



Science and  
Technology  
Facilities Council

# PPAP Community Meeting

## 25-26 June 2024

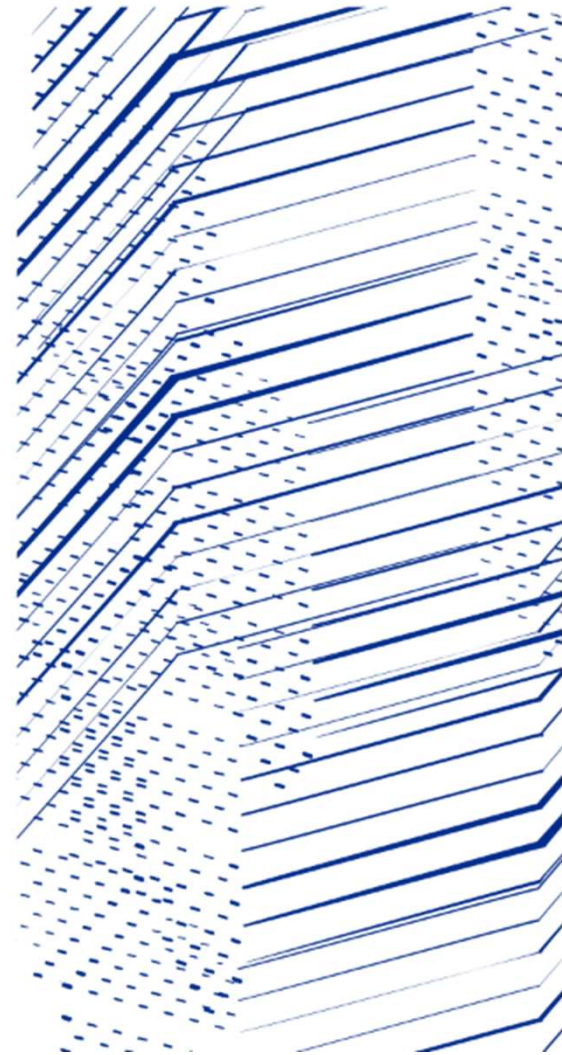
## STFC Update

Karen Clifford

Head of Particle Physics Programme



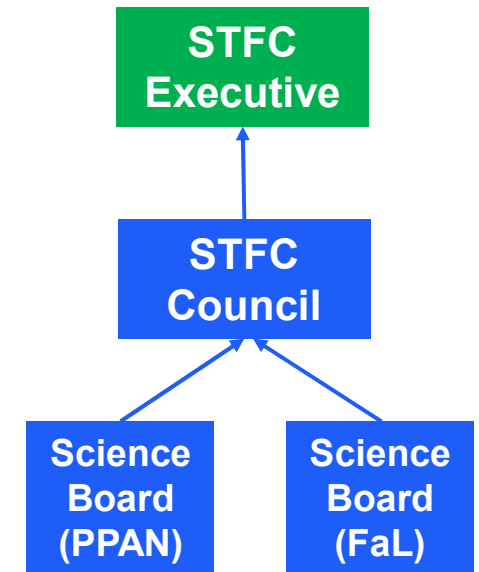
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# Improving our governance structures

## General Structure

- **STFC Executive Chair and STFC Executive Board**
  - decision-making with responsibility for STFC budgets
- **STFC Council**
  - advisory to STFC Executive Chair and STFC Executive Board
  - our **top-level advisory body** where all aspects of STFC come together, PPAN, Facilities and Laboratories, Innovation, ...
- **STFC Science Boards**
  - provide detailed scientific/technology advice to STFC Council
  - make recommendations on **strategy and priorities**
  - Chairs: Keith Grainge (PPAP) and Jacqui Cole (Facilities & Labs)



The new structure is bedding in, and Science Board (PPAN) will be providing advice on **long-term prioritised plans** within guide rails of **realistic financial budget assumptions** and provide advice **on balance of activities**.

