

Question Asked	Answer
As individual what can kind qualification are you looking for from people ?	The call is open to anyone who has a good idea that aligns with WPD's priorities and Ofgem's funding criteria, therefore we are not prescribing what qualifications are required.
Can masters student apply?	The call is open to anyone who has a good idea, therefore we are not prescribing what qualifications are required.
Can we enter a submission into more than one category?	Yes, you can submit multiple project ideas and a project can cover multiple categories or innovation priorities.
The idea can be related to maturity of WPD. So how do we assess whether that idea will be bring benefit without knowing the processes and technology within WPD	WPD's challenges and problem statements in the presentation and strategy documents identify where WPD requires support from innovators.
Are proposals for UK based entities only or is this open?	Proposals are open to UK based entities and non-UK based entities.
Out of these priority areas is there any particular drivers to choose one over the other as heat/transport is embedded in NetZero plans	In some cases an idea may cross over multiple priority themes. The priority theme that you select in your application will not impact the scoring of your idea. Projects will be judged on the benefits that they bring and if a project has benefits in multiple areas that may give it an advantage.
For data projects the primary cost is people's time. It can be challenging to estimate this far in advance. Is there a budgeting framework available to assist with budget design?	Developing a detailed budget forms part of the Ofgem FSP submission and will not be required for the initial idea submission process. Indicative project budgets can be provided if these are available. You can review previous NIC FSP submissions e.g. DC Share to see an example of Ofgem's budget framework.

<p>The maximum funding awarded per the Ofgem guidelines is £70m - is that right?</p>	<p>£70m is the maximum funding that Ofgem can award across all 2021 NIC projects. For avoidance of doubt, Ofgem are not obliged to fund £70m of projects if they do not feel the proposed projects are value for money. Most electricity NIC projects are under £20m</p>
<p>On heat planning - can we look at a project that provides detailed planning capabilities in this space and then a trial of implementation for the flexibility</p>	<p>Projects can cover a range of activities or workstreams across planning and operational timescales.</p>
<p>How would development of Neutral Market Facilitation platform differ from TRANSITION and FUSION projects?</p>	<p>Although the TRANSITION and FUSION project aim to demonstrate learning on key aspects of flexibility market facilitation, WPD believes key challenges e.g. integration of markets still need to be resolved.</p>
<p>Can we setup with the WPD team to go through our idea(s) before we submit an idea?</p>	<p>We will not be arranging 1-1 sessions in the initial idea phase, but will provide support if your idea progresses to the pitching assessment phase. If you have a specific question about the process, we welcome you to contact us at wpdinnovation@westernpower.co.uk.</p>
<p>What protects from my idea being used even if I don't win the NIC</p>	<p>If your idea submission contains background IP, please make this clear in your submission.</p>
<p>can a consortium or group of partners submit an idea</p>	<p>Yes, organisations can submit individually or as part of a consortium that has a lead partner.</p>
<p>Do we need to have a fully formed consortium at idea submission or will there be a phase to find consortium partners?</p>	<p>In the first application phase, you do not need to have a fully formed consortium. You can develop the final consortium during the application process.</p>
<p>Could you clarify a bit on the topic of intellectual property that is being contributed to an idea?</p>	<p>Ofgem's NIC Governance document provides an overview of IP arrangements. (https://www.ofgem.gov.uk/publications-and-updates/version-30-network-innovation-competition-governance-documents)</p>