



UK Research
and Innovation

Welcome

Overview

- Introduction to UKRI and SSPP
- Plastic packaging and the waste hierarchy
- Three remaining SSPP competitions
 1. Future Plastic Packaging Solutions
 2. Business Led Research and Development
 3. Largescale Demonstrator Round 2
- Refill projects – a few tips
- Summary

UK Research & Innovation

We work with the government to invest over £7 billion a year in research and innovation by partnering with academia and industry to make the impossible, possible. Through the UK's nine leading academic and industrial funding councils, we create **knowledge with impact.**



Science and
Technology
Facilities Council



Arts and
Humanities
Research Council



Engineering and
Physical Sciences
Research Council



Biotechnology and
Biological Sciences
Research Council



Economic
and Social
Research Council



Research
England



Natural
Environment
Research Council



Innovate
UK



Medical
Research
Council



Smart Sustainable Plastic Packaging

Background Information



Plastic Packaging

- Light weight
- Highly efficient
- Versatile
- Cost effective
- Protects and preserves
- Effective in reducing supply chain losses

However...

- 95% of plastic packaging, or £62–94Bn/y, is lost to the economy
- Consequence of neglecting plastic packaging waste issue
- A long way from a truly circular materials economy



Smart Sustainable Plastic Packaging

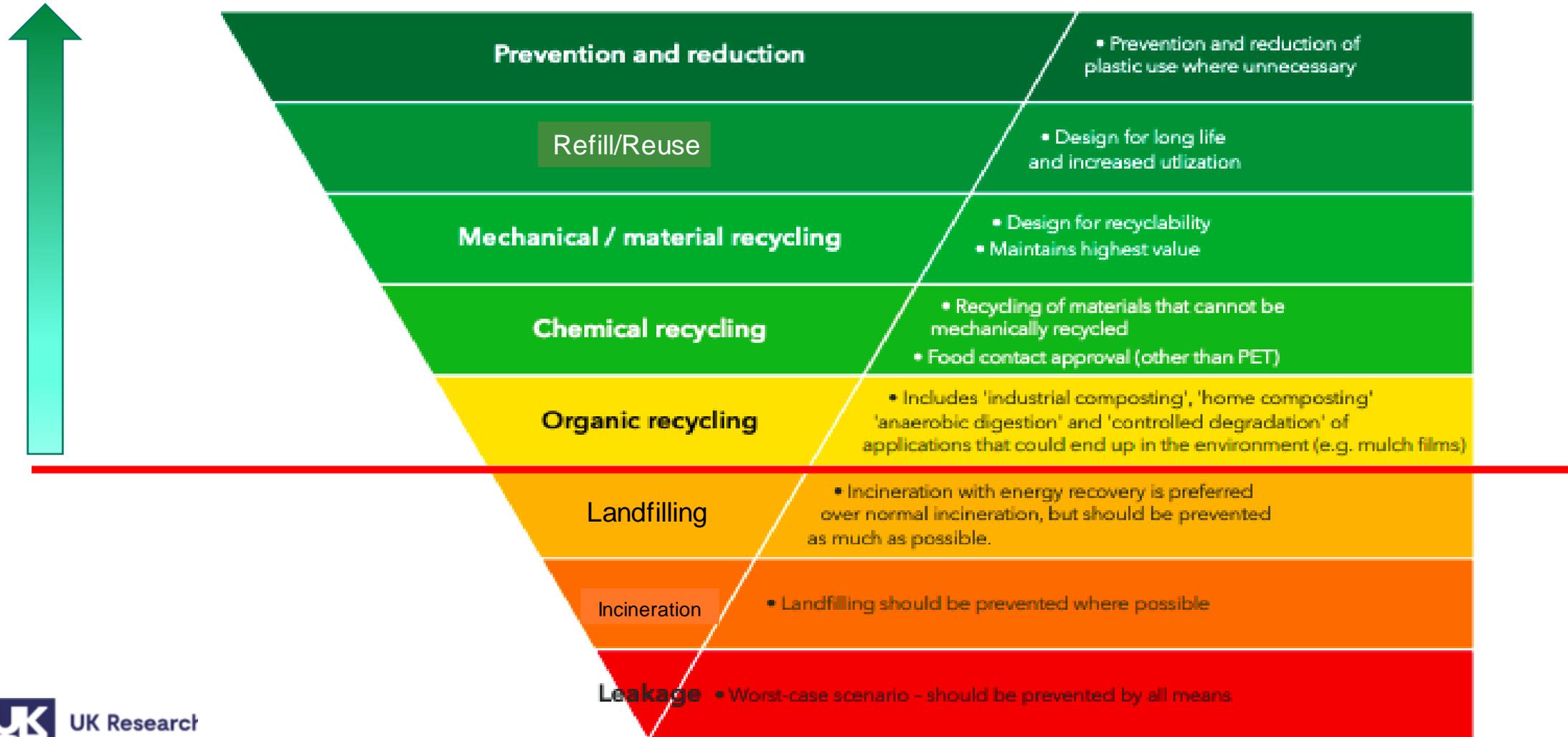
Aim:

