There are a large number of potential research questions that could be explored with the EPSRC data set, even after narrowing research to the key themes of interest to the EPSRC. This document sets out the list of potential research questions considered in discussion with the EPSRC. These were ultimately prioritised based on potential impact of analysis and on the quality of analysis possible with the available data and timeframes.

| **Research Questions** | **Priority** |
| --- | --- |
| 1. **How representative is the EPSRC applicant community of broader society in terms of protected characteristics?** | High |
| 1. **How does the EPSCR applicant and awardee population in our portfolio compare at the beginning and end of the data set in terms of protected characteristics?** Has this changed over time? Is the awarded population representative of the applicant population over time? | High |
| 1. **Is there evidence of correlation between protected characteristics and either final outcome or panel ranking at a grant application level.** | High |
| 1. **Is there evidence of correlation between protected characteristics and either award rate or award amount?** | High |
| 1. **How does the group of fundable but unfunded applicants compare to the group of funded applicants?** | High |
| 1. **Is there evidence that panel composition correlates to outcomes (either funding or ranking)** | Medium |
| 1. **Does having a successful grant application correlate with different outcomes in subsequent applications?** | High |
| 1. **Does the resubmitting population differ from the non-resubmitting population?** | High |
| 1. **Is there evidence of correlation between specific events and resubmission? E.g. Review reject/Panel ranking/Unfunded/Review Scores** | Medium |
| 1. **Is there evidence of different outcomes by region – both in terms of award amount, and Applications funded/not funded?** | High |
| 1. **To what degree can we develop a sensible ‘clustering’ of organisations?** | Low |
| 1. **How does membership in a particular organisational cluster affect outcomes?** | Low |
| 1. **What does research network mean, and to what extent can we understand it from available data?** | Low |
| 1. **Is the network of successful applicants more connected than unsuccessful applicants?** | Low |
| 1. **If a panellist is from the same organisation as an applicant (Even though they step out of the room) does this affect the likelihood of success?** | Medium |
| 1. **Does being a strategic partner correlate with different outcomes?** | Low |
| 1. **How do applicants for strategic and responsive mode differ?** | High |
| 1. **Do outcomes for responsive and strategic mode differ across protected characteristics?** | High |
| 1. **Across both theme group and research area group how do the applicant, awardees, reviewer and panellist populations compare for protected characteristics and intersections based on unique individuals and their protected characteristics?** | High |
| 1. **Across both theme group and research area group how do funded/not funded, panel ranking, and award value differ across applications?** | High |
| 1. **Based on research area fraction to define ‘interdisciplinary,’ characterise the interdisciplinary applicant community using protected characteristics and intersections based on unique individuals.** | Medium |
| 1. **Based on research area fraction, is there variation in outcomes between interdisciplinary and non-interdisciplinary applicants in terms of:**  * **How do funded/not funded, panel ranking, and award value differ across applications** * **How do award rate and value differ for unique individuals** | Low |