Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

**Q: Is there an opportunity to add Co-Is following the ItS stage?**

A: Yes, we can be flexible with changes to the ItS and there is an opportunity to amend the project team for the full submission. As mentioned previously, the purpose of the Intent to Submit (ItS) stage is to help the Programme coordinate the Open Call and the evaluation of the full proposals once submitted. The ItS requests specific information but is not evaluated. We would request that the information provided in the ItS is as accurate as possible, i.e. identifies the Theme(s) that the full proposal will address, but recognise that the scope of the proposal might develop between the submission of the ItS (31st August) and the full proposal (12th October).

**Q: The description states that the majority of the funding is for staff costs. Is there a limit on how much we can spend on research-related costs such as transcription fees?**

We ask that all proposed costs are legitimate and justified in order to undertake the proposed project and staff costs are sufficient to undertake the proposed tasks. This information should be outlined as part of the Justification of Resources, which is a requirement of the Large, Small and Nexus projects.

**Q: Can we still apply if we're a PDRA on a 100% grant contract?**

We recommend that the applicant discusses this with their line manager or existing PI in the first instance.

**Q: If planning on hiring a PDRA or research assistant, do they have to be named on the proposal?**

No, unnamed PDRAs can be included at the proposal stage.

**Q: Will there be any assessment at the ItS stage? For example, will an applicant be told not to submit a full proposal?**

No, there will be no assessment at the ItS stage. The Intent to Submit (ItS) stage is to **exclusively** help the Programme coordinate the Open Call and the evaluation of the full proposals once submitted.

**Q: Is there any benefit to adding Project Partners as part of the application?**

There is no requirement to have Project Partners as part of the submission, however, if industry data or knowledge, for example, is integral to the delivery of your project, it will be of benefit to your application to include them. Details of the Project Partners are not required at ItS stage.

**Q: Are you interested in receiving applications which take learnings from Unconventional Hydrocarbons and apply them to the energy transition? Specifically, would you consider learnings from the offshore industry appropriate to this call?**

We are interested in taking the learnings from UH and applying this to the future energy scenarios including $H_2$ and geothermal. It is the responsibility of the Project Lead to make the case for how the offshore fits into the learnings for the onshore or vice versa.