To establish the UK as a leading innovator in smart and sustainable plastic packaging for consumer products, delivering cleaner growth across the supply chain, with a dramatic reduction in plastic waste entering the environment by 2025.

Objectives:

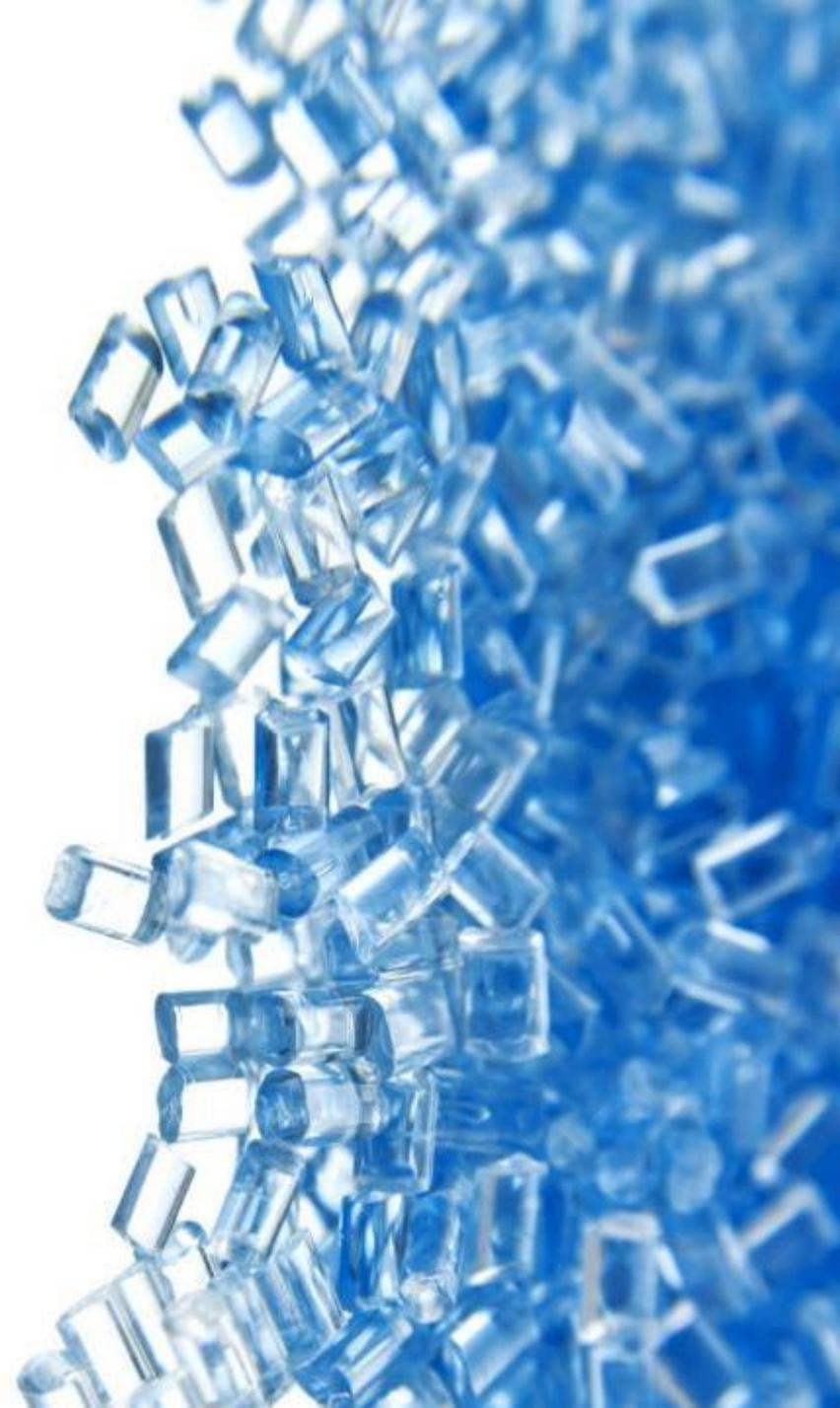
- To deliver R&I in support of the UK Plastics Pact targets
- To unlock significant overall increase in R&I spend (Govt and Industry)
- To increase UK Plastics packaging supply chain collaboration

What Should Our Plastic Packaging Priorities Be?



