Introduction

1. As part of a very welcome and generous further Institutional Block Grant from the EPSRC, the University invites Oxford PIs who currently hold or have recently held EPSRC grants or who conduct research within the EPSRC programme landscapes to apply for grants to support Knowledge Exchange and Impact activities. Heads of EPSRC DTCs at Oxford and supervisors of other EPSRC-supported DPhil students are also invited to apply.

2. Individuals, departments and sub-departments and centres are encouraged to collaborate and propose joint KE/impact activities.

3. Activities involving other universities are very welcome.

4. The EPSRC requires that the funds be committed as soon as possible and be fully expended by 31 March 2013, and a report provided in March 2013 on the activities undertaken and above all the results/benefits. The activities proposed must fit within these timelines. No carry-forwards are permitted.

5. The EPSRC’s aims through this PIA stream are to ‘maximize the impact and exploitation of EPSRC investments’, encourage investigators ‘to try out new, creative KT activities’ and support an ‘impact culture.’ The EPSRC stresses that the funds ‘can be used for a broad set of activities to support the full range of impact activity that delivers or promotes the benefits of research and PhD training to a full range of end users across industry, the public sector, the third sector and the wider public.’

6. Potential KT and Impact activities are many and varied. Ideas include but are not limited to

   a. Early stage proof of concept studies as part of an intellectual property (IP) commercialisation plan
   b. Market assessment as part of an IP commercialisation plan
   c. Workshops/seminars and networking events with the general public, industry, the 3rd sector and/or public policy makers exploring key issues arising during or from your research
   d. Lectures for the public
   e. Engagement with policy makers and opinion leaders
   f. Impact fellows
   g. Knowledge Transfer Associates targeted at promising research areas
   h. Media event(s)
   i. Industry event(s) (workshop, seminar, showcase, joint academe-industry planning days etc)
   j. Industry secondment/people exchange
k. Marketing and communication of research results, incl. e.g. via newsletter, leaflet and other publication costs, dedicated web site, podcast, DVD, etc
l. Production of videos to increase accessibility to research outputs and dissemination to next stage investors

7. Some examples of public engagement activities (and resources to assist PIs planning such activities) are available from the NCCPE web site at http://www.publicengagement.ac.uk/how. Examples are also given on the RCUK web site at http://www.rcuk.ac.uk/kei/impacts/Pages/home.aspx

8. Isis Innovation must be consulted on any proposals involving IP that may be commercially exploitable by the University.

9. Grants will be awarded from £750 to £10,000 (awards above £10K may be requested but will be exceptional).

10. The funds cannot be used to support additional research.

11. The funds cannot be spent on capital items i.e. individual items of equipment which cost £10,000 or more.

**Reporting Requirements**

12. Grant recipients will be asked to complete a final report on their projects by March 2013.

13. The University will ask recipients to help share with other colleagues their experiences in enhancing impact and help build understanding of ‘Pathways to Impact.’

**Application Process**

14. There is a short application form; see http://www.admin.ox.ac.uk/researchsupport/findfunding/internal/

15. The application must be endorsed by the Head of Department of the Lead Applicant/Principal Contact and the completed form must be submitted as an email attachment to manel.palamakumbura@admin.ox.ac.uk in Research Services. Please give the email Subject Line as Internal PIA application - [Insert Family Name of the Lead Applicant].

16. Applications close on 5.00pm, Friday 15 June 2012. Late applications will not be accepted.

17. This is a small internal grant – RESOLVE (fEC) costings are not required. Review by Research Services is not required. The grant can only be used for Direct Costs.

18. The Pro Vice Chancellor (Research) will convene a small selection committee, involving academic colleagues and the Managing Director of Isis Innovation or his nominee, to review the applications and award funds. The Committee will have particular regard to
   - Aims and anticipated benefits/outcomes
   - Feasibility (particularly given the that the funds must be spent quickly and activities completed by March 2013)
   - The potential for the activities to serve as exemplars for other PI’s exploring ways to maximise the impact of their research
   - The potential for the activity(ies) to enhance the case for impact that will need to be made as part of the Research Excellence Framework (REF)
   - Value for money

19. A decision on funding will be made by early July.

**Administrative Contact**

20. The Research Services contact is Dr Glenn Swafford, x80422