dates/timelines can be included. Please provide a Gantt chart and add it as an appendix, cross referenced to from this section.

**Background to proposed research:** Please provide a clear and succinct overview of the research background and scientific progress to date related to the research questions being presented in the application. While space is limited, applicants need to ensure that they include all pertinent information and/or links to referenced papers which contain critical information underpinning the research.

**Experimental design and methods:** As per above, applicants need to ensure that they include all pertinent information and/or links to referenced papers which contain critical detail regarding experimental design and methods to be used. For patient/clinical research a full standard protocol is not appropriate but applicants must ensure they provide all the detail regarding participant recruitment, assessment and inclusion/exclusion criteria.

**Statistical information/considerations:** As appropriate for the research outlined, please provide details of the calculations of appropriate power/sample numbers for the study and any considerations that should be made to ensure the work is designed to provide the most robust data.

**Suitable and appropriate design:** The purpose of this question is to enable applicants to provide detail on how the work is specifically designed to ensure that a defined number of

research questions can be addressed in the stated time and that outcomes will provide the necessarily robust preliminary data required for applying for larger grant applications.

**Innovative aspects:** This section provides the opportunity for applicants to highlight how any aspect of the proposal is supporting a novel, improved or innovative research question(s).

**References**: Give full citation including title, journal title and list all authors (use of et al is only appropriate where there are more than five authors).

# **Section 4: Related and future applications**

**Related awarded grants:** Please provide details of awards from other funding bodies which are related to the current proposal. The purpose of this question is to allow applicants to clarify where funding from other sources is used towards the total cost of the current proposed work.

As this scheme is intended to support preliminary data generation, we would not expect there to be any other substantial funding supporting this proposal. However, there may be some discrete elements where other funding has been secured and which will provide important added value.

#### Please include:

- name of funding body
- · title of project
- brief description of how the grant relates to the current application
- total value of the award and value of the contribution to the work related to this application
- start/end dates.

Plans for seeking subsequent external funder support: This section must be completed in all applications. It is expected that at least two follow-on funding avenues will have already been identified and should be detailed here. The schemes selected should be relevant and realistic. Timelines for application deadlines should be appropriate. For example, we would not expect to see deadlines for applications within the duration of the Springboard Award as logically the pilot data would not be prepared in time.

Applicants should be aware that a primary purpose of this scheme is to provide small grant funding to support the generation of preliminary data that will underpin/form part of larger and competitive grant applications to external funders. For clarity, the trustees may not be willing to consider future applications from individuals who fail to apply for any follow-on external funding having received a Springboard Award from MEC.

# **Section 5: Budget details**

### Annex A - grant budget [excel file]

Prior to completing the excel sheet, applicants are advised to read the section on allowed/disallowed costs below and to discuss the costings with their research finance/administrative representatives where necessary.

Applicants should ensure that they only include details of costs being requested in the current application.

Within the excel file, cells which are white can be edited by applicants. Please be aware that most grey cells contain a formula. Grey cells should not be adjusted by applicants as the totals and subtotals will be automatically calculated.

Budget summary - applicants should not try to edit this section in any way. The information in this section will be automatically updated so no input is required.

### Breakdown of support requested

**Location:** For all budget entries made, please select the location where that cost will be incurred. This is irrespective of what institution will host the award. For example, if your grant will be hosted by the trust but you are accessing a microscope at IoO, the access charge for that microscope should have 'UCL IoO' selected in the location field.

**Salaries:** Salary costs sought should be commensurate with the skills, responsibilities and expertise necessary to carry out the role required. Please note this salary support cannot be used to support the principal applicant and can only support up to 1 FTE which can be split between up to three posts.

The host institution is responsible, as the employer, for the contracts of employment of the staff concerned, and consequently for any redundancy or other compensatory payments that may be required. Work permits, where required, are a matter for direct negotiation between the host institution and the relevant Government departments.

**Materials and consumables:** Funds may be used to meet the directly incurred costs only. Regardless of which type of Springboard Award is being applied for a maximum of £50,000 for direct research related expenses or consumables which are needed to carry out the experiments outlined in the proposal may be applied for.

**Miscellaneous costs:** Examples include software licences, research participant travel and expenses. Collaborative travel may be included but only where a collaborative project is being proposed and all costs are reasonable for the level of collaborative work being undertaken on the proposed project.

**Equipment:** Computers of any type will not normally be funded. Only small items of equipment will be considered and applicants will need to justify why the equipment is not available elsewhere. Depreciation or inflation costs should not be included.