Future Plastic Packaging Solutions

Competition Information



Future Plastic Packaging Solutions

- Competition open: **26 October 2020 - 20 January 2021**
- Open to **UK registered businesses, charities, not-for-profits or non-government bodies**
- Funding available: a share of up to £2 million for **feasibility studies and industrial research** projects which must aim to:
 - help make the plastics packaging supply chain more circular
 - deliver the targets of the UK Plastics Pact, improve on current state-of-the-art plastic packaging, or supply chain data
 - embed life cycle thinking and end of life in packaging design and decisions
- Individual or collaborative applications, sub-contracting is allowed.
- **Grants £50k-£150k**
- Projects must **start by 01 June 2021** and end by **30 November 2022** and last **6-18 months**.

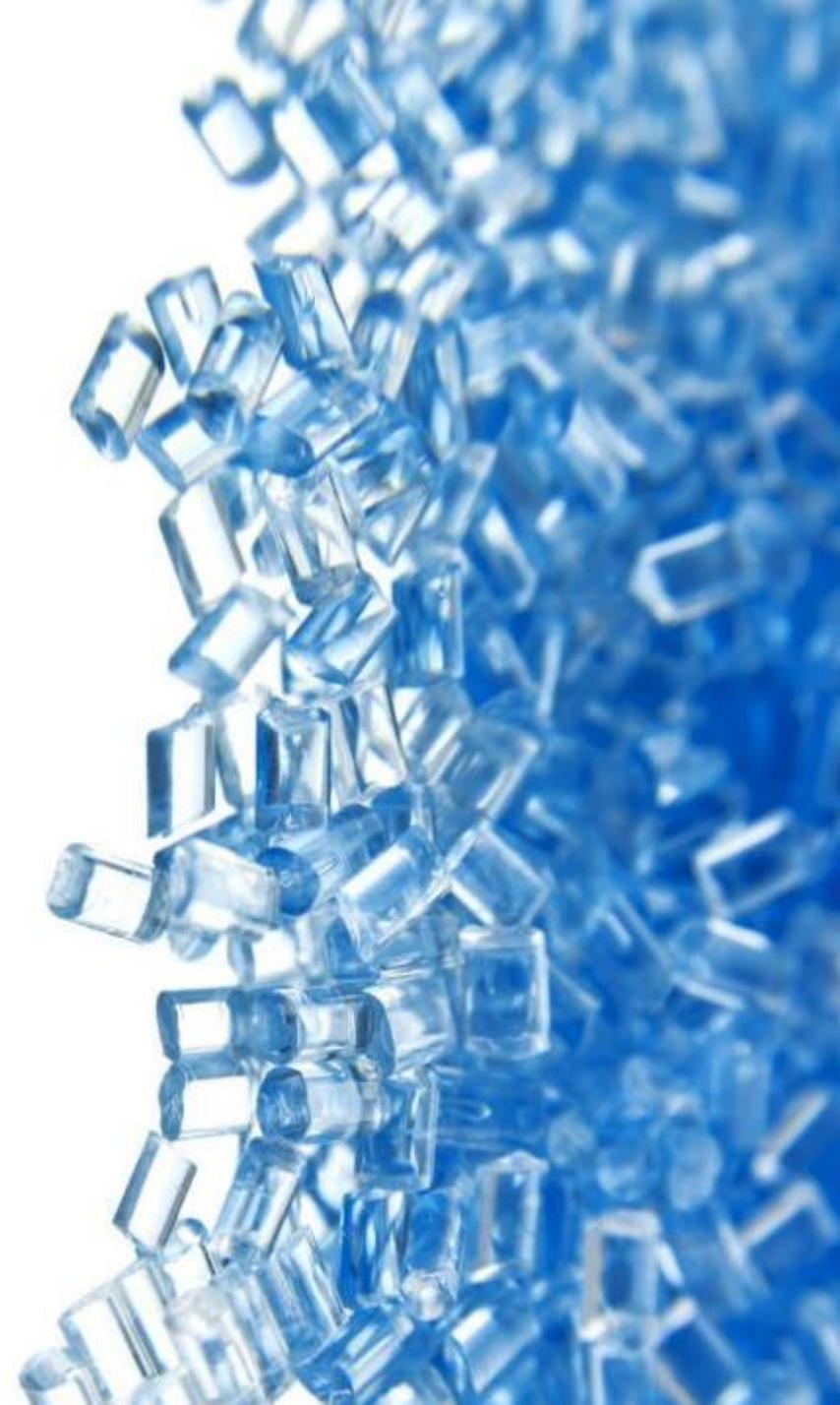
Future Plastic Packaging Solutions Funding Rates

