



DRINC • DIET AND HEALTH RESEARCH INDUSTRY CLUB

DIET AND HEALTH RESEARCH INDUSTRY CLUB (DRINC) SECOND CALL FOR GRANT APPLICATIONS

INTRODUCTION

The importance of the link between diet and health is recognised by the public¹. However the complex interactions between dietary components and the consequences for health are not well understood. Furthermore the food industry is a significant contributor to the UK economy. It is the single largest manufacturing sector, employing 3.7 million people, and accounts for around 7% of GDP. The industry is of strategic importance in enabling the UK to meet the challenges of providing a nutritious, safe, accessible and sustainable supply of food to a growing and ageing population in a world with increasingly scarce resources.

The Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council (BBSRC) has identified developing a greater awareness of the roles of nutrition and physical activity, and the mechanisms by which they affect development and health, as a research goal within the key strategic priority of Bioscience for Health². Substantial opportunities for innovative research exist across the food and drink industry with diet and health a significant driver for all businesses in the supply-chain. The research required to address these opportunities is multidisciplinary in nature and will bring together experts from the biosciences, physical sciences, food engineering, and social sciences.

BBSRC, in partnership with the Medical Research Council (MRC) and the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC), first established the Diet and Health Research Industry Club (DRINC) in 2007 with 15 company members. Over £15M was provided to support high quality research aimed at improving our understanding of diet and health within UK universities and research institutes. An independent evaluation³ in 2011 established that the research had helped the food and drink industry to develop and deliver new food products of benefit to the consumer. DRINC now aims to build on this success by funding a second phase of research projects. The Club will continue with a consortium of 16 company members that contribute to funding the research and directing Club activities.

The second phase of DRINC has a total budget of approximately £10M, with £1M from industrial membership subscriptions and £9M from BBSRC. EPSRC⁴, the Economic and Social Research Council⁵ (ESRC) and MRC⁶ will consider funding projects with relevance to their remits. This document provides guidance about the second call for proposals, where there is approximately £3M to be awarded.

¹ <http://www.bbsrc.ac.uk/society/dialogue/activities/bbuh-public-workshop.aspx>

² <http://www.bbsrc.ac.uk/publications/planning/strategy/priority-three.aspx>

³ http://www.bbsrc.ac.uk/web/FILES/Reviews/drinc_2011_evaluation_report.pdf

⁴ <http://www.epsrc.ac.uk>

⁵ <http://www.esrc.ac.uk>

⁶ <http://www.mrc.ac.uk>

CLUB AIMS

The aims of DRINC are to:

- Support high quality, innovative basic research within UK universities and Institutes. This research will enhance understanding and facilitate the development of products with health and nutrition benefits and help to address diet-related health issues in the longer term.
- Help to strengthen and develop the research community in the food and nutrition area through interdisciplinary research and the provision of training.
- Ensure knowledge exchange between the science base and industry through the support of effective networking between academic groups and company membership.

SECOND CALL FOR PROPOSALS

Submissions are invited to the second call of the second phase of DRINC. Approximately £3M is available for grant awards through this call. One further call of similar value is planned for Spring 2015. The funding is from BBSRC, potentially other research councils, and the industry members of the Club.

BBSRC has worked with industry to identify [three research challenges](#) as described in the next section. Projects supported through the Club will address these challenges through pre-competitive, innovative and excellent science, within BBSRC's scientific remit.

The DRINC Steering Group has developed a [summary of common issues](#) identified with applications submitted to the previous call for proposals for applicants to consider and this is included after the description of the research challenges. Resubmissions from previous DRINC calls will only be accepted if feedback from the Steering Group has been fully addressed and there are significant changes to the application. Any resubmissions should be discussed with the [DRINC Coordinators](#) prior to submission.

The Coordinators can also offer advice on industrial relevance. Applicants may discuss their ideas with the Club's industry members at a [workshop](#) to be held on **3 June 2014** in London. Further details are available on the 'Apply for Funding' webpage at: www.bbsrc.ac.uk/drinc.

