

## CREW Science Policy Fellowships

### Overview

CREW **Science Policy Fellowships** intend to support evidence-based decisions by providing the opportunity for Scotland's research community to advocate for critical science that addresses upcoming water-related policy, regulatory and/or industry needs. This 'research-push' workstream compliments CREW's 'policy-pull' Capacity Building and Call Down workstreams in facilitating exchanges of expert knowledge between Scottish Higher Education Institutes (HEIs) and Research Institutes, and policymakers, regulators, and industry representatives.

### Eligibility

CREW Science Policy Fellowship funding is open to applications from **all relevant Scottish HEIs and Research Institutes (approved subcontractors)**. Approved subcontractors have received a copy of CREW's Terms and Conditions. CREW encourages applications from experienced to early career researchers (ECRs) under the supervision and mentorship of experienced researchers.

## Call for proposals Autumn 2023 \*\*Flood Resilience in Scotland\*\*

### Introduction

Scotland's climate is changing and as a consequence, exposure to all types of flooding is increasing. CREW intends to commission up to three **Science Policy Fellowships** within CREW's **Hydrological extremes, coasts, and risk management theme** which are aligned to, and support, the development of Scotland's first Flood Resilience Strategy. The 2022-23 Programme for Government<sup>1</sup> made a commitment to consult on this Strategy, including *'how we can build community flood resilience and engage a broader range of delivery partners to deliver more diverse flood management actions faster'*. The 2023-24 Programme for Government<sup>2</sup> continues this commitment, highlights a new Climate Change Adaptation Programme, and refers to the [Coastal Change Adaptation Plan Guidance 2023](#).

### The Ask/Scope

CREW invite proposals for c.3.5-month Science Policy Fellowships focused on flood resilience and adaptation solutions in Scotland, related to **one** of the following types of flooding:

- **Pluvial flooding**
- **Fluvial flooding**
- **Coastal flooding**

For the one chosen topic above, proposals are invited that highlight **either**:

- Societal perceptions, behaviours, and attitudes/engagement with communities on climate adaptation and/or flood resilience;
- Emerging research and/or technologies;
- Topics of uncertainty and/or lack of scientific understanding.

Proposals can be discipline based or interdisciplinary in nature. Deliverables are outlined overpage.

<sup>1</sup> [A Stronger & More Resilient Scotland: The Programme for Government 2022-23 \(www.gov.scot\)](#)

<sup>2</sup> [Equality, Opportunity and Community: Our Programme for Government 2023 to 2024 - gov.scot \(www.gov.scot\)](#)

## Deliverables

- A policy brief of up to 6 pages, excluding references, including:
  - **Background:** Short introduction to the research area and its policy, regulatory and/or industry context and the knowledge gap.
  - **Main Text:** Key project outcomes.
  - **Future perspectives:** Discussion of how developments in the chosen area of research may interact with or potentially help steer the future direction of policy, regulatory and/or industry.
  - **Recommendations:** Concise recommendations aimed at supporting the development of the Strategy and at continued policy, regulatory and/or industry development.
- A plain English summary (up to 1 page)
- Website summary (including image or photograph) (200 words)

## Further information for applicants

### Expectations and award criteria

A copy of expectations and the award criteria are provided overpage.

### Pre-contract meeting

A CREW representative, and potentially 1-3 representatives of Scottish Government and its delivery partners, will meet with the preferred bidder(s) for a pre-contract meeting.

### Project management

Day-to-day communication will be between the research/review team (the contractor) and a CREW Project Manager and is likely to involve short catchups as agreed.

### Anticipated timescale (c. 3.5 months)

A pre-contract meeting will take place approximately **w.b. 6<sup>th</sup> November**. The project will commence approximately **w.b. 4<sup>th</sup> December 2023**, depending on contract processing and signature, with the project outputs signed off by the CREW Director by **mid-March 2024**.

### Funding

The maximum amount of funding available **exclusive of VAT** (where applicable) is **£45,000**.

### Submitting a proposal

Please complete a **CREW Science Policy Fellowship application form** outlining your proposal.

Proposals need to be submitted to [Procurement@crew.ac.uk](mailto:Procurement@crew.ac.uk) for evaluation **by Friday 13<sup>th</sup> October 2023, 15:00**. We aim to notify the successful bidder by **30<sup>th</sup> October 2023**.

Please contact [Procurement@crew.ac.uk](mailto:Procurement@crew.ac.uk) by **Friday 6<sup>th</sup> October 2023** if you would like any clarification on any of the above. You should highlight any potential conflicts of interest in your proposal. For queries about what may constitute a potential conflict of interest please contact the CREW Deputy Manager ([Nikki.Dodd@hutton.ac.uk](mailto:Nikki.Dodd@hutton.ac.uk)).

## Expectations

No.	Criteria	Descriptor
1	Duration	The proposed duration will align closely to the details provided in the anticipated timescales section of the specification.
2	Staff time and effort	The proposed allocation of staff time and effort is appropriate and includes all deliverables. The proposal must also provide a commitment that named staff members will be available to work on the contract if the bid is successful. CREW encourages applications from experienced to early career researchers (ECRs) under the supervision and mentorship of experienced researchers.
3	Project costs	The estimated breakdown of project costs is realistic and inclusive of all milestones/deliverables/activities.

## Award criteria

No.	Criteria	Descriptor
1	Understanding the project ask and policy background	The proposal should include an introduction which demonstrates a clear understanding of the requirements of a CREW Science Policy Fellowship, a short introduction to the research area and its policy, regulatory and/or industry context and the knowledge gap.
2	Proposed methodology	The proposal should demonstrate a high quality and workable methodology, including how the evidence will be identified, reviewed, and assessed. It should explain the suitability, robustness, and limitations of the proposed methodology.
3	Milestones	The project milestones are logical, practical and show a clear pathway to achieving all deliverables.
4	Project Management	The staff, resources and expertise are appropriate for conducting the proposed project. The proposal should name the project lead and outline their project management experience.
5	General and specific topic expertise and experience	The proposal should provide details of individual staff members who will work on this project and demonstrate how they will meet the project requirements, specifically: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- general research experience and expertise;</li> <li>- specific experience and expertise on the topic of chosen topic.</li> </ul>
6	General communication and deliverables	The proposal should describe the approach to producing the deliverables, which will be published on the CREW website. It should detail who will take lead responsibility for report-writing and overall report quality. It should provide examples of previously published policy briefs in which they have been involved.
7	Quality assurance	The proposal should provide details of quality assurance procedures to demonstrate how the contract will be continuously delivered to a high standard. It should specifically address issues of quality control at different stages of the project, including evidence gathering, analysis and report writing. It should include a timetable for delivery of tasks, project milestones and allocation of staff and staff time against each task, covering the duration of the contract.
8	Risk	The proposal should provide a risk assessment matrix detailing any risks identified in relation to the delivery of this contract, and proposed mitigation measures to minimise their probability and impact, focused particularly on risk to completion on time.