

2024 – 2026 PARLIAMENTARY THEMATIC RESEARCH LEADS: SUPPORT AND FUNDING VERIFICATION FORM

At application stage, we need to verify confirmed support from your institution, including commitment from the university / Eligible Independent Research Organisation (EIRO) to fund their contribution to your position as Thematic Research Lead.

Please complete part A of this form (p.3), then invite your Head of Department to complete part B of the form (p.4).

Please then upload the completed form along with your application and CV by the application deadline: 23:55, Sunday 3 March 2024.

If the form is not returned by the application deadline, we will not be able to review your application and your application will be withdrawn.

About Parliamentary Thematic Research Leads

Thematic Research Leads (TRLs) are mid-career researchers who spend three days a week in the UK Parliament. The Thematic Research Lead is a strategic role; leading, facilitating, and enhancing Parliament's engagement with research evidence in a broad policy area.

Over the past year, the [Parliamentary Office of Science and Technology \(POST\)](#) and the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC) have been piloting a network of three Thematic Research Leads. Evidence from the TRL network pilot has shown that these academic roles are able to bring about a step change in the way research feeds into Parliament's scrutiny, legislation and debate.

In partnership with UKRI and all its research councils, we are expanding and extending this initiative for a further two years: from September 2024 to Summer 2026. We are therefore looking to appoint eight Thematic Research Leads for the second phase of this initiative:

- AI and digital
- Arts and humanities
- Business, Economics and Trade
- Climate and Environment
- Crime and Justice
- Health
- International Affairs and National Security
- Transport

Funding for these roles comes from UKRI and its constituent research councils.

[You can find more information on Thematic Research Leads here.](#)

Funding and support

Funding for the Thematic Research Lead positions will be provided by UKRI or one of its constituent councils. Each post is for a 24-month period at 0.6 FTE. Applicants will be able to request 80% of justified costs of a total Full Economic Cost of up to £250K (including justified travel and subsistence costs within this amount). Applicants will be expected to comply with UKRI Terms and Conditions and applicants must be from a research organisation eligible for UKRI funding. UKRI or one of its constituent councils will meet 80% of the full economic costs and the host institution is expected to support the remaining 20%.

To support EDI, UKRI will make provision to cover additional time above 0.6FTE, for those successful applicants who are based over four hours' travel time (by public transport) from London. This is in addition to the costs specified above. Costings for this additional funding will be discussed with applicants who are successful at interview.

POST will contribute in-kind funding including supervision, professional development opportunities, workspace and IT equipment.

If you have any queries, or for support with this form, please contact the Knowledge Exchange Unit on keu@parliament.uk

A) Applicant details

Applicants, please complete this part of the form with your details.

Please note that we do not ask for your name on the form at this stage, so that your application can be assessed anonymously.

Job title	
University or Eligible Independent Research Organisation	
Department	
Thematic Research Lead position applied for	

B) Statement of support from Head of Department

This part of the form should be completed by your Head of Department.

- I confirm that the above particulars are correct.
- I confirm that, if the applicant is successful, the university / Eligible Independent Research Organisation will meet the funding requirements laid out above, that is to say, to contribute 20% of the full economic costs.
- I confirm that, if the applicant is successful, I will ensure that they are able to dedicate the full 0.6FTE to their parliamentary role.

PRIVACY NOTICE Your personal data is important to us and we will handle it in line with our responsibilities under the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and Data Protection Act 2018 (DPA). We are asking you to provide the following personal data:

- Name
- Job title
- Institution

We require this for the purpose of being able to verify the institutional support and proposed funding for the above-named applicant for a Thematic Research Lead Role. The lawful basis we are using to collect your personal data is legitimate interest. We will share your information with other relevant teams of the House of Commons and the House of Lords, including Members of Parliament and their staff, and only for this purpose. We will retain your information for up to seven years, in line with our information retention policy, after which we will securely destroy it. More information on your rights and how we will process your personal data can be found on our main Privacy Notice here: <https://post.parliament.uk/privacy-policy/>.

Name (please print)	
Job title	
University or Eligible Independent Research Organisation	
Signature*	
Date	

*To sign this form, you should either:

1) copy and paste a digital image of your handwritten signature into the signature box; or



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**UK Research
and Innovation**

Restricted when completed: Personal data

2) print this completed form, sign it in ink in the signature box, then submit a scanned-in copy of the completed form

PLEASE NOTE: WE CANNOT ACCEPT TYPED SIGNATURES