

## Supplementary notes for NIBS Bidding Round closing May 2015

In the approach to the next deadline for bids to NIBS, the Management Group (MG) has decided to provide some additional context which might be useful to those considering bids.

As you know we have recently asked NIBS investigators to provide feedback on their research activity, plans and outputs during 2014. This is part of a rolling process to assess our progress and MG uses this information to take stock of where we are in relation to delivering what we promised to the ESRC in our case for support.

Broadly speaking we think that research is progressing well in relation to all four of our primary themes. That said, we have identified some dimensions of our work where we think it would be good to develop and/or stimulate activity.

In light of this, in addition to applying our standard set of criteria for evaluating bids, we will give additional weight to bids that may credibly enhance our research portfolio in relation to considerations set out below.

1. **Workshop themes:** as a device for stimulating work in target areas, we have adopted the strategy of organising small workshops to bring together clusters of researchers to explore specific areas where there is either need or good opportunity to promote NIBS relevant work. We have already held three such workshops (one on Foundations of Welfare Economics, UEA June 2014; one on Coordination, Nottingham Dec 2014 and one on inter-temporal choice Warwick, February 2015). Two more are currently on the drawing board (one on 'Inattention' currently being convened by Gordon Brown; and one on 'Valuation'). We anticipate that in subsequent rounds of bidding, MG will give weight to proposals developing work connected to workshop themes.
2. **Gap Areas:** In each review period, MG seeks to identify whether there are aspects of our portfolio which are under developed, relative to the case for support. **In the current round, we identified three such areas: these were:**

### **Project 1.2 Preference change and experience**

**Project 2.2 (imprecision and noise)** In the case for support we proposed to investigate how the concepts of imprecision and noise (which are now being more widely applied in the context of individual choice) might also be relevant in the analysis of strategic behaviour.

### **Project 4.3: Valuation of life, health and safety**

To date, work against these three dimensions appears relatively underdeveloped and hence *these topics will be treated as priority areas for allocation of funds.*

3. **Cross disciplinary and cross institutional collaboration:** while the Network appears to be functioning well in terms of developing cross fertilisation of ideas (via workshops and so on), we would like to encourage more work that is expected to lead to papers involving co-authorship across disciplines and institutions. While the existing bidding guidelines already attach weight to this dimension, in this and subsequent bidding rounds we *will give particular weight to proposals which outline credible plans for delivering outputs with cross-network co-authorship.*

End of supplementary notes (updated April 2015)