

In Residence Scheme

Smartline's In Residence Scheme has been established to bring business and researchers together with the aim of producing collaborations that will result in high quality research and business growth.

Aims of the scheme:

- To fund businesses and research staff to spend time together to build a strong understanding of each other's interests, challenges and opportunities.
- To identify potential novel research opportunities which are mutually beneficial for both parties.
- To explore the potential for joint research projects that will support innovation, the development of new knowledge, and economic opportunities.

Outcomes can include:

- Identifying a research question.
- A joint application for research funding.
- A joint application for a Smartline Follow-On collaborative research scheme.
- An application for a Smartline grant.
- Joint publication of findings.
- Deciding on a type of research programme (e.g. Research Council Industry collaboration award / PhD / Masters Project).

Benefits to business:

- Access to specialist expertise and research facilities (*e.g. labs, published research, knowledge databases, technical assistance*).
- Access to Smartline's grants and collaborative research schemes.
- Improved understanding of how to access higher education research resources and the benefits it can bring.
- Access to other research funding which, without an academic partner, would be unavailable.
- Through a bespoke research project to develop and/or evidence issues, services and products to enhance a business's viability, improve productivity and competitiveness.
- Publicity and awareness-raising of the Company.

Benefits to research:

- Opportunity to build strong relationships with the private sector.
- Development of mutual understanding to enable applied, impactful, world class research.

Funding

If successful, this scheme will fund your business to engage with one or more of our researchers, at cost¹, to explore joint research opportunities and develop project proposals / grant applications. Funding is available for between 1-12 days over a 3 month period.

Eligibility

Is my organisation eligible?

- Location: your business must be based in Cornwall.
- Size: the organization must have less than 250 employees (FTE) and must have an annual turnover of less than €50m euros (approx £43m), or total assets of less than €43M (approx. £36M). No other company should own more than a quarter of the company's issued shared capital.
- You haven't received more than €200,000 in state-aid during the last 3 rolling fiscal years.
- You must agree to the publishing of research findings.

This scheme welcomes applications from businesses which are:

- Innovative.
- Looking to grow.

Links with Smartline's Research Focus:

Your application must fall within at least one of the following themes in order to fit with the Smartline's research focus:

Research Themes:

- Theme 1: Smart House, Health and Wellbeing.
- Theme 2a: Smart and Resilient Communities: Social Innovation and Volunteering: community cohesion and wellbeing.
- Theme 2b: Smart and Resilient Communities: Social Innovation and Volunteering: Volunteering and Communities.
- Theme 3: Assessing the market: Economic valuation of private and social benefits of innovation.
- Theme 4: Modelling of systems design: Predictive Modelling from Data.
- Theme 5: Innovation and e-health – Knowledge exchange for business delivery.

¹ The In Residence scheme will refund the expenses incurred by your business upon presentation of the invoices.

How to apply

Business partners can be a single business or a cluster of businesses.

A) Expression of Interest (see website for Expression of Interest form)

The first stage of the application is to complete a short expression of interest form, and the information you supply will be treated in the strictest confidence. If considered appropriate to take forward you will be invited for a planning meeting with the relevant researcher and Knowledge Exchange team.

Following this the appropriate researcher will then work with you on a joint application.

If you are unsuccessful at this stage our Knowledge Exchange staff will provide alternative support and referrals.

NB: Our Knowledge Exchange staff are more than happy to discuss your ideas with you in person or over the phone before you submit an Expression of Interest.

B) Application (see website for Application form)

This should be no more than 2 x A4 pages, and should:

- Outline the challenge / opportunity of interest to the business, researchers should also state how the interaction addresses the aims of Smartline (300 – 700 words).
- Provide an outline budget for the business staff member involved.
- Confirm the contact at the business/es who will be responsible for the business collaboration.
- Confirm the member of Smartline who will be responsible for academic collaboration.

Applications will be considered by a Panel comprising the Smartline project manager, the centre manager, and invited members from the business community.

Successful applicants will be invited to attend a planning meeting to arrange dates and agree outputs, and to sign a letter of agreement.

All unsuccessful applications will receive support from the Smartline to explore alternative avenues.

Knowledge Exchange Team contact details:

Mael Garrec – m.garrec@exeter.ac.uk

Emma Seymour – e.k.seymour@exeter.ac.uk

01872 258145