STFC (Science and Technology Facilities Council): STFC Template - Initial DMP

Data management and sharing

How will you manage and share data collected or acquired through the proposed research?

Ethics and responsible research and innovation (RRI)

What are the ethical or RRI implications and issues relating to the proposed work? If you do not think that the proposed work raises any ethical or RRI issues, explain why.

Guidance:

Demonstrate that you have identified and evaluated:

- the relevant ethical or responsible research and innovation considerations
- how you will manage these considerations

You may demonstrate elements of your responses in visual form if relevant. Further details are provided in the UKRI Funding Service.

500 words limit

STFC (Science and Technology Facilities Council): STFC Template - Detailed DMP

Data types

Specify the types of data the research will generate.

Guidance:

Data management plans should describe the types of data that are expected to be produced from the project, including the raw data arising directly from the research, the reduced data derived from it, and published data.

Data preservation

Specify which data will be preserved and how.

Guidance:

Unless there are compelling reasons not to do so, STFC expects data to be managed through an established repository, chosen to maximise the scientific value from aggregation of related data. This may be at the grant holder's institution or elsewhere. Data management plans may refer to the general policies of the chosen repository and only include further details if necessary to the specific project. (If it is proposed not to use an established repository, the data management plan will need to demonstrate that resources and systems will be in place to enable the data to be curated effectively beyond the lifetime of the grant, although STFC recognises that applicants may not have the expertise to describe in detail how data will be curated).

Specify the software and metadata implications.

Guidance:

The data management plan should specify the software and metadata that will be retained to enable the data to be read and interpreted.

Specify for how long the data will be preserved.

Guidance:

This may depend on the type of data. Where possible, STFC expects the original data, from which other related data can in principle be derived, to be retained for a minimum of 10 years from the end of the project. For data that by their nature cannot be re-measured, efforts should be made to retain them indefinitely.

Data sharing

Specify and justify which data will have value to others and should be shared.

Guidance:

Any data that are shared should be of a sufficiently high quality to be of value to other researchers. In general, published data (data that are displayed or otherwise referred to in a publication) should be made publicly available, but it is for applicants to consider and justify which types of data will, in the context of their project, meaningfully and practically constitute published data. Publicly available means available to anyone, but there may be a requirement for registration to enable tracking of data use and to provide notification of terms and conditions of use where they apply. Other data should be made available wherever it is appropriate and cost-effective to do so, taking into account the cost of curation compared with the cost or feasibility of re-creation, the potential long-term demand for the data and the feasibility of their reuse by others.

Specify and justify the length of any proprietary period.

Guidance:

This might for example refer to the reasonable needs of the research team to have a first opportunity to exploit the results of their research, including any intellectual property arising. Where there are accepted norms within a scientific field or specific archive they should normally be followed. In general, STFC expects that published data should be made publicly available within six months of publication unless justified otherwise.

Specify how data will be shared

Guidance:

The minimum level of data sharing expected would be that of making the data available in the natural format in which they were created, along with documentation and metadata, according to the standard accepted procedures within the scientific field. Where the data are likely to be in great demand by others it may be appropriate to request resources for a more proactive approach to data sharing, which maximises opportunities for cross linkage with other sectors.

Resources

Specify and justify any resources required to preserve and share the data.

Guidance:

Wherever possible, data management should make use of existing skills and capabilities. However, justification should be made for any additional specialist staff (or training for existing staff) needed within the grant to enable the research team to manage, preserve and share data effectively; and for any computational facilities needed to manage, store and share the data generated by the research.