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| **Scottish Road Research Board**  **Student Research Proposal**  **Financial Year 2023-24** |  |

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| **PROPOSAL TITLE:** | |  |
| **Student Details** | Name: |  |
| Phone: |  |
| Email: |  |
| University: |  |

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| **THEME:**  *Please indicate the general theme of the proposed research:* | | | |
| Environment & Sustainability |  | Climate Change Impacts and Adaptation |  |
| Circular Economy |  | Maintenance and Operation of Roads & Other Assets |  |
| Geotechnical & Drainage Engineering |  | Design Standards, Specifications & Materials |  |
| Road and Transport Safety & Security |  | Bridges and Structures |  |
| Traffic & Transportation |  | Road Works |  |
| Health & Equalities |  |  |  |
| Other (please describe): | | | |

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| **NEED:**  *Please indicate the* ***need*** *for the proposed research* ***(see notes below).*** |
| Complete as necessary… |

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| **PRIORITY:**  *Please indicate* ***why*** *the proposed research should be carried out now* ***(see notes below).*** *R*esearch proposals will attract higher scoring if they focus on delivering net-zero in road transport and adapting the road network to climate change. |
| Complete as necessary… |

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| **SYNOPSIS:**  *Please provide an indication of how the proposed research will address the needs and priorities defined above.*  *Please provide an indication of the study objectives, proposed methodology, risks, deliverables, benefits to the roads sector and long-term benefits (see notes below).* |
| Complete as necessary… |

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| **APPROVED BY:**  *The bid should be approved by your project Supervisor* | |
| **Signature:** | **Date:** |

**Notes for Completion**

**Research Proposal**

1. **Theme:** Although the range of research themes is broad, these should be interpreted primarily in the context of **asset management, road maintenance and the climate emergency.**
2. **Need:** What problem(s) is/are the proposed research seeking to overcome? What gaps are there that need to be addressed? How will the proposed research build on current practice/research? Consider evidencing the research need through initial literature review and references included as part of the submission.
3. ***Priority:***Indicate why the proposed research should be carried out at this time. Can you align with Scottish Government priorities to reduce greenhouse gases on 1990 levels by 75% by 2030, followed by a net-zero commitment by 2045. Transport is currently the largest contributor to Scottish emissions and the Roads Sector plays a significant role in this. Research proposals will attract higher scoring if they focus on delivering net-zero in road transport, and adapting the road network to climate change.
4. **Synopsis:** Please provide an overview of the proposed research. This will allow the Board to quickly digest the key elements of the proposed research. In outlining the research proposals, consider:

* Objectives: What makes the proposed research important? What is/are the problem(s) the proposed research will address? Why can’t objectives be met using current best practice/learning? Consider a staged approach starting with a detailed targeted literature review to inform the scope of the proposed research.
* Proposed Methodology: How will the research be conducted? Over what time period? How will the proposed research address the needs and priorities identified? Can the SRRB provide qualitative or quantitative information to aid the research? What are the funding requirements?
* Risks: Are there any risks to be considered? Is there a third party involvement? How will this be managed?
* Deliverables: What is the anticipated deliverable? Better understanding of the issue? New process? Technical solution?
* Dissemination of Results: This section should outline how the results of the proposed research will be collated and how it will be made available (reports / poster / advice note / presentations / dissertation).
* Long Term Benefits: How will the outcomes from the proposed research benefit Scotland’s roads sector? How will others benefit from the proposed research?

**Other Information:**

1. The form includes check boxes () in responses to some questions. Double click the box to apply the check.
2. The project synopsis should be kept as short as possible without losing the key message. The members of the Board need to quickly digest the key elements of the proposed research. Consider how to get the aims of the research across succinctly.

**Evaluation of Submissions:**

1. Submissions will be reviewed by a panel appointed by the SRRB. Applications will be evaluated against the following criteria:

* Need (15%)
* Priority (15%)
* Research Proposal (70%)

1. Projects scoring well against the criteria and approved by the Board will be added onto the Board’s student research programme, and will then be eligible to claim funds for their project.

**Project Sponsor Responsibilities:**

1. Your project supervisor will act as the project sponsor and should be confident that they have the necessary time and resources to help direct, manage and deliver the project within the agreed timescale.
2. The Student and Sponsor are responsible for delivering the research project and for submitting invoices for project materials. These invoices will then be approved by an elected member of the SRRB Board.
3. The Student and Sponsor are responsible for the quality of the project. The SRRB Board will approve and sign off the agreed deliverables for publication on the SRRB website.
4. Successful candidates will be expected to present their completed research to the SRRB, with their work published on the Transport Scotland website.
5. For further information please contact [SRRB@transport.gov.scot](mailto:SRRB@transport.gov.scot)