Survey participation agreement

Q1.

This survey should take about 5-10 minutes to complete.

This survey has been developed by staff from multiple faculties to help us understand the current research software development needs at the University of Strathclyde and how they can be best supported to ensure research grants and KE are competitive. Personal information (email address) is only optionally collected for specific purposes (prize draw, free consultation, mailing list) at the end of the survey and will be deleted once those purposes are fulfilled. Otherwise the survey is anonymous and data will be kept indefinitely. Results will be published in internal reports and presentations and may be included in external publications. You may withdraw at any point by not completing the survey and we will not use partial responses.

Questions about this survey can be sent to rse-announce-owner@lists.strath.ac.uk
This survey has been submitted for ethics approval.

Thank you for considering participating.
Oliver Henrich, Benjamin Hourahine, Romain Michalec, Fredrik Nordvall Forsberg, Leighton Pritchard, Daniel Thomas, Neil Ghani on behalf of The Strathclyde Research Software Engineers community

Please confirm eligibility for the survey by selecting the text below.

☐ I confirm that I am 18 or over, I conduct research or work in any other professional capacity at the University of Strathclyde, and I agree to take part in this survey.

About you

Q2. **In which faculty are you based?**

○ Faculty of Engineering
○ Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences
○ Faculty of Science
○ Strathclyde Business School
○ [_____] Other:

Q3. **In which department are you based?**

○ Accounting and Finance
○ Architecture
○ Biomedical Engineering
○ Centre for Lifelong Learning
○ Chemical and Process Engineering
○ Civil and Environmental Engineering
○ Computer and Information Sciences
○ Design, Manufacturing and Engineering Management
○ Economics
○ Education
○ Electronic and Electrical Engineering
○ Government and Public Policy
○ Humanities
○ Hunter Centre for Entrepreneurship
○ Law
○ Management Science
○ Marketing
○ Mathematics and Statistics
○ MBA and International Division
○ Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering
○ Naval Architecture, Ocean and Marine Engineering
○ Physics
○ Psychological Sciences and Health
○ Pure and Applied Chemistry

- ○ Social Work and Social Policy
- ○ Strathclyde Executive Education and Development
- ○ Strathclyde Institute of Pharmacy and Biomedical Sciences
- ○ Work, Employment and Organisation
- ○ [   ] Other

Q4. Which of the following organisations usually fund your research?

Tick **all** that apply. Alphabetical with UKRI funders grouped.

- ☐ British Heart Foundation
- ☐ Cancer Research UK
- ☐ ERC
- ☐ Industry
- ☐ Leverhulme Trust
- ☐ NIHR
- ☐ Scottish Funding Council
- ☐ UKRI: AHRC
- ☐ UKRI: BBSRC
- ☐ UKRI: EPSRC
- ☐ UKRI: ESRC
- ☐ UKRI: Innovate UK
- ☐ UKRI: MRC
- ☐ UKRI: NERC
- ☐ UKRI: STFC
- ☐ Wellcome Trust
- ☐ [   ] Other:

Q5. What is your position?

- ○ Faculty or Chancellor's Fellow
- ○ Research/KE/Teaching Fellow
- ○ Research/KE/Teaching Associate/Assistant

○ Technical/Professional Services
○ PGR Student
○ [_____] Other:

Research software and you

Q6. Do you use research software?

"Research software" is any software you have used in the generation of a result that you expect to appear in a publication. This might be anything from a few-line script to clean some data, to a fully fledged software suite. It includes code you have written yourself and code written by someone else.

○ Yes
○ No

Q7. How important is research software to your work?

○ Vital
○ Very important
○ Moderately important
○ Slightly important
○ Not at all

Your software development

Q8. Have you developed your own research software?

○ Yes
○ No

Q9. How do you rate your software development expertise?

○ 1: Beginner
○ 2
○ 3: Intermediate
○ 4
○ 5: Expert

Q10. **Do you feel that you have received sufficient training to develop reliable research software?**

○ Yes
○ No

Q11. **Would you be interested in the university helping you commercialise some of your research software?**

○ Yes
○ No

Q12. **Do you feel that your research software is ready to be released or used outside of your group?**

○ Yes
○ Yes, it has already been released
○ No

Q13. **Have you used ARCHIE-WeSt, the University's high-performance computing (HPC) system?**

○ Yes, I use exclusively ARCHIE-WeSt as HPC facility
○ Yes, I also use other HPC facilities
○ No, but I would like to use ARCHIE-WeSt in the future
○ No, I use other HPC facilities

○ No, I do not require HPC in my research

○ [   ] Other:

Q14. How confident are you with the following technologies?

Pick only one per row.

	Not heard of it	Not confident	Confident	Very confident
Version control	○	○	○	○
Unit/regression testing	○	○	○	○
Continuous integration	○	○	○	○
Compilation and linking	○	○	○	○
Documentation generators	○	○	○	○

Q15. How would you rate the university's current level of support for your software development needs?

○ 1: Poor

○ 2

○ 3: Average

○ 4

○ 5: Excellent

Recruitment of software developers

Q16. Have you or someone in your group ever hired a person specifically to develop software?

○ Yes, I have
○ Yes, someone in my group has
○ No

Q17. **Have you ever included costs for software development in a funding proposal?**

○ Yes
○ No, but we DID expect to write software as part of the project
○ No, we did NOT expect to write software as part of the project
○ No, I'm not involved in writing funding proposals

Q18. **How suitable would the following models be for your software development needs?**

	Unsuitable	Suitable	Perfect	N/A
Hire a full-time software developer	○	○	○	○
Recruit a developer from a central Strathclyde pool as needed	○	○	○	○

Finally

Q19. **If you wish to enter the prize draw for one of ten £20 Amazon vouchers, please enter your valid email address below, otherwise leave blank.**

[   ]

Q20. Free software consultation

Dependent on demand, we will make available a number of free half-day consultations for you to meet with a Research Software Engineer and discuss any software issues that you are experiencing.

If you are interested in this consultation, please provide your email address below and we will follow up to gain a better understanding of the help we could provide.

If you are interested in a free consultation, please enter your valid email address below, otherwise leave blank.

Q21. RSE @ Strathclyde mailing list

We have a dedicated mailing list http://lists.strath.ac.uk/mailman/listinfo/rse-announce to announce the events we organize, and in particular our monthly software engineering clinics (Hacky Hours).

If you are interested in keeping in touch with the local community of Research Software Engineers, please provide your email address below.

If you would like to sign up to our RSE mailing list, please enter your valid email address below, otherwise leave blank.