There is a two stage [application procedure](#). For the initial outline stage, proposals must be submitted on an outline proposal form, which is available through the Research Councils' Joint Electronic Submission system (Je-S, <https://je-s.rcuk.ac.uk>). Outline proposals can be submitted from **12 May 2014** until **9 July 2014 at 4.00 pm**. Full proposals will subsequently be invited from applicants successful in the outline stage. Specific guidelines for the call are given in [ANNEX 1](#).

RESEARCH SCOPE OF THE DIET AND HEALTH RESEARCH INDUSTRY CLUB

Research proposals must address at least one of three research challenges, which all sit within the overarching theme of **improving our understanding of the relationship between diet and health**.

The three research challenges are:

- Understanding the relationship between food processing and nutrition
- Designing foods to maintain and improve health
- Understanding food choice and eating behaviour to improve health through diet

Research Challenge 1

Understanding the relationship between food processing and nutrition

This challenge seeks to elucidate how the manufacturing processes involved in food production influence diet and health. The aim is to generate fundamental biological and nutritional knowledge that can inform improvements in food and drink production. For example, improving the understanding and characterisation of how ingredient properties are affected by processing would enable the food and drink industry to optimise operations to deliver products with improved health benefits while maintaining quality.

Proposals in this challenge should be multidisciplinary and may apply expertise from the physical sciences and engineering, including biophysics and biochemistry, to the improvement of the nutritional value of products.

In discussions with the food and drink industry, the following examples were suggested for research projects. The examples are included to stimulate thought and proposals that focus upon other areas are welcome. Research could deliver novel or improved processes for more nutritious products by:

- Developing predictive models to assess the impact of changes in process operations upon nutritional quality.
- Supporting the development of products for consumers with food intolerances and allergies.
- Understanding how to influence the digestion and bioavailability of nutrients and other bioactive agents within foods to derive improved health benefits.
- Enabling the delivery of more nutritionally beneficial food ingredients and product formulations with significantly reduced levels of undesirable nutritional components, while maintaining consumer acceptability, including palatability.
- Understanding how to deliver combinations of ingredients and nutrients to achieve maximum nutritional value and health benefits.
- Improving the affordability and sustainability of healthier food products by developing processes that use ingredients more efficiently, or make use of alternative ingredients, formulations, by-products and waste-streams.
- Developing improved packaging technologies that enable or enhance the delivery of novel bioactive ingredients, including improvements in shelf life and product stability.
- Utilising encapsulation technologies, that are technically and economically viable, to deliver bioactive ingredients to desired regions within the digestive system.

Research Challenge 2

Designing foods to maintain and improve health

Diet influences wellbeing throughout the life-course and public concerns about health problems caused by poor diet are important to the food and drink industry. Projects within this research challenge should make use of multidisciplinary approaches to improve our understanding of the mechanisms by which diet influences and maintains health.

Researchers should seek to respond to the needs of the food and drink industry by generating new knowledge that would contribute to the design of healthier food and drink products that meet consumer demand. For example, research projects could investigate the incorporation of novel ingredients or the optimisation of established ingredients with proven health benefits and consumer acceptance. Projects attempting to improve the nutritional value of products must also show a link with health benefits.

The following examples are provided as guidance for research areas that could fit within this challenge. Proposals that focus upon other areas are welcome. Applicants could increase the fundamental knowledge available to develop improved food and drink products by, for example:

- Researching novel biomarkers that can inform design choices by allowing the assessment of qualities such as exposure or biological effect.
- Improving understanding of how nutrition can support life-long health and wellbeing. This may include investigating changes in dietary requirements throughout the life-course, potentially due to age related changes to muscle mass, bone density, dentition, flavour perception, visual function and cognitive function. This may also include early-life nutrition and dietary needs for maternal health (pregnancy and lactation).
- Investigating bioactive ingredients with physiologically beneficial effects, as recognised by regulators. This includes reducing the risk of developing major diet-related public health conditions, such as diabetes, unhealthy weight and cardiometabolic diseases and also addressing issues such as glycaemic control and (micro-)vascular health.
- Investigating how dietary needs vary by gender, ethnicity, age, and level of physical activity. This could include better assessment methodologies for characterising suboptimal nutrition among different groups to reliably guide further action. Applicants could also consider how dietary needs vary due to lifestyle and other factors that lead to variable eating patterns, such as shift-working.
- Generating novel insights into how health can be supported and maintained by a healthy digestive tract. Including understanding the possible role of the gut microbiome in weight management, metabolism, inflammation and immunity.
- Researching the potential for dietary modulation of epigenetic processes to achieve health benefits.
- Investigating the management of food intolerance and allergies through understanding sensitisation, characterising ingredients, and analysing the host immune response mechanisms, to enable development of formulations that maintain the desirable qualities of food products without triggering immune responses.
- Using systems approaches to enhance understanding of the complex relationships between combinations of nutrients, dietary patterns and human health outcomes. This could also include developing and testing models for assessing metabolic resilience in a dietary context.

