

Community-centred *Creative*
and *Collaborative* Methodologies
CO-CREATE



coCREATE QR Participatory Research (QRPR) Open Call Guidance 2024

Scheme Summary

Keele University's Institute for Social Inclusion is delighted to launch the coCREATE QRPR scheme for 2024. This scheme offers seed corn funding (£2000- £5000) for non-academic partners to co-develop innovative, collaborative projects that engage communities in the co-production of research.

The scheme is open to the Keele's network of partners, including charities, community and civil society organisations, educational organisations, the public sector, political institutions, faith organisations, businesses, and creative practitioners.

Proposals should demonstrate a well-defined, deliverable pilot research project, research impact delivery or knowledge exchange activity, using co-creative methodologies to undertake 'lived experience' participatory research co-produced with communities. Partners can work with academics across any combination of disciplines Keele offers, and at any scale from local to international.

We will fund a small portfolio of projects. We hope to receive applications from organisations representing or serving minoritised communities amongst their members or beneficiaries. International partners are welcome to apply. All applications will require an established relationship with a Keele academic co-lead.

About the Institute and coCREATE

The Keele Institute for Social Inclusion brings together a vibrant community of academic researchers and external partners, working collaboratively to tackle issues including, for example, food poverty, educational exclusion, mental health, cultural regeneration, and community resilience. The Institute's work seeks to identify, explain, and overcome specific social, economic, and cultural obstacles to social inclusion, to help people realise their full potential.

The Institute is directed by Professor David Amigoni, who is also the lead for Keele Deal Culture. KISI's academic membership includes over 90 active academic researchers from Keele University across a wide range of disciplines. Knowledge co-production and co-creation - where research questions, problems and their solutions are co-determined by academic and non-academic communities working in partnership - is central to the KISI's approach to research.

The Institute for Social Inclusion sponsors coCREATE, Keele's community-centred, creative and collaborative research network, supporting public engagement in research. coCREATE brings together researchers with a passion for public engagement together with local, national, and international partners and communities. Innovating across different themes and through new technologies and shared creative skills and practice, coCREATE involves communities in producing and exchanging research-based knowledge.

More information about KISI is available here: <https://www.keele.ac.uk/socialinclusion/>

More information about coCREATE is available here: <https://www.keele.ac.uk/cocreate/>

Aims of the QRPR funding

This call seeks to increase and enhance opportunities for collaboration between the Institute's network of external partners and academic researchers at Keele University. coCREATE will fund academic and external partner co-led projects which develop participatory research co-produced with communities on felt/lived experience across any combination of disciplines.

What kinds of activities will QRPR support?

- Pilot research projects developing creative and innovative participatory research methodologies to examine specific challenges for communities.
- Activities delivering impact from ongoing or previous Keele research using participatory and co-creative methods, delivering research-generated evidence to stakeholders, beneficiaries, and policymakers in accessible, useable form co-produced with those groups.
- Participatory and co-created knowledge exchange activities, especially those dedicated to exploring innovative models for co-designing change with communities (e.g., for service delivery, community development, entrepreneurial, health and wellbeing, environmental and cultural models)

Applicant eligibility

- All co-lead applicants must be members of the Keele Institute for Social Inclusion. *Non-members can join here:* <https://www.keele.ac.uk/socialinclusion/>
- The partner co-lead applicant must be a non-academic organisation or individual.
- Projects must collaborate with a co-lead academic from Keele University.
- Keele postgraduate researchers are welcome to join as team members, but the Keele lead should be a member of the University's academic staff for the duration of the project.

Finding a Keele Academic Collaborator

There is information about Keele academics who are interested in collaborative research on [KISI's Challenge Areas](#) webpages.

If you are seeking an academic partner for your project idea, please contact Keele academics directly by phone or email, and well in advance of the closing date for applications.

We recommend you allow a minimum of 2-3 weeks to develop your collaborative plans between partner and academic before you submit the QRPR funding application form.

Budget

Budget details are required at the application stage with a detailed breakdown of costs. When planning your project budget, please consider the following financial guidelines:

Travel and subsistence: Any travel must be standard/economy class. Mileage is paid at 45p per mile. Accommodation rates are paid up to £125 per night for London and £95 per night elsewhere. Subsistence costs for the project co-leads and any other Keele collaborators are not eligible, but event catering will be considered.

Venue costs: Reasonable costs for event venue hire and associated costs will be considered.

Communications costs: Reasonable costs for project-specific website design and hosting, and/or costs for communications with research participants will be considered.

Staff time: Payment for the co-lead applicants or academic collaborators' time is NOT eligible for funding. Funds can be requested to cover the reasonable costs of time for partner organisation staff who will be seconded to specific, time-defined project activities and to cover reasonable hourly-rate research assistance for project delivery.

Participant costs: Low-value gift cards or transport tokens for event attendees are permissible costs but cash honoraria paid to participants in events are not eligible.

If you have any questions about the eligibility of project costs for QRPR funding, please contact socialinclusion@keele.ac.uk.

KAPP application and submission

- Applications must be produced collaboratively, involving both the co-lead partner applicant and the co-lead Keele academic.
- Applications should include fully costed activities and project plans (Keele academic collaborators can draw on support from Keele RAISE colleagues to cost projects).
- Partner co-lead applicants should submit an application form by email to socialinclusion@keele.ac.uk by **15th April 2024**

The outcome of applications will be notified by the end of April 2024. If the application is successful, we will send a purchase order to the partner organisation for the project delivery and the partner organisation will then need to invoice Keele University for the funding award payment. Please allow up to 30 days for payment of your invoice.

Projects must be completed, funds spent and fully reported by 31st March 2025.

All funded projects are required to submit an interim project update report and statement of expenditure by **31st October, 2024**.

A final project report and a full expenditure report will need to be submitted by **31st March, 2025**.

We shall also ask project partners and academic co-leads to contribute to a KISI blog while their project is ongoing. Further details of that and the KAPP reporting templates to use will be sent to successful applicants after funding awards have been confirmed.

Application forms and any queries about this scheme or the Institute should be submitted to socialinclusion@keele.ac.uk