**Accessing Trust Research Capability Funding 2025**

**Introduction**

Research capability funding (RCF) is allocated to research-active NHS organisations to enable them to maintain research capacity and aims to:

* Help research-active NHS organisations to act flexibly and strategically to maintain research capacity and capability;
* Support the appointment, development and retention of key staff undertaking or supporting people and patient-based based research;
* Contribute towards costs of hosting NIHR-funded or ‘adopted’ research that are not currently fully covered across NIHR’s programmes, and that are not met in other ways.

RCF can be spent on salary costs of researchers seeking NIHR funding, preparing proposals for NIHR funding or ‘between grants’

For further guidance on RCF please follow this link:

<https://www.nihr.ac.uk/researchers/research-capability-funding.htm>

**Accessing local RCF**

TEWV will make a proportion of their RCF available to local professionals and academics who are conducting activity which will contribute to a larger scale research grant application to be sponsored by TEWV.

We are inviting applications in two categories:

1. Up to £5,000 for up to 12 months. These awards are for Trust clinicians or academics to focus time on earlier development work for research which could include creating a peer support research network, mentorship or intern time for clinicians wishing to become more involved in research and developing new collaborations with other researchers, or preparatory work to apply for a future research personal award.
2. Up to £25,000 per proposal for up to 18 months. These applications are for clinician, academic and lived experience partnerships preparing research proposals to NIHR and require pilot work to inform substantial research proposals that would be sponsored by the Trust.

**Timeframe:**

* Application deadline: 18th July 2025
* Review by award panel: 24th July 2025
* Award notifications: 4th August 2025
* Award start date from 1st Sept 2025

All questions and applications should be submitted to [*tewv.researchanddevelopment@nhs.net*](mailto:tewv.researchanddevelopment@nhs.net)

**Support with applications**

We will be holding a webinar on Tuesday 8th July 12-12.30pm, please email [tewv.researchanddevelopment@nhs.net](mailto:tewv.researchanddevelopment@nhs.net) to receive an invite or to discuss your application further.

**Appendix 1.**

**Research Capability Funding Application Form**

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| **Section 1 – Applicant** | |
| **Applicant Details** | |
| *Applicant Name* |  |
| *Applicant Position* |  |
| *Directorate* |  |
| **Address Details** | |
| *Address Line1* |  |
| *Address Line2* |  |
| *Address Line3* |  |
| *Address Line4* |  |
| *Post Code* |  |
| **Contact Details** | |
| *Email Address* |  |

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| **Section 2 – Collaboration with academic/NHS partner (optional for awards up to £5K)** |
| Please add detail of the research project team including lead and co-applicants/collaborators  (please include more lines as needed)  Name:  Email:  Institution:  Post Held: |

**To apply for awards up to £5,000, please complete section 3a**

**To apply for awards up to £25,000, please complete section 3b**

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| **Section 3a – Application Details** |
| Please outline a description of the work you propose (*maximum 1 sides of A4 pages – additional pages will be excluded from panel review*) which should include: |
| Name of Project/proposed work |
| Background to the project/proposed work |
| Relevance to national/local priorities for mental health/learning disabilities |
| Key outputs you envisage to achieve at the end of the award |

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| **Section 3b – Application Details** |
| Please outline a description of the work you propose (*maximum 2 sides of A4 pages – additional pages will be excluded from panel review*) which should include: |
| Name of Project |
| Background to the project |
| Relevance to national/local priorities for mental health/learning disabilities |
| Project aims and objectives |
| Project methodology |
| Timeframe and milestones |
| Key outputs you envisage to achieve at the end of the award including relevant research grants applications to apply for |

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| **Section 4 - Costs** | | | | | | |
|  |  |  |  | **COSTS** | | |
|  |  |  |  | **YEAR 1** | **YEAR 2** | **YEAR 2** |
|  |  |  |  | **6 months** | **6 months** | **6 months** |
|  |  |  |  | **01/09/24 to 31/03/25** | **01/04/2025 to 31/08/25** | **01/09/25 to 31/03/26** |
| STAFF COSTS | **NAME** | **ROLE/BAND** | **WTE on project** |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
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|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| NON STAFF COSTS | **DESCRIPTION** | | | **01/09/24 to 31/03/25** | **01/04/2025 to 31/08/25** | **01/09/25 to 31/03/26** |
|  |  | | |  |  |  |
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| TOTAL |  |  |  |  |  |  |
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| **Section 5 – Declaration by Applicant** | |
| “I confirm that all the information supplied in my application form is correct to the best of my knowledge.” | |
| Name:  Signature: | Date: |

**Ineligible costs**

Ineligible costs include costs already supported in other ways by NIHR or others, as a research cost, a service support cost, or a treatment cost or excess treatment cost; and insurance or indemnity costs. Research Capability Funding may only be used to support costs not met from other sources.

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| **NB - JUST TO BE CLEAR RCF IS NOT INTENDED TO FUND** | |
| Costs that are already funded as research costs, NHS support costs or treatment costs including data management and research running costs | Research design (permanent staff such as health economists, statisticians and methodologists) or any other person in a substantive post |
| Developing panels for patient and public involvement in research | Researcher attendance at training, workshops or conference |
| Time to write publications | University overheads |
| Equipment or facilities costs, accommodation, and consumables | To resource ongoing NIHR studies |
| New clinical services | Own account research |
| Service evaluations | Audit |