Research Challenge 3

Understanding food choice and eating behaviour to improve health through diet

Proposals responding to this challenge would seek to increase our understanding of the causes and effects of dietary choices and behaviours, how these relate to health, and how they can be influenced. Applicants may consider projects at the interface between psychology and biology, potentially making use of emerging technologies and bioinformatics as tools to investigate relationships, such as those between affective reactions, food consumption and purchase.

An improved fundamental understanding of the interaction between consumer behaviour, liking, and sensations of satiety, hunger and thirst will help the food industry to create products that support behaviours of benefit to health by satisfying consumer expectations while optimising dietary intake. Furthermore, understanding how the behaviour and perceptions which cause these expectations vary across the life-course will inform the design of targeted food products.

Research could improve our understanding of the factors influencing behaviour relating to food purchasing and consumption in individuals, families and other groups or cohorts. Examples are provided below to stimulate thought however proposals that focus upon other areas are welcome. Examples might include:

- Projects that investigate methods for initiating and maintaining behaviours associated with the management of healthy weight, including discouraging over-consumption.
- Investigating the sensory signals that are received by the brain from the entire body, including the gut, in response to ingestion, and how these influence behaviour and contribute to homeostasis.
- Exploring how food characteristics, such as texture, taste, and portion size trigger and influence food choice and eating behaviour, and how this changes over the life-course.
- Testing how foods may be designed with characteristics that support healthy behaviours. This may include considering how sensory cues, including taste, can be provided so that health benefits are perceivable by consumers.
- Assessing how factors such as gender, ethnicity, age, affective reactions and levels of physical activity can influence choices about what, when, and how much, to eat.
- Investigating how food form and the delivery of food energy can influence the relationship between satiety and nutritional value.
- Furthering our understanding of how the selection and consumption of one food product might influence other purchasing and consumption decisions and connecting these to human health outcomes.
- Investigating and developing tools and technologies for evaluating dietary patterns as a whole, including understanding trade-offs, and how the knowledge generated may inform strategies for effecting behaviour change.

Notes:

- The research projects supported by DRINC will fit within the overarching theme of **improving our understanding of how diet affects human health** and will relate this understanding to the development of food and drink products of benefit to the consumer.
- The research challenge titles are unchanged from the previous DRINC call but the descriptions have been updated. The challenges overlap and so multidisciplinary proposals that respond to multiple issues are encouraged. **The examples provided in the description of each research challenge are for guidance only and different research projects may be proposed.** Applicants are advised to discuss their proposals with the [DRINC Coordinator](#) for guidance about relevance to DRINC.
- Research that generates new understandings of the biochemical and physiological mechanisms whereby diet influences human health will be of relevance to the establishment of **accepted health claims**. However **DRINC projects should be pre-competitive**. Projects assessing proof-of-principle for efficacy should not focus on generating evidence for EFSA about proprietary products. DRINC research projects should however follow relevant EFSA criteria⁷, especially where the outcomes might foreseeably find use in claims dossiers.
- Research funded through DRINC must be of strategic relevance to the food and drink industry. Applicants should use whichever methodologies and capabilities will best test their hypotheses about human interactions with food and drink. As such, the development of validated human models and the translation of results from in-silico, in-vitro and relevant in-vivo studies, with clear application and utility to human health, is an important area of interest for the Club. **Applicants proposing to use model organisms for DRINC research must fully demonstrate prior relevance of the model organism to food and drink product development, including evidence to show upstream modeling methods indicate such model organism would add value to the food and drink research.** Applications including model organisms for food and drink research must adhere to BBSRC's standard requirements for animal research. The Research Councils will continue to fund projects which require the use of animals for research through other programmes and initiatives as appropriate.
- DRINC research projects **should seek to relate improved understanding to the challenges facing the food and drink industry**. For example, research projects could apply mechanistic knowledge about the health effects of food ingredients to consider how raw materials should be selected, produced and processed to increase nutritional value and also reduce waste. Projects could also seek to apply strategies and techniques for facilitating sustained acceptance of foods with improved nutritional quality among consumers. Additionally the value of well-designed cohort studies in addressing the challenges is recognised and such approaches are considered appropriate.

