**CRUK CITY OF LONDON (CoL) CENTRE DEVELOPMENT FUND**

**APPLICATION INFORMATION AND FORM – June 2024**

This document provides the guidelines for applying to the CRUK City of London Centre Development Fund. Please note this has changed since the last call.

Centre Faculty interested in submitting a proposal for the Development Fund should read the document and submit a completed application form by **Tuesday 23rd July 2024**. If you are not currently a Centre Faculty, please email cruk.cityoflondoncentre@ucl.ac.uk to obtain the application form.

**1. Overview**

* The CRUK City of London (CoL) Centre brings together researchers from UCL, Barts/QMUL, King’s College London and the Francis Crick Institute to develop a world-class cancer biotherapeutics hub.
* A key objective of the Centre is to stimulate collaborative research through the provision of pump-priming funds to support cross-institutional CoL Centre pilot projects.
* The Development Fund aims to provide short-term (up to 1 year of funding, up to £25,000) pump-priming funds to generate new preliminary/pilot data or to develop new technologies and methods to leverage further funding. It is not designed to fund ‘mini-projects’ or core research activities or supplement existing research programmes.
* For more information on the scheme, visit our webpage <https://www.colcc.ac.uk/development-fund/>

**2. Research project requirements**

**Essential criteria**

* The proposal is within the remit of the Development Fund **-** generating new preliminary/pilot data and/or develop new technologies and methods aimed at leveraging further funding.
* Address at least one of the *centre’s research themes and programmes*. The centre aims to develop, manufacture and precisely apply biological therapies and is organised into five programmes.
* Theme 1 - Novel biological therapies
* Theme 2 - Effective therapy combinations
* Theme 3 - Cancer evolution
* Theme 4 - Early detection and prevention
* Cross-cutting theme - Paediatrics
* Make use of at least one of the *centre’s infrastructure cores* (further info in Appendix 2 and on the Centre webpage <https://www.colcc.ac.uk/infrastructure-cores/>)
	+ Pre-clinical discovery models
	+ Deep cell and tissue phenotyping
	+ Cell and vector technologies and production
	+ Imaging and image-guided therapy
	+ Computational
* Collaboration across the centre’s partner institutions (Barts/QMUL, Crick, King’s, UCL)
* Demonstrate cross-disciplinary collaboration
* Demonstrate scope of leverage further funding
* Clearly presented rationale, objectives, and budget
* The proposal is feasible to complete within one year

**Further to the above criteria, the Development Fund prioritises applications which**

* Build new collaboration
* Demonstrate translational trajectory

**3. Timeline**

Call for applications 4th June 2024 – 23rd July 2024

**Application deadline Tuesday 23rd July 2024**

Application review August – September 2024

Application outcome End of September 2024

Project start date November 2024

Project proposals will be reviewed by the centre’s external scientific advisory board against the criteria listed above. The centre’s executive board will make the final decision.

**4. How to apply for the CRUK CoL Centre Development Fund**

* Identify a faculty member(s) from a different Centre institution to yourself to develop a collaborative research project proposal. Please see our website for details of [Adult Cancer Researchers](https://www.colcc.ac.uk/adult-cancer-researchers/) and [Paediatric Cancer Researchers](https://www.colcc.ac.uk/paediatric-cancer-researchers/) within the CoL Centre, to help with this.
* Complete the attached *Development Fund Application Form* and return it to: cruk.cityoflondoncentre@ucl.ac.uk by **Tuesday 23rd July 2023.** Please note that you will receive a confirmation of submission by email, please, contact us if you don’t as you may need to re-submit.
* Please direct any questions to Veronica Dominguez, CRUK CoL Centre coordinator: cruk.cityoflondoncentre@ucl.ac.uk

This Development Fund awardees will be announced in centre communications.

**CRUK City of London Centre Development Fund Application Form**

Applications should not exceed three pages (excluding figures and references) and should be in Arial font, size 10.

1. **Project Details**

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| **Lead applicant****(Name, Department, Institution)** |  |
| **Co-applicant(s)****(Name, Department, Institution)** |  |
| **Project Title****(Should be understood by a non-specialist)** |  |

1. **Brief summary (maximum five lines)**

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1. **Background**

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1. **Proposal (including a breakdown of requested costs)**

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1. **Please describe how this project aligns with the CRUK City of London Centre aim and themes**

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1. **Please explain how the Development Fund will help to secure longer-term funding to support the project**

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1. **Describe how the project align with the call requirements as stated in page 1-2**

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1. **Describe whether, and if so how, this funding will help to support national and international partnerships.**

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1. **Describe any translational trajectory**

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1. **Please include proof of excellence in research (list up to three key discoveries, current funding awarded (please give details of dates, funding body, title, value), publications, other awards, and honours. For postdocs researchers, please include a letter of sponsorship from your principal investigator.**

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1. **Please advise if you have applied to other CRUK or City of London Centre funding schemes with the same/similar project (e.g. development fund, studentships).**

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**In addition, brief CVs of the applicants should be provided (maximum two pages)**