**Access charges:** This section should be used to detail the direct costs that will be incurred to access equipment (for example, a confocal microscope) or resources which are charged

by the 'owner' on a cost recovery basis, usually fixed charge per hour or similar. The number of hours/days should be included and the total cost to the grant per year. Depreciation or inflation costs should not be included.

**Animals:** Complete a separate section for each species/strain and duplicate as necessary. Enter the name of the species and divide costs under the rows outlined – purchase and maintenance costs.

#### Allowed and disallowed costs

The lists in this section are not considered exhaustive. The trustees may query and/or remove any costs that are deemed to be outside of the charity's funding remit and/or not justified within the application submitted. The trustees also reserve the right to update/amend the allowed and disallowed costs as considered necessary.

#### Allowed costs:

- Salary for research assistance on that specific application.
- Access charges including statistical/database/trial co-ordinator support provided on a
  cost recovery basis (number of hours/days/sessions required, X cost per
  hour/day/session). Salary recovery costs of staff currently funded by HEFCE, NHS or
  other research award will not be considered.
- Consumables directly attributable to the proposed work.
- Animal costs.
- Small pieces of equipment if essential for the work proposed and not available elsewhere within the institution.

#### **Disallowed costs:**

In general, the trustees will not:

- award grants to cover expenditure already incurred
- fund individuals who are employed by a commercial organisation
- fund individuals who are applying for, holding or employed under a research grant from the tobacco industry.

They will also not normally fund within this scheme;

- travel/collaborative travel/conference/dissemination costs
- social events/hospitality costs
- personal or bespoke computers
- PhD stipends
- salaries on research material only applications
- dissemination costs including PPI
- salary recovery on tenured posts
- research sessions for clinical or allied health professionals
- full economic costs including infrastructure costs (such as lighting, heating, telephones, use of library, general clinical or laboratory equipment)
- course registration fees including PhD, MD registration fees
- general office expenses (photocopying, postage etc.), although exceptions may be made for printing/phone costs associated with patient based studies
- a proportion of Principal or Co-Applicant salaries for supervision
- indirect costs these include: general administration costs such as personnel, finance, library, and some departmental services

- equipment running costs
- staff recruitment related costs other than advertising costs
- purchase/subscription costs of books, journals, magazines
- training courses
- indemnity insurance (insurance cover against claims made by subjects or patients associated with a research programme)
- redundancy costs for staff
- waste disposal costs/radiation protection costs
- ethics reviews.

### Justification for requested costs

All funding requests must be robustly justified and directly related to the research programmes and equipment requirements. Annex A excel sheet is used to detail the actual costs being requested and section 5 of the application provides the narrative justifying why the level and type of funding is required. The breakdown of costs should not be fully reproduced in the justification boxes. Any applications which contain only costs and no justification will be returned to the applicant.

**Salaries:** Only one post can normally be requested. The justification should explain why the level/salary scale of the person is required to complete the work. If the person will not spend 100% of their time on the current work, details of the source of their other salary and work commitments should be included here. Salary level requested should be commensurate with the skills, responsibilities and expertise necessary to carry out the role required. MEC trustees reserve the right to award support at a different level if considered appropriate. **Posts which are not direct allocated costs to the grant should not be included here.** 

# Section 6: Principal applicant details and CV

In total this section must not exceed three sides of A4.

**Grant applications/awards from MEC:** With most recent first, list all current and completed awarded grants and unsuccessful applications. For each provide (where applicable): grant title, grant reference, role on the grant (e.g. PI, Co-PI), amount awarded and start/end dates. For all active grants, indicate the number of hours per week (FTE) that are spent on each project. Relevant awards from the Special Trustees should also be included here.

Awarded grants from other funders: With most recent first, list all current and past grants held in the last five years or 10 most relevant grants to work in this proposal. For each award provide: grant title, name of awarding body, details of role on the grant (e.g. PI, Co-PI), amount awarded and start/end dates. For all active grants, indicate the number of hours per week (FTE) that are spent on each project.

ORCID ID is a unique digital identifier for researchers. If you do not have one and want to register please see <a href="https://orcid.org/">https://orcid.org/</a>.

**Publications**: These should be listed most recent first. List your publications in the following format: all author's names (surname, initial) (do not use *et al* unless there are more than five

authors on the paper), year of publication, title of article, journal name, volume number, page numbers. Please highlight your name in the author list.

**Justification for career progression stage:** Use this space to provide any additional explanation for the career stage chosen, if necessary. See section 1.5 of this guidance for further information.