⁷ <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/nda/ndaguidelines.htm>

QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER WHEN WRITING YOUR APPLICATION

This section summarises common issues identified by the DRINC Steering Group when assessing the outline proposals received in response to the 2013 call. Applicants should consider these points when developing their proposals:

Will the research generate evidence for a functional ingredient or phenomenon?

- DRINC is not the preferred route for the substantiation of functional ingredient claims.
- Outcomes should be pre-competitive and widely applicable for industry or public health and should not be reliant upon proprietary technology or know-how.
- Experiments should test general mechanisms, design rules or hypotheses to establish proof of principle and aid selection of potential leads, technologies or consumer guidance.

Is there clear justification for the measurements to be made or techniques applied?

- All proposed measures must be necessary to meet the project's primary objectives.
- The measures should test explicit, important *a priori* hypotheses.
- The output of the measurements should lead to subsequent actions, such as informing the design or direction of further experiments, feasibility studies or potential applications.

Does the proposal have a clear focus?

- All project components must contribute to the proposal's clearly stated research goals.
- Human trials should have well-defined *a priori* primary outcome measures and corresponding statistical analysis plans.
- Hypothesis testing should be clearly separated from hypothesis generation.

Does the research seek to demonstrate a novel approach for solving a problem?

- Applicants should demonstrate awareness of previous approaches.
- Applicants should establish that the problem they seek to solve is a significant issue or knowledge-gap for the potential users of their research.
- Safety, regulation, sensory quality, consumer acceptance and cost should be considered.

Does the research include untested technologies or approaches?

- Preliminary data or related examples should show that the approach is feasible.
- Applicants should include clear and early criteria for deciding whether to continue when negative results are generated as well as alternative plans for continuing the project.

Are the test materials (e.g. fibres, extracts, total diets) sufficiently defined?

- The specification should allow for replication and the determination of causality.

Will the proposal include a large, high-risk clinical trial?

- The research team must include the expertise for designing and running clinical trials.
- The trials must be designed to achieve decisive outcomes, such as proving causality.
- Expected results should be relevant, i.e. not only statistically but also physiologically.
- There should be sufficient pre-clinical data or pilot studies proposed to enable the optimal test materials, conditions and human trial design to be defined, as well as the identification of scenarios in which the studies should not continue.
- Applicants must show evidence for bioavailability of test agents and that the size and variance of the effect on the cohort can be estimated, so that the larger trial can be correctly powered for clearly-defined primary outcomes and for taking decisions about whether to proceed.

INDUSTRY RELEVANCE AND CALL LAUNCH WORKSHOP

Research funded through DRINC must be strategically relevant to the food and drink industry. Proposals must include clear explanations of strategic relevance and identify likely impacts and routes to impact. Applicants should seek to build upon their current research activities by progressing fundamental research to explore potential applications in the food and drink industry. However **applicants are advised that Letters of Support from industry are not required**. Further guidance on Letters of Support is provided at [ANNEX 1](#). Applicants are invited to contact the [DRINC Coordinator](#) for guidance about industry relevance.

A workshop for applicants to discuss their ideas with the Club's industry members will be held on 3 June 2014 in London. Further details are available on the 'Apply for Funding' webpage at www.bbsrc.ac.uk/drinc. The workshop will also provide an opportunity for applicants to meet potential collaborators. DRINC aims to expand the capabilities of the diet and health research community and so multidisciplinary applications are welcome.

