**LifeArc Translational Rare Disease Centres Award**

**Expression of Interest Form**

## SECTION 1: SUMMARY

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| **Centre Title:** |
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| **Lead (and corresponding) applicant name:** |  |
| **Lead applicant institution:** |  |
| **Lead applicant e-mail:** |  |

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| **Funding requested, (in GBP):**  All Centres will receive funding for 5 years. Please acknowledge that your costings are for this time period.  We are not expecting detailed costings at EoI stage, but you must have given thought to the requested budget and ensured that it is reasonable for the work proposed. We envisage funding 4-5 Centres along with a co-ordinating Hub facility, within the total £40 million budget.  All Centre bids must demonstrate value for money and fully justified costings at full application stage. |
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| **Abstract summary (max 200 words):**  Please summarise, for a lay audience, the overarching aim of the Centre – the unmet rare disease need that you will address and your proposed solution.  Summaries do not need to be non-confidential. |
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## SECTION 2: THE CENTRE: UNMET NEED, SOLUTION AND INTEGRATION WITH EXISTING INFRASTRUCTURE/ CAPABILITY

***What are you going to deliver?***

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| **Rare Disease translational challenge(s) to be addressed by the Centre:**  Tell us about the rare disease challenge(s) your Centre is aiming to address.  Please describe the issue that has been identified and the current challenges surrounding it. |
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| **Proposed solution to be delivered by the Centre:**  Building on the previous section where you described the rare disease challenge that you aim to address:   * Please describe your strategy for addressing this challenge. * Please explain how the scale of the challenge/ solution is appropriate for this call, budget and timescale. * Please provide a brief explanation as to how your consortium is equipped to deliver this solution or how you plan to obtain/ build the required expertise and skills - further detail on members of the consortium and specific roles are covered in a later section. |
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| **Demonstration of harmonisation with existing resource/ capabilities in the area:**  We expect Centre applicants to have thoroughly scoped their area of focus and connected with appropriate key players. We will not fund duplicative activities and are looking for bids that either create new or add value to existing infrastructure/ resources. Between the EoI and Full application stage we may work with applicants to refine proposals and/ or encourage applicants to work together where complementary activities are proposed.  Please outline here how the proposed Centre will fit within the current landscape, how you will connect/ partner with existing/ planned key players/ initiatives.  Describe the added value that the Centre will bring and how it will integrate into the current national effort. |
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## SECTION 3: THE PLAN OF WORK: WORKPACKAGES, TIMELINES, KEY DELIVERABLES

***How are you going to deliver it?***

Earlier (in section 2) you have described the overarching aim(s) of the Centre. Please explain with further granularity how you intend to achieve those aim(s).

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| **Plan of work:**  Please list the main work packages proposed, along with the overarching aim(s) for each, and associated timelines. You may include a diagram if helpful (though not mandatory). |
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| **Key deliverables:**  What are the expected outputs of each of the work packages listed above? Each work package should have a defined aim and measurable deliverables, that clearly align with the overarching Centre aim. Post award reporting will be in effect. |
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## SECTION 4: THE TEAM: CONSORTIUM MEMBERS, SKILLS AND CAPABILITIES

***Who is going to deliver it?***

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| **Organisations involved in the consortium and their rare disease strengths:**  Please list the members of the consortium and describe the appropriate strengths in rare disease that they bring (including the lead applicant). If you do not yet have the required expertise and skills in hand, please explain how you intend to obtain/ build it. |
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| **Proposed roles in the Centre:**  Please explain the proposed role of each partner in delivering the Centre’s aims (ascribe specific work packages if appropriate) |
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| **Governance:**   * How will the Centre be managed? * What governance will be in place to ensure timely reporting/ progress against objectives/ track of spending?   LifeArc is happy to support the time of skilled translational project managers or other appropriate governance. |
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## SECTION 5: PATIENT AND PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT AND ENGAGEMENT (PPIE)

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| **PPIE:**  Patient benefit is at the heart of everything we do at LifeArc. We will be including individuals with lived experience on the funding panel and would like to see a clear, and appropriately costed, PPIE strategy.  Here please outline how you intend to include PPIE in your Centre. Further detail, along with costings, can be provided at Full stage, if invited. |
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## SECTION 6: ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

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| **Intellectual Property:**  Our primary objective is to support translational research for patient benefit. While consortia must be led by a UK academic institution we welcome contribution from commercial partners, provided arrangements are aligned with our terms and conditions. Please state here whether your planned consortium includes a commercial partner, and their expected contribution.  We will be happy to have individual conversations with those consortia involving commercial partners, if invited forward to Full application stage. |
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| **Sustainability:**  With this funding we are aiming to kickstart Centres that will go on to become established in the ecosystem. As such, we expect Centres to build an element of sustainability into their planning. Applicants should demonstrate that they have given thought to the longevity of the Centre and how this may be achieved.    We are not expecting fully formed plans at this stage – further detail can be included at full application stage, if invited.  Please give a high-level summary of:   * What considerations have you made re sustainability? * What other sources of support may be open to your consortium, either now or in the future? |
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