# Section 7: Co-applicant details and CV

Please follow the same guidance as in section 6.

### Section 8: Additional information

**Data management and data sharing:** All researchers are expected to manage data safely during the project and to maximise the availability of research data with as few restrictions as possible. Where no restrictions apply and where the proposed research is likely to generate datasets that will hold significant value as a resource for the wider community, applicants should provide a data management and sharing plan.

Data management and sharing plans should be clear, concise and proportionate. Applicants are free to structure their plan in the manner that best meets their needs but should consider the following key questions and ensure they are addressed clearly:

- What data outputs will your research generate and what data will have value to other researchers?
- When will you share the data?
- Where will you make the data available?
- How will other researchers be able to access the data?
- Are any limits to data sharing required for example, to either safeguard research participants or to gain appropriate intellectual property protection?
- How will you ensure that key datasets are preserved to ensure their long-term value?
- What resources will you require to deliver your plan?

Applicants are advised to discuss any matters relating to the IP/commercialisation questions with their local intellectual property/commercialisation representative.

# **Section 9: Application sign off**

This section must be signed by the principal applicant prior to the application form being submitted to the relevant research office.

**Consultancies, equities and directorships**: The purpose of this question is to monitor potential conflict of interest. If **YES**, please provide details, **maximum 100 words**.

**External peer review**: The trustees reserve the right to request external peer review on any grant if considered appropriate and necessary.

**Proposed external peer reviewers:** Up to four reviewers may be recommended here. Do not include individuals who may present a conflict of interest with your application (for

example same institution, close/recent collaborator, co-authorship in the last three years). MEC may or may not choose to approach some, or all, of the individuals you have selected.

**Peer review restrictions:** A reasonable number of reviewers who are considered to be in direct conflict with the application may be listed here. While MEC will endeavour to omit these reviewers, the final decision on reviewer selection lies with MEC and the trustees.

**Annexes and Appendices:** Please tick all that you intend to attach to the final application. These can be submitted as separate files.

### Annexes

# **Annex B: Research office approval**

This Annex must be completed for all applications irrespective of where the research will be carried out or which institution will host the grant if awarded. It is the responsibility of applicants to ensure that they adhere to and work within any deadlines set by their institution(s) with regards to grant application sign off procedures. These deadlines are managed by the institutions, not MEC.

- All applications must be approved by the relevant office of the host institution.
- If the application involves both IoO and the trust then MEC advises applicants to confer with both research offices (finance offices) regarding the proposed costings and acceptability of the project with the institution who is not acting as host institution on the project.
- If the sponsoring institution is different from the host institution, the applicant must ensure that both institutions are aware of this arrangement, have reviewed the project and budget and provided necessary approval sign off for their role.
- If hard copies of this form are used, signatures must be signed and not typed and the completed page scanned and submitted as a PDF/TIFF file.

The purpose of this process is to confirm that the budget presented is accurate and appropriate and that all necessary costs have been considered. In addition, the approval is agreeing that should the grant be awarded, the grant could be hosted by the institution subject to all other necessary approvals - including ethics and sponsorship - being secured.

Please refer to the specific guidelines for submitting a Springboard Award application and the additional signature(s) required.

Applicants should not assume that the sign off of the grant submission is approval for the work to be started/conducted.

### Annex C: Collaborator form

A collaborator form should be completed for each collaborator and attached to the final application form. Please download a copy of the form from our website.

A collaborator, in this context, is normally a person who will provide specific input/expertise into a discrete part of the project but who will not be involved in the majority/day-to-day activity of the project. This person(s) may for example provide a reagent, resource or a portion of their time but they will have no rights to the research outcomes of the project. Funds cannot be requested to pay/reimburse a collaborator for their time. If a fee is charged then in this context the person is considered to be providing a service (consultancy service) and cannot therefore be considered a collaborator.

**Role/contribution to the project:** This section should clearly outline the role/contribution of the collaborator to the project. This should also include details of time which will be spent on the project.

**Intellectual property/material transfer agreements:** This section should clearly outline any IP or MTA agreements and/or restrictions.

# **Annex D: Research involving animals**

The trustees prefer not to use animals in research unless absolutely necessary for long-term research.

This annex should be completed by the applicant where the proposed research will involve animals and/or animal tissue. The requested information is for monitoring purposes only. It is the responsibility of the Host Institution to ensure that research involving the use of animals complies at all times with relevant laws and regulation and adheres to the provisions of the Animals (Scientific Procedures) Act 1986 and any amendments.