CONTACTS

BBSRC – Guidance on the Application Process and Eligibility

Jennifer Postles, DRINC Club Manager

BBSRC, Polaris House, North Star Avenue, Swindon, SN2 1UH

Tel: 01793 413366 Email: jennifer.postles@bbsrc.ac.uk

Andrew Telford, DRINC Peer Review Officer

BBSRC, Polaris House, North Star Avenue, Swindon, SN2 1UH

Tel: 01793 442197 Email: andrew.telford@bbsrc.ac.uk

Bioscience KTN, DRINC Coordination Team – Guidance on Project Ideas and Industry Relevance

Bryan Hanley, DRINC Industry Coordinator

Email: bryan.hanley@ktn-uk.org

Jayne Brookman, DRINC Industry Coordinator

Email: jayne.brookman@ktn-uk.org

GUIDELINES FOR CALL

- A workshop will be held on **3 June 2013 in London**. A registration link and further details will be provided on the website: www.bbsrc.ac.uk/drinc.
- Outline proposals must be submitted in the first stage. Successful applicants will be invited to submit full applications to the second stage.
- Total funding of approximately £3M is available from BBSRC for this call to fund projects at 80% fEC. One further call of similar value is planned for this Club.
- Projects are typically 3-4 years in duration but projects between 1-5 years will be considered.
- Proposed research objectives must fit with the DRINC research challenges.
- Proposed science must fall predominantly within BBSRC's remit, but may also include aspects of MRC's, EPSRC's and/or ESRC's remit.
- It is likely that the aims of this Club can best be achieved by interdisciplinary approaches. Collaborative applications bringing together groups with relevant expertise or experience to move research closer to application are encouraged.
- Applications will be shared with all the industry members of DRINC to assess their industrial relevance.
- Proposals should not include details of how studentships would be used. Proposals should be structured to proceed without studentships.

ELIGIBILITY

Standard BBSRC eligibility rules, as described in the section 3 of the Grants Guide (<http://www.bbsrc.ac.uk/funding/apply/grants-guide.aspx>), apply to this call. Main Research Providers (MRPs) to the Scottish Government are not eligible to apply for funding from this call. This includes the Moredun Research Institute, The James Hutton Institute, Biomathematics and Statistics Scotland (BioSS), and Scotland's Rural College (SRUC).

OUTLINE STAGE APPLICATION PROCEDURE

There is a two stage application process. The information below describes the procedure for the first stage in which applicants are invited to submit **outline proposals** only.

- The closing date for submitting outline proposals is **9 July 2014 at 4:00 pm**. Applicants are advised to allow enough time for their application to clear their institution's internal submission processes by the closing date. **Applications submitted after the closing date will not be accepted.**
- Outline proposals must be submitted using an electronic proforma on the Je-S system. **All applicants must fully complete the proforma.** To access the proforma in Je-S applicants should select:
 - Council: BBSRC
 - Doc Type: Outline Proposal
 - Scheme: Standard Outlines
 - Call/Type/Mode: Diet and Health Research Industry Club - Outline
- The proforma should include a summary of requested resources. However, detailed justification of this request is not required at the outline stage. It is expected that the

resources requested in full proposals submitted to the second stage of the application process reflect the requests made in the outline proposals submitted in first stage.

- In addition to the fully completed proforma, through Je-S, applicants must submit:
 - A CV (maximum two pages each; standard font and margin sizes) for the Principal Investigator and each Co-Investigator
 - A completed [Case for Support](#) document (maximum five pages; see below)
- **Applicants should note that under no circumstances should their application exceed the page limits described. Outline submissions exceeding the page limits will be withdrawn.**
- Please also refer to the Je-S guidance for Outline proposals in the help section of the Je-S site (<https://je-s.rcuk.ac.uk>).

OUTLINE STAGE CASE FOR SUPPORT

Applicants must supply a case for support document with their outline proposals. **The whole case for support document should not exceed 5 pages.** Outline proposals with a case for support document that exceeds five pages will be withdrawn.