Feasibility Studies and Industrial Research

- up to 70% if you are a micro or small business
 - up to 60% if you are a medium-sized business
 - up to 50% if you are a large business
-
- For a collaborative project, the research organisations undertaking non-economic activity as part of the project can share up to 50% of the total eligible project costs. If your consortium contains more than one research organisation undertaking non-economic activity, this maximum is shared between them.

Business-led Research and Development

Competition Information



ISCF Smart Sustainable Plastic Packaging: Business-led Research & Development (BLR&D)

- **Opens in March 2021 - £8m fund** – grants between **£200k** and **£4m**
- For **Research and Development Projects** which are **Business-Led**.

All projects must:

- support the UK to deliver one or more of the UK Plastic Pact targets
- clearly explain how they would reduce the UK plastic packaging system's overall environmental impact

We are particularly interested in R&D projects which:

- minimise / reduce plastic packaging
- enable refill at scale
- create sustainable solutions for film & flexibles
- enable food grade recycled polypropylene and polyethylene
- promote behaviour change leading to less packaging waste and/or higher recycling rates
- address the UK Plastics Pact target for problematic or unnecessary single use plastic packaging items

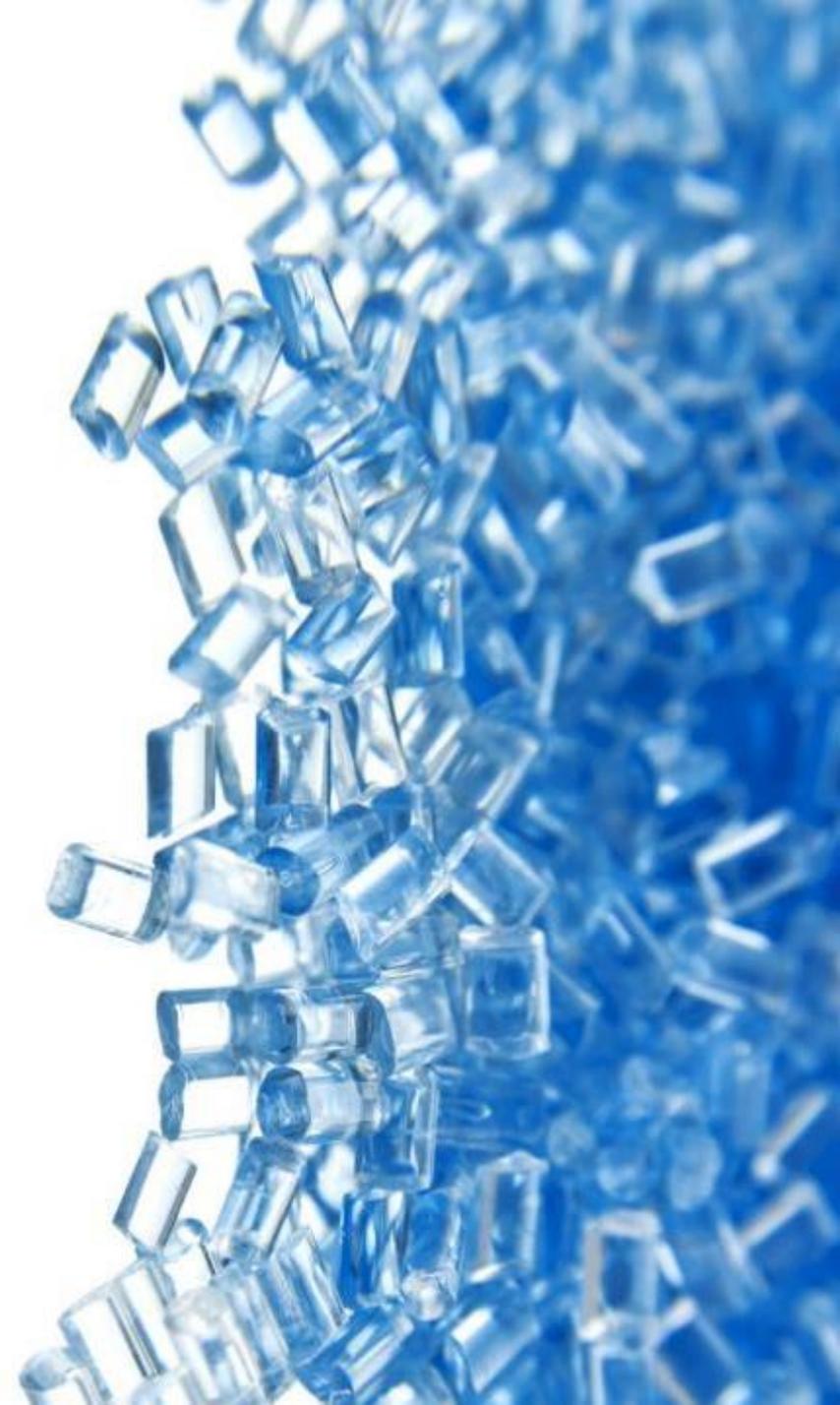
BLR&D Funding Rates (may change after 1st Jan 2021)

