

DARE UK



DARE UK scientific use-cases for cross-domain sensitive data research workshop: Invitation to Tender (ITT)

28 August 2023



**UK Research
and Innovation**

HDRUK
Health Data Research UK



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1. Requirements

The [Data and Analytics Research Environments UK \(DARE UK\)](#) programme is seeking the support of a supplier with expertise in research-focussed workshop design and delivery to **design, plan, deliver, and produce a final write-up of an intensive three-day residential workshop** featuring a diverse collection of around **50-70 participants** drawn from across the UK, including interdisciplinary researchers, data and infrastructure providers, industry representatives, research end-users and members of the public, focused on answering the question:

“What are the most pressing, cross-cutting research opportunities that can be unlocked by increased sensitive data and infrastructure connectivity that Phase 2 of the DARE UK programme should prioritise?”

The workshop will be held during the third week of January 2024 (week beginning 15th January 2024), with workshop content and activities planning together with the DARE UK delivery team to commence no later than November 2023, and the final write-up to be published no later than the end of February 2024.

2. Context

2.1. About DARE UK

DARE UK has been initiated by [UK Research and Innovation \(UKRI\)](#) to design and deliver a national data research infrastructure that is joined-up, demonstrates trustworthiness and supports research at scale for the public good. The programme's scope includes all research conducted by UKRI that uses, or anticipates the use of, sensitive data from different research disciplines and sectors. DARE UK is being designed in an open and inclusive manner, with involvement from researchers, technologists and the public embedded throughout.

DARE UK aims to:

1. Design and deliver a novel and innovative UK-wide data research infrastructure that is joined-up, demonstrates trustworthiness and supports research at scale for public good.
2. Establish the next generation of trusted research environments (TREs) that will enable fast, safe and efficient sharing, linkage and advanced analysis of data where it is legal and ethical to do so.
3. Enable UK researchers and innovators to securely and efficiently harness the full power of linked datasets, modern digital platforms, tools, techniques and skills.
4. Enable research and analysis on a broad range of potentially sensitive data from across the UK research and innovation spectrum.

DARE UK is a multi-phase programme, and [Health Data Research UK \(HDR UK\)](#) and [Administrative Data Research UK \(ADR UK\)](#) have been invited to oversee **Phase 1: Design and Dialogue**, which will draw to a conclusion at the end of March 2024. Crucial to **Phase 2: Build, Test, and Establish** will be the identification of key research priorities and use cases that can demonstrate the tremendous scientific potential that a more connected sensitive data infrastructure (TREs) can support, acting as a powerful incentive for data controllers and infrastructure providers to overcome the considerable technical and governance barriers that must be overcome to realise this.

W: [Home - DARE UK](#)

E: enquiries@dareuk.org.uk

2.2. About Health Data Research UK

[Health Data Research UK](#) (HDR UK) is the national Institute for Health Data Science. Our mission is to unite the UK's health data to enable discoveries that improve people's lives. Our 20-year vision is for large-scale data and advanced analytics to benefit every patient interaction, clinical trial and biomedical discovery and enhance public health.

We are a dynamic, growing organisation applying cutting-edge data science approaches to clinical, biological, genomic and other multi-dimensional health data to address the most pressing research challenges facing society. By working in partnership with the NHS, industry, academia and patients, we aim to better understand diseases and discover new ways to prevent, treat and cure them.

Our strategy is focused on three integrated objectives: uniting health data, advancing research discoveries and promoting partnerships. Our values of transparency, optimism, respect, courage, and humility guide how we work together within HDR UK with our partners and other stakeholders.

As a national charity, we are funded by UK Research and Innovation, the Medical Research Council, the British Heart Foundation, Cancer Research UK, the National Institute for Health and Care Research, the Economic and Social Research Council, the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council, Health and Care Research Wales, Health and Social Care Research and Development Division (Public Health Agency, Northern Ireland), Chief Scientist Office of the Scottish Government Health and Social Care Directorates.

W: <https://www.hdruk.ac.uk/>

E: enquiries@hdruk.ac.uk

3. Our requirements

We would like to bring together a critical mass of thought leaders from across a diversity of different stakeholders – including researchers, data owners, policymakers, TRE operators, industry, and members of the public from across the UK - for an **intensive, three-day in-person workshop** to co-develop the **future research priorities** for inter-disciplinary sensitive data research enabled by increased TRE connectivity.

Participants will work together to formulate future scientific use cases enabled by bringing together cross-domain sensitive data that will serve to shape the activities of phase 2 (Build, Test and Establish) of the DARE UK programme. The workshop will also provide an opportunity to form new collaborations between researchers, data and infrastructure providers, and research end-users to maximise the feasibility and impact of the proposed use cases.