There is no template for the case for support document, which should be uploaded to the outline proforma as a single document and written with minimum font size 11, single line spacing, minimum and standard character spacing. Page margins should be at least 2cm.

The case for support document should contain the following sections:

Research area

- Please refer to the [Research Challenges](#) described earlier in this text and identify which challenge(s) are of relevance to your proposal.

Strategic relevance (Suggested length: approximately 1000 characters including spaces)

- Please explain how your research proposal is strategically relevant to the food and drink industry and the aims of DRINC.

Overview of proposed research (Suggested length: approximately 12000 characters including spaces)

- Identify the aims and objectives of the proposed research.
- Summarise the proposed methodology.
- Explain why the proposed research is of sufficient timeliness and novelty to warrant consideration for funding.
- Comment on the extent to which the proposed project will provide research training and development opportunities of benefit both to the individual(s) employed, and to the wider science base beyond the completion of the specific project.

FULL STAGE APPLICATION PROCEDURE

Applicants who are successful at the outline stage will be invited to write a full proposal for submission to the second stage in **November 2014**. Dates are for guidance only and may be subject to change. Further guidance will be made available to those applicants invited to submit a full proposal, however all applicants should note that:

- Pathways to Impact will only be required at the full proposal stage and should be formulated to meet the needs of the food and drink industry.

- At the full proposal stage, a letter from the applicant's Technology Transfer Office (TTO), or equivalent, will be a mandatory requirement. The letter must confirm that the University or Research Institution accepts the [special conditions](#) of this call.

LETTERS OF SUPPORT AND INDUSTRIAL PARTNERS

- **Applicants do not need to include letters of support from industry.** Proposals will not be awarded higher scores for including letters of support. All DRINC member companies are asked to comment on the industrial relevance of any proposals during the assessment process and so letters of support from member companies are not necessary. For proposals where industrial partners intend to contribute to the research project, applicants should consider including letters of support to more fully explain the potential industry contributions.
- There is no requirement for any project to have an industrial partner. 10% of the funding for every project is provided by a consortium of companies which pay annual subscription fees to be members of the club. All the member companies participate in the assessment process and so proposals should be pre-competitive and respond to wider industry challenges rather than the needs of a single company. Individual DRINC member companies can support a DRINC project by making 'in-kind' contributions, such as supplying material or providing access to equipment, and will often identify projects to which they would like to offer support after the outline proposal are submitted.
- Companies that are not club members have previously supported DRINC projects by providing in-kind contributions and this is still welcome. However all projects must adopt the same Grant Conditions, including the Special Conditions in the call text, which includes first access to research results for club members. [Alternative BBSRC schemes](#) are available to support collaborations between single companies and researchers.

ASSESSMENT PROCEDURE

- All applications will be assessed by the [DRINC Steering Group](#). The Steering Group consists of a chair, seven academic members and seven industrial representatives from the [DRINC Company Members](#).
- Outline proposals will be assessed by the Steering Group only and will not be externally reviewed. Full proposals will be externally peer reviewed prior to final assessment by the Steering Group. Both outline and full proposals will be assessed using the criteria for assessment in the next section.
- At least two Steering Group members are assigned to each proposal and act as 'Introducers' at the assessment meetings. One Introducer is based in academia and the other is employed in the food and drink industry.
- The Introducers are asked to propose scores for the two primary assessment criteria: **Scientific Excellence** and **Strategic Relevance to DRINC** as described in the next section. These criteria are given equal weighting so proposals must demonstrate quality in both to be considered fundable.
- Where there is a conflict of interest, such as when a Steering Group member has links to an applicant, the member will leave the assessment meeting while the proposal is being discussed.
- Outline and full proposals may be circulated to DRINC company members that are not represented on the Steering Group. The company members will be invited to submit comments for consideration by the Steering Group during the assessment meetings.
- After the assessment, feedback on proposals will be provided by BBSRC only.