Industrial Research	Experimental Development
up to 70% if you are a micro or small business up to 60% if you are a medium-sized business up to 50% if you are a large business	up to 45% if you are a micro or small business up to 35% if you are a medium-sized business up to 25% if you are a large business

- Your project may well have Industrial Research and Experimental Development work packages in them. The relevant intervention rates should be applied.
- Research organisations undertaking non-economic activity as part of the project can share up to 50% of the total eligible project costs. If your consortium contains more than one research organisation undertaking non-economic activity, this maximum is shared between them.
- Value for money remains a factor

Large-scale Demonstrators Round 2

Competition Information



ISCF Smart Sustainable Plastic Packaging: Demonstrators (Expression of Interest)

- **Opens** in February 2021 – **£16m fund**. Grants from **£1m** up to a maximum grant of potentially **£12m**.
- For **ambitious, large scale Demonstration Projects** which are **business led** and **collaborative**.

All projects must:

- support the UK to deliver one or more of the UK Plastic Pact targets
- clearly explain how they would reduce the UK plastic packaging system's overall environmental impact
- utilise innovation in design, technology, processes, business models, supply chains or data for plastic packaging

We are particularly interested in projects which demonstrate at commercial scale:

- minimised / reduced plastic packaging
- enable refill at scale
- sustainable solutions for film & flexibles
- food grade recycled polypropylene and polyethylene
- behaviour change leading to less packaging waste and/or higher recycling rates
- addressing the UK Plastics Pact target for problematic or unnecessary single use plastic packaging items

D2 Funding Rates (may change after 1st Jan 2021)

Experimental Development

- up to 45% if you are a micro or small business
 - up to 35% if you are a medium-sized business
 - up to 25% if you are a large business
-
- Your project may have a minority of Industrial Research work packages in it.
 - Value for money remains a factor

Refill Projects (a few tips)

Retailer Priorities for a Refill System

- Scalable
- Simple
- Cost effective
- Accessibility for differently abled people – simple and easy to use
- Price point
- Positioning with packed alternatives to allow price comparison?
- Must work in different store formats
- Must be scalable
- Must be cost effective to ensure customers feel great value for money is being offered.

UKRI Perspective

- It should have clear benefits for:
 - Brand owners
 - Logistics operators
 - Retailers
 - Consumers
- **The trial would ideally have some of these features:**
 - Multi brand
 - Multi product category
 - Multi retailer and multi-site
 - Multi store format
 - Multi demography
 - Clear and committed route to implementation if successful

Summary

- 3 competitions to cover a range of project sizes
- **Substantial** funding is available to help make this happen
- We want to see **bold, ambitious, large-scale** proposals
- These are likely to be complex projects so please start working on your proposal sooner rather than later
- Submitting compelling proposals isn't that easy, **seek advice** to maximise your chances of success