

## Input to Science Board (PPAN)

Science Board (PPAN) provides STFC with strategic scientific advice on, and the assessment of, the STFC (Particle Physics, Astronomy and Nuclear Physics) PPAN programme, which includes particle astrophysics, space science and the accelerator and computational requirements of the PPAN programme.<sup>1</sup>

The Advisory Panels provide an essential link between SB (PPAN) and the community and represent the needs of the community to the STFC. As part of the regular engagement between SB (PPAN) and the Advisory Panels, the Advisory Panel Chairs have been invited to a session of the SB (PPAN) meeting in March. Ahead of the meeting, the Advisory Panels are asked to answer the questions below. Please provide the information to [SBPPAN@stfc.ukri.org](mailto:SBPPAN@stfc.ukri.org) by **23 February 2026**.

As outlined [recently](#), there is a new approach at UKRI. The information provided by the Advisory Panels will inform SB (PPAN)'s advice to STFC on prioritisation.

Please contact [laura.woodward@stfc.ukri.org](mailto:laura.woodward@stfc.ukri.org) if you require further information.

## Advisory Panel questions (please limit the total response to no more than 8 pages)

1. The Advisory Panels provided input to SB (PPAN)'s September 2024 meeting – have there been any significant changes since that submission that you would like to bring to the attention of SB (PPAN)?
2. Are there components within your roadmap or recent update that should be considered highest priority for STFC?
3. With the new [UKRI mission](#) to advance knowledge, improve lives and drive growth, how should the programme evolve to deliver against this mission? As part of your answer to this question, please map your area against the Industrial Strategy sectors and wider government priorities using the template in Annex 1.
4. With an increased focus on helping companies to scale and grow, how can the PPAN community foster and undertake knowledge exchange and translation that would develop research and applications through the TRL levels, recognising the needs of industry?
5. If there is headroom in the programme in the future, what should be the highest priority for investment? E.g. consolidated grant, small/large awards, projects, science areas?

Please see the [UKRI allocations explainer](#) for information on the UKRI allocation, the funding 'buckets', and the support for the Industrial Strategy sectors and wider government priorities.

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<sup>1</sup> SB PPAN terms of reference available [here](#).

### Annex 1 – template for mapping against the Industrial Strategy sectors and wider government priorities

The below headings correspond to the [programmes](#) that UKRI is establishing across buckets two and three (‘strategic government and societal priorities’ and ‘supporting innovative companies’).

For each sector below (where relevant) please provide a short description of the relevance of your research area to the sector, including examples of current and possible future applications.

<b>Industrial Strategy Sectors</b>	
Advanced Manufacturing	
Clean Growth and Energy	
Creative Industries	
Defence and National Security	
Digital and Technologies: Engineering Biology	
Digital and Technologies: AI	
Digital and Technologies: Quantum Technologies	
Digital and Technologies: Advanced Connectivity Technologies (ACT), Semiconductors, and Cybersecurity	
Life Sciences	
Professional, Business and Financial Services	
<b>Wider Priorities</b>	
Climate adaptation, environment and resilience	
Space	
Food, animal and plant health	