CRITERIA FOR ASSESSMENT

The primary criteria for assessment are the quality of science proposed and the strategic relevance to DRINC. It is expected that all funded proposals will be competitive against comparable international work and will demonstrate alignment with the club's aims. Proposals will be assessed against the following criteria:

- **Scientific Excellence**
The extent to which the proposal meets the highest international standards of current research in its field. High performance against this factor will indicate a project of the highest standard, competitive with the best activity anywhere in the world, demonstrating originality and innovative potential.
- **Strategic Relevance to DRINC**
Demonstrated alignment with the Club's aims and research challenges. Relevance to the food and drink industry. Plans to enhance the impact of the research. Balance of the overall research portfolio of the club.
- **Timeliness and Promise**
The extent to which the proposal is particularly appropriate at the present time, or offers longer-term benefits over and above the direct value of the research.
- **Economic and Social Impact**
The extent to which the output of the research will contribute knowledge that shows direct potential for economic return or societal benefits to the UK.
- **Value for Money**
The extent to which the resources requested, relative to the anticipated scientific gains, represent an attractive investment of Research Council funds.
- **Staff Training Potential of the Project**
Where resources are requested for postdoctoral or other research staff the extent to which the proposed project will provide research training and development opportunities of benefit both to the individual(s) employed, and to the wider science base beyond the completion of the specific project.

SPECIAL CONDITIONS

Recognising the financial support from industrial members of the Club, it should be noted that special conditions will be attached to any research grants from DRINC. A letter from the institution's technology transfer office or equivalent, acknowledging that the institution is able to accept those conditions, will be requested at the full proposal stage. The conditions are as follows:

- Grant holders will be expected to liaise with the external coordinator of the club, making available progress reports as requested and participating in meetings with both industrial members and other participants
- To respond to requests from BBSRC regarding project outcomes as required, during and following the end of the award

Early Access

- Industry Members are entitled to early access to results from research funded by the Club. To ensure this grant holders must:
 - Give a minimum of 6 weeks' notice of an intention to publish, outside of the Club, results from research funded by a Club grant. The material for proposed publication should be submitted to the Club coordinator along with the notice of intent to publish. The coordinator will distribute a copy of the same to each of the industrial members within seven days of receipt; who shall then have 5 weeks to inform the coordinator if in their view the proposed publication may (i) dilute or prejudice the value of proprietary information of an industrial member or (ii) jeopardise the application for resulting IPR protection or (iii) otherwise inhibit future exploitation of the results and whether an industrial member has an interest in exploiting those results. The coordinator will feedback comments to the grant holders who will be expected to consider the advice with their technology transfer officer. If an industry member wishes to enter into negotiations with a grant holder regarding exploitation of IP, these negotiations may be pursued as outlined in "Access to resulting IPR".
 - Produce annual progress reports. A form will be provided for the grant holder to complete annually and the grant holder will be notified in advance when the final report will be due.
 - Attend and present the results and progress of Club funded research at 9-monthly Club dissemination events. Grant holder will be notified of the dates and format of their presentation. Grant holders will be expected to submit research update summaries for dissemination event booklets and encouraged to submit posters for the event.
 - Give advance notification of any opportunities to exploit intellectual property arising from their grant to the industrial members.

Access to resulting IPR

- Industry members are entitled, if they wish, to engage in good faith negotiations with the grant holders for terms of access to the resulting IPR to allow further development or commercial exploitation of results, such access rights preferably to include the right to sublicense. This must be offered before access to resulting IPR can be offered to third parties outside the Club. An interested Industrial member can exercise its option right by giving notice to the grant holder within one month of the date of receipt of notice of results or resulting IPR.

Good Faith Negotiations

- Good faith negotiations imply a willingness to reach agreement with industry members on the terms and conditions of a commercial license, to desist from publishing results or making offers to third parties while negotiation with industrial members are on-going and, if such agreement is not reached within a reasonable period (for example four months from the exercise of the option) that the grant holder will not seek to enter into negotiations with third parties on terms substantially more favourable to third parties.

Background IP

- Should an instance arise where an industry member wishes to contribute background IP or offer in-kind services, these must be offered on the understanding that the terms and conditions of grant, including the dissemination of results and commercial opportunities will remain the same, unless agreed otherwise by the funders and industry members.