# PPAN Roadmap

During 2024, Science Board (PPAN) will develop a long-term prioritised roadmap to set the guiderails on future investments

- Balanced programme of excellent science across the PPAN research areas over a 10-year timeframe, within a realistic financial planning envelope:
  - taking account of health and breadth of discipline
  - maintaining appropriate support to ensure return on past investments
  - exploiting UK leadership and capability in strategically important areas
  - engaging in future projects
- Science Board (PPAN) reviews the rolling 10-year plan for STFC PPAN core programme
  - balance of exploitation, M&O, development projects, R&D etc.
  - balance of projects small/medium/large
  - studentships, fellowships, and skills pipeline
  - cross cutting themes e.g., quantum, R&D etc.
- The PPAN Roadmap will be maintained on a rolling basis – prioritisation and balance of programme is no longer a separate activity every ~five years.

# Developing the PPAN Roadmap

## The PPAN Roadmap comprises three main elements:

- 1) Assessment of the research landscape – SB (PPAN) will need to assess the:
  - external research landscape and PPAN science landscape (nationally and internationally)
  - current state of the PPAN programmes, including current investments and UK capability
  - balance across science disciplines (scale, funding etc.)
  - risks/pressures associated with current investments
- 2) Future vision – SB (PPAN) will:
  - advise on the vision for the future programme
  - consider science drivers e.g. technology development, laboratory infrastructure, building capability/skills, impact/value
  - ask ‘What does the ideal programme look like in 10 years’ time?’
- 3) Recommendations – SB (PPAN) will:
  - advise on how STFC should support that programme
  - make funding recommendations in the context of the 10-year plan



**The Advisory Panels have a vital role in providing the perspective of their communities on these questions, and already do this through the AP roadmaps!**

# Timeline

## April - May

- Developed a view of the programme with portfolio assessments across PPAN of what is currently supported
- Updates to STFC's 10YP

## 12-13 June SB (PPAN) meeting

- Statements of Interest for new opportunities are invited to the June meeting and biannually (deadline 1 May).
  - SB (PPAN) will reviewed the Sols submitted but priority was be given to those that align with the Infrastructure Fund and those that were time sensitive.
  - Sol not assessed in June will be deferred to a future meeting.
- Science Board considered the overview of the current programme and current challenges and opportunities for each programme area – **still more work to do!**

## Spring/summer

- Programme managers will discuss the input required for the PPAN Roadmap with the Advisory Panels.
- Opportunity for community consultation on current and future priorities – **TODAY & TOMORROW!**

## 17-19 September SB (PPAN) meeting

- Advisory Panels to submit answers to 'key questions', chairs may be asked attend the meeting.

## September-February

- SB (PPAN) refine the PPAN Roadmap following input from the Advisory Panels.

# Input from Advisory Panels to the PPAN Roadmap

The Advisory Panel roadmaps are updated on a regular basis and no additional work is anticipated to update the current roadmaps to prepare for the PPAN Roadmap.

But SB (PPAN) has key questions for the Advisory Panels, these are being finalised but could include:

- Have there been any **significant changes or developments** that would cause the panel to alter the **recommendations** in their current roadmap?
- Have there been any **major scientific developments within the field** since the roadmap was last updated that should affect STFC's consideration of future support of relevant UK research?
- Where applicable, have there been any significant **updates to relevant international roadmaps**?
- Have any significant **new opportunities or risks emerged** for the health of discipline that are not included in the current roadmap, or that need to be expanded upon in more detail?
- Do any of the recommendations in the roadmap require a significant update or revision?
- There will also be questions related to skills and new programmes e.g., quantum

**Input required by the September SB (PPAN) meeting - deadline tbc but likely early September**

# Sol submission process and assessment

## Process

- Biannual call for Sols to be submitted to Science Board (PPAN):
  - Submission cut off dates for 2024 are [1<sup>st</sup> May](#) and [1<sup>st</sup> November](#)
- Project teams encouraged to engage with programme managers throughout the year and to seek advice prior to submission .
- Demand managed through publication of the PPAN Roadmap

## Assessment criteria

- **Scientific excellence and timeliness**
- **Strategic drivers and prioritisation**
- **Benefits**
- **Step change**
- Other considerations include deliverability, risk and environmental sustainability

# Other Activities

- BAU
- PPAN Roadmap development – **on-going**
- ECFA visit to the UK – **13 September 2024**
- European Strategy for Particle Physics – galvanise behind UK submission - **31 March 2025**
- UK Strategy for Engagement with CERN – development of implementation plan – **on-going**

**Ad-hoc requests for information have been sent out from Programmes Directorate as we work towards these activities - Thank you for your efforts in providing this to us!**