



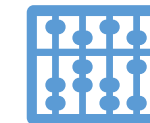
NetDRIVE Third Funding Call – Part A

Collaboration Meeting

St Hilda's College, Oxford · Friday 17 July 2026

Funded by Grant Number UKRI910

NetDRIVE Core Team and NCAS



Core Team

Coordinators



Martin Juckes



Sarah Sparrow



Amani Maalouf

Integration Lead

National Centre for Atmospheric Science



Aparna
Udayakumar

Support



Graeme Smith

Grant Manager



Joel Cutting

Previous Grant Manager



Lucy Li

Also, James Armstrong on finance and contracts, and additional NCAS support staff

Today at a glance

Morning

10:00 Registration and welcome coffee/tea

10:30 Core team introduction and the Call

10:40 Your 1-slide introductions

11:00 Q&A

11:30 Post-it brainstorm – ideas on the wall

12:00 Team formation

Afternoon

12:30 Lunch – first discussions in your new team

13:30 Team breakout – concept development

14:20 Teams report back and discussion

14:45 Wrap up and next steps

NetDRIVE Aims

- Deliver immediate and tangible progress to Net Zero DRI through actionable advice to UKRI and the UKRI DRI community.
- Provide national and international thought leadership on the transition to sustainable DRI.
- Build trust and confidence in our transition to a sustainable DRI by 2040 or sooner.



Call Objectives

1. **Mapping** out the human and organisational position on climate change, looking at knowledge, feelings and belief.
2. **Exploring** barriers, opportunities and possible pathways to effective transformational change in pursuit of the NetDRIVE project aims.
3. **Alignment** with roadmap: provide clarity about how the UKRI DRI is progressing and can continue to progress in order to achieve a timely and durable net zero through an inclusive and equitable transition.
4. **Strengthen** inclusivity of engagement and diversity of representation within NetDRIVE and within the transformation to a sustainable UKRI DRI (NetDRIVE is aiming to reach and learn from the professional, organisational, academic and geographical diversity of the UKRI DRI community, as well as from societal diversity, including age, gender, and ethnicity).

Call Topics

1. Why do we need digital infrastructure in research: what is the public value or research enabled through this infrastructure?

2. How is the digital infrastructure supporting UK research funded and managed?

3. Who is running and using this infrastructure to deliver value? What are the associated cultures and careers?

4. What knowledge is being created? Where does it come from and where does it go?

5. When are decisions taken and what are the lines of input?

6. Where do the funds supporting the DRI come from and what are the associated management and governance structures?

7. Where is the DRI located in academic organisations and communities?

What we hope you take away

New connections

Meet researchers with complementary interests — today is as much about people as proposals.

Sharper ideas

Test your early thinking out loud and get honest, friendly feedback while it's still easy to change.

A team

Find the people you could genuinely work with, and start shaping who does what.

A way forward

Leave with the outline of a concept and clear next steps towards submission of a strong proposal before the September 7th deadline.

No one is expected to arrive with a finished idea — that's what today is for.

Making the most of the day



Interact

Talk to people you don't know yet — the best collaborations today may be the unexpected ones.



Share generously

Put your ideas on the wall, even the half-formed ones. At the brainstorm stage there are no bad ideas.



Ask us for help

Stuck, unsure about the Call, or need an introduction? Any of the core team will gladly help.

We're glad you're here — let's get started.



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Wrap-up

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Next Steps

Submission Deadline (correction): 10am, Monday, September 7th, 2026.

Funds available £320k (FEC costing)

For call documents see call we page: <https://uknetdrive.org/netdrive-calls/netdrive-pathways-to-value-and-change>

- [Guidance for Applicants](#)
- [Guidance for the Review Panel](#)
- Registration for Workshops: [online registration form](#)
- [Application Template](#)

Assessment Areas

1. Excellence

- is the proposed work breaking new ground (either in terms of more accurate and detailed evaluation or in terms of social science research) of and changing the way in which we view sustainability within the DRI.

2. Fit to objectives

- will the proposed work produce substantial impact in the selected domain? Do they clearly address the UKRI Sustainability Strategy, the NetDRIVE aims listed above, and the selected topic? Does the lead investigator have an appropriate social science qualification (PhD or equivalent experience in relevant research domain).

3. Inclusivity and Diversity

- do the project team and the proposal include constructive or groundbreaking elements of inclusivity and diversity? [Are they] addressing both protected characteristics and additional NetDRIVE diversity targets of career stage, professional role and geographical spread? Are the benefits of inclusivity and diversity for the proposed workplan clearly articulated?

4. Ability to deliver

- is there a clear plan of work? Have the proposal team thought through the process well enough to deliver the project? Is there a clear approach to knowledge translation planning? Do the lead investigators have clear qualifications in the social sciences.