

## Better Care opportunities FAQ

We've redacted and paraphrased enquiries received from the community, and published them here for your information. These will be updated weekly until the proposal deadline.

*Published on Monday 20 January 2020:*

---

- **Query** = If the project lead holds a substantive post in the NHS organisation, can the grant be held by the academic partner (e.g. a NIHR Applied Research Collaboration)  
**Response** = Catalyst Awards must be held by the NHS partner, and the Project Director must hold a substantive role in an NHS organisation.
- **Query** = What is the anticipated role of the EHR provider? Could this also be payment in kind e.g. template development for free.  
**Response** = Applicants are encouraged to include EHR vendors as partners to ensure that, where the project is dependent on the EHR provider, they are committed to acting as an enabler to the project.
- **Query** = If the outcome of the funding decision is April, how could ethical approval be anticipated to be in place for a project start in May? Our data is very sensitive. We have previous experience of a lengthy process around data risk assessment prior to ethical approval?  
**Response** = Ethical approval for Catalyst projects must be sought and approved prior to submission of the proposal to HDR UK.
- **Query** = Within a Catalyst Project proposal, may we include scoping work (building a collaborative team) for the Better Care Partnership application 12 months later?  
**Response** = No. Catalyst projects and the Partnership will commence at the same time. Only one Better Care Partnership will be successful. We do not plan to repeat the Partnership opportunity.

*Published Monday 13 January 2020:*

---

- **Query** = On the guidelines, it states that matched funding is needed. Does that mean if we request £200k, we would need to provide £200k of matched funding?  
**Response** = Yes
- **Query** = Can matched funding be from non-HDR UK grants such as CRUK and Wellcome Trust?  
**Response** = Yes. Please note that if the matched funding is from a third party then you must be able to provide evidence that it has been awarded by the date of submission, i.e. you must have received formal notification of the award.
- **Query** = What would be the types of in-kind contributions permitted?  
**Response** = You may provide any appropriate in-kind contributions. Specific exclusions include:
  - a. Other funding or contributions received from HDRUK or the Health Foundation
  - b. Contributions already committed as contributions to any other HDR UK project (e.g. as the contribution for Substantive Sites or Hubs) or Health Foundation project

c. Any third party grants that state the money cannot be used as matched funding for another project.

- **Query** = The figures become corrupted when the “*Better Care Partnership Guidance with Annex A*” PDF is downloaded.

**Response** = Please download on another browser.

- **Query** = What is the minimum amount of funding that I can request for a Catalyst project?

**Response** = There is no minimum, the selection will be based on the ability of the project to fulfil the evaluation criteria set-out in Section 2.5 of the Catalyst guidance document.

- **Query** = Our Catalyst Project proposal team would be made up of NHS staff and NIHR Applied Research Collaboration staff – however, the most senior people with the most research experience are not the NHS members of the team. Will this be a disadvantage for our application?

**Response** = Within the collaboration, at least one of the applicants must have significant health data science research activity capability relevant to the objectives of the Better Care opportunity - not every applicant need have a track record in research, but may demonstrate key skills in other areas critical to the project such as NHS implementation/service design, electronic health record design and implementation, etc. It is a requirement that the Project Director for the project holds a substantive appointment at an established NHS institution - but this person need not be the most experienced member of the project team.