

How to Apply for Funding

1. About Sciencewise

The Sciencewise programme aims to improve UK public sector policy-making around areas of emerging science, technology and innovation through the effective use of public dialogue. Funded by the Department for Business, Energy & Innovation Strategy (BEIS) and supported by public engagement specialists Involve, Sciencewise provides a wide range of support including expert advice and guidance on setting up and running public dialogues.

Sciencewise works with and co-funds Government departments and agencies to enable them to develop and commission public dialogue activities on policy involving science and emerging technology. This document provides guidance for bodies seeking to access this funding.

2. Introduction to funding

Co-funding from Sciencewise can be made available to Government departments and agencies, to enable them to procure and manage their own public dialogue and engagement projects, with support and guidance from the Sciencewise team. Funding can be provided for a proportion of the total project cost and there must be a contribution (financial and in-kind) from the government department of at least 50%.

3. Eligibility Criteria

Funding is available only for projects that fall within our eligibility criteria (although meeting the criteria does not guarantee funding). The criteria are:

Who?

Funding can be given to Government departments, as well as Government agencies and executive non-departmental public bodies.

What?

Funding can be given for projects that carry out public dialogue to inform policy making involving science and emerging technology. There must be a clear policy 'hook', a clear policy-owning department and a clear mechanism to inform policy.

How?

The project dialogue must comply with the Government's Approach to Public Dialogue on Science and Technology - our Guiding Principles.

How Much?

Sciencewise grants are given on a co-funding basis (up to 50%) for projects relating to emerging areas of science and technology. The balance of the total project costs is expected

to be provided by the government department or agency and other stakeholders as appropriate.

4. Funding Process

The first step is to contact a member of the Sciencewise team to discuss whether the project is appropriate, eligible and in a policy priority area.

Contact one of the Sciencewise team at Involve in the first instance to discuss your project idea at:

Tel: 020 37454334

Email: info@sciencewise.org.uk

If the project seems to fit our criteria, a Sciencewise project liaison manager and a Sciencewise Dialogue and Engagement Specialist (DES) will work with you on the project. Both the project liaison manager and the DES will remain contacts for you, and will provide advice, guidance and support as needed throughout the development, funding and delivery of the project.

If the project is a strong candidate for funding, we will guide you through the process for producing and submitting a business case to BEIS, and will provide a template for this.

If the project is approved by BEIS, a confirmation email will be sent to the commissioning body for the project.

Following further discussions, including methods of payment, we will send a funding confirmation letter to the commissioning body for the project which must be signed and returned to BEIS.

5. Project delivery

Further information is given in the guidance note on Requirements for Funded Projects.

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