



## NC3Rs funding panel: outline application assessment criteria

The aim of the project grant outline application stage is to determine which applications are most likely to be competitive for funding, if given the opportunity to submit a full project grant application.

All submitted applications must be directed at one or more of the 3Rs (Replacement, Reduction and Refinement). When assessing applications, Panel members are asked to consider both the quality of the science and the likely 3Rs impact, should the proposed research be successful.

The following criteria should be considered when deciding if an outline application should be short-listed for submission of a full application. It is not necessary for all of the individual criteria to be met, as they are intended as a guide.

Science	3Rs
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ How original and innovative are the proposed ideas?</li> <li>▪ Is this a worthwhile scientific question with potentially useful outcomes?</li> <li>▪ Does it address a key knowledge gap or area of strategic importance to the UK?</li> <li>▪ Is there a potential for additional health and/or socioeconomic impact?</li> <li>▪ What is the likelihood of successful delivery?</li> <li>▪ Is this a methodologically sound study?</li> <li>▪ Are the resources broadly appropriate to deliver the proposal?</li> <li>▪ Comment on the track record and expertise of the applicants/collaborators. Is there confidence in their ability to deliver the project?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Is this a strategically important 3Rs area?</li> <li>▪ Will the proposal replace/reduce animal use by a significant number of animals?</li> <li>▪ Will the proposal refine a severe/moderate procedure (even if the number of animals affected is low) OR refine a mild procedure where animal numbers are high?</li> <li>▪ Could the outcomes be applicable to other models/research areas?</li> <li>▪ What is the likelihood of a local impact on animal use and adoption by other groups nationally/internationally?</li> <li>▪ What is the overall potential 3Rs impact?</li> </ul>