To deliver this, we require support specifically for the following:

1. Planning the overall structure of the use-case workshop.
2. Planning specific activities that establish common ground and maximise opportunities for collaboration across the different participants.
3. Facilitating the workshop – We estimate the need for two to three facilitators to attend the full three days of the workshop to assist in the delivery of the carefully designed workshop activities, explaining the purpose of the different activities and their intended goals to the group, providing guidance to

participants, and helping to ensure that discussions remain relevant to the intended outcomes of the sessions.

4. Careful written record-keeping and note taking during all breakout sessions and brainstorming activities across the entire three days of the workshop.
5. Production of a final report and recommendations following the workshop

All these activities will be **done working closely with the DARE UK delivery team**.

We do *not* require support for event logistics (organising and paying for venues, catering, etc.) or any additional stakeholder engagement.

This work must be delivered within the following timeline:

November – January 2024	Workshop design and planning
Mid-January 2024	3-day residential workshop held
Early February 2024	Pre-publication of report for participant input and review
End February 2024	Final publication of report

It is essential that this work meets this timeline and that the final publication of the report after community review is no later than March 2024, the end of Phase 1 of the DARE UK programme.

The indicative budget for the required support (inclusive of VAT) is £60,000.

4. Key deliverables

1. **A residential workshop design** that is a strong example of best practice and uses a proven methodology for enabling innovative thinking and collaboration across a diverse range of participant expertise.
2. **An in-depth and carefully recorded set of written notes detailing findings** from a series of expertly facilitated activities in which all participants have had the opportunity to meaningfully contribute
3. **A final report for publication** detailing the key research themes identified, with a clear set of recommendations for use cases to take forward in DARE UK Phase 2. This should include an executive summary, a detailed description of the research priorities identified, conclusions and recommendations. The initial report will need to be completed no later than the first week of February 2024 and circulated among participants for their input before publication of the final report, including any reviewer recommendations, by the end of February 2024. In addition, presentation of findings to the DARE UK core team and partners, including a PowerPoint.

5. Key relationships

This work is to be delivered in close collaboration with the DARE UK core team, based within HDR UK, and particularly the DARE UK Community Groups Programme Manager, with support from the other DARE UK Programme Manager and Senior Programme Manager. We are looking for an organisation to partner with us, and the work will be carried out with frequent (virtual) working meetings with the DARE UK team to discuss and refine the workshop structure and design. HDR UK will, therefore, expect to own any intellectual property arising from this contract.

6. Selection criteria

Suppliers will be selected based upon the following criteria:

1. Compliance with application instructions as set out in this document.
2. Demonstrable experience of each of the requirements set out above, with case study examples and clear high-quality outputs (including 2 reference contacts from previous work).
3. A credible approach to meeting the requirements set out in this document and the ability to meet the required timelines (light touch project plan).
4. Clear consideration of risks to the delivery of this work and how you will mitigate them.
5. A credible, proactive, named individual or team who will deliver the work.
6. Value for money – We are publicly funded by UK Research and Innovation and operate for the public good.
7. Previous experience and knowledge of running expert workshops around topics related to cross-domain data-intensive research.
8. Ability to comply with HDR UK Standard Terms and Conditions as set out in Appendix 3.
9. Total price.

Please see Appendix 2 for the detailed Scoring Criteria and Weightings template.

7. Location

The services will be provided to the DARE UK core team based at The Wellcome Trust in Euston, London. It is anticipated that **the majority of the work will be delivered remotely** via video call and over email. Presence at in-person meetings in London may also be required as requested.

Workshop facilitators will, however, be required to **travel and spend all three days in the residential workshop**, which is likely to be held in a city somewhere in England with good connections to the rest of the UK. **Please include travel and subsistence costs for the residential workshop in your cost breakdown.**

8. Tender response format

Please see Appendix 1 for the Application Response Template (**maximum four pages**) and submit your completed response by 18:00 on Friday, 20 October 2023, to procurement@hdruk.ac.uk, copying in balint.stewart@dareuk.org.uk. Suppliers shortlisted for interviews will be invited by email the following week.

Please note: Once services have been agreed, this will be a fixed-cost contract.

9. Timing

Stage of process	Date	Location
Date ITT Issued	13/09/2023	HDR UK and DARE UK websites
Deadline for clarification questions	29/09/2023 18:00 GMT	For clarifications, please email balint.stewart@dareuk.org.uk
Deadline for response	20/10/2023 18:00 GMT	Please send completed response forms to: Procurement@hdruk.ac.uk cc: balint.stewart@dareuk.org.uk
Notification of invitation to pitch	25/10/2023	Via email
Day of pitch	01/11/2023	Virtual
Notification of intent to award	08/11/2023	Via email

Contract start date and day of (virtual) kick-off meeting	29/11/2023	Virtual
Contract end date	28/02/2024	

10. Contracting

This engagement will be subject to HDR UK's Standard Terms and Conditions for Services, as set out in the Services Agreement attached at Appendix 3.