

# **Report from the Nuclear Physics Grants Panel (NPGP)**

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# NPGP Members

- ▶ Professor David Evans (Chair) - Birmingham
- ▶ Dr Carlo Barbieri - Surrey
- ▶ Dr Dave Joss - Liverpool
- ▶ Professor Dan Watts - York
- ▶ Dr Judith McGovern - Manchester
- ▶ Dr Keiran Flanagan - Manchester
- ▶ Dr Marc Labiche - Daresbury Laboratory
- ▶ Professor Marialuisa Aliotta - Edinburgh
- ▶ Professor Ralf Kaiser - Glasgow
- ▶ Professor Jens Jorgen Gaardhoje -Copenhagen

First three names served last time,  
the other seven are all new to the  
panel

# What's new since last time

- ▶ **Section 1, Group overview:**
  - The same (including page limits)
- ▶ **Section 2 Themes**
  - Page limits on Part A and Part B same as before
  - Extra space given for justifying travel, consumables etc.
  - **Themes are more stand-alone:** travel, consumables etc. requested under each theme, also Cross Community effort request
- ▶ **Section 3 Publications**
  - All publications listed in this section, **in Theme order**, not in Section 2.
  - Authors high-lighted where ***significant*** contribution made

# Academic FTE

- ▶ Page limits related to FTE/year requested
- ▶ For an academic, 0.6 FTE/year counts as 100% of research time i.e. 1 FTE/year for the page limit count.
- ▶ If an academic requests 0.6 FTE/year, they can not ask for their time on other grants (e.g. project grants), even if they are only awarded a fraction of this FTE (STFC rules)
- ▶ Note: travel money awarded will depend on Theme ranking, PDRA FTE awarded, and academic FTE *requested*.

# Funding Available –Worst Case

- ▶ Currently assuming **Flat Cash** again
- ▶ Last round, funds were transferred from Project line and some underspend on FAIR.
- ▶ So this time we are working with **Less Cash** in actual terms.
- ▶ In addition to inflation, most universities have increased their FEC considerably.
- ▶ Taking less cash, inflation, and increase in FEC into account, **I have estimated we will only be able to fund 80% of the posts we did last time.**

# Funding Available –Worst Case

Measure	2017 grants round	Projected current round
Academics – average FTE	9%	7%
Academics – total FTE/year	4.5	3.6
PDRA – total FTE/year	18.2	14.6
CORE posts – total FTE/year	6.8	5.4
Cross Community – total FTE/year	11.3	9
Studentships	3	2
Technicians – total FTE/year	2.9	2.3
<b>TOTAL FTE per year</b>	<b>46.7</b>	<b>36.9</b>

# Funding Available

- ▶ Note, this is worst case in my view.
- ▶ Government has made some very positive statements about science.
- ▶ Increased base-line to include inflation and transfer of some funding from projects line (not ideal) quite possible.
- ▶ This would partially mitigate the situation but large increases in FEC is still very damaging.
- ▶ Even in the best case, this round will be even worse than last time.

# Funding Effects

- ▶ I have had several meetings and conversations with
  - [Jenny Hiscock](#) (Nuclear Physics Programme Manager)
  - [Justin O'Byrne](#) (Head of Particle Astro, Nuclear Physics, and computing)
  - [Grahame Blair](#) (Executive Director: Programmes)
  - [Mark Thomson](#) (Executive Chair of STFC)
- ▶ I have also sent a report to Science Board, outlining the world-leading excellence of UK NP, historical funding cuts, the likely effect of the current funding.



# Capital Funding

- ▶ Some good news:
- ▶ More capital in this round (note: wasn't all used on the last round).
- ▶ Requests for capital for items that remain at the university (e.g. computer farms) should normally be for 50% (university paying other 50%).
- ▶ However, capital requests can be made for up to 100% (e.g. detector equipment to be used at other labs).
- ▶ Capital requests more likely to be successful so consider how items can be grouped to make a capital bid of > £10k

# Deadline – 11<sup>th</sup> February

- ▶ Any Questions?