**Postgraduate Certificate (F1PH) and Award (F1PJ) in Transferable Skills in Science for Advanced Researchers**

# 22. Pathways to Impact Plan

Rationale

The idea of generating “impact” from research has become more and more important in recent years. The major funders are now looking for research to have an impact beyond academia and into areas broadly defined as Social Impact (public engagement, policy influence etc) and Economic Impact (business engagement, knowledge transfer, spin-outs etc).

The Pathways to Impact Plan is now part of all research council grant applications. t requires a researcher to consider the potential academic, economic and social impact the may arise from their research and to develop a plan for how they will communicate the outcomes of the research to these stakeholders.

As an activity to develop transferable skills, writing a “Pathways to Impact” plan will encourage researchers to think creatively and flexibly about their work and to see the value of the work beyond the immediate research question. In addition it also encourages you to explore the wider community which may benefit from or be involved in the exploitation of your research, all of whom can be valuable connections in developing future research and may also be potential employers.

### Detailed Requirements:

The Pathways to Impact plan can be written retrospectively for the project you are currently working on or as part of a proposal you are planning to submit to a funder.

Read the guidelines for producing a Pathways to Impact statement on the appropriate funder website and produce a document to fulfil these criteria (Typically maximum of 2 pages A4). In addition it will be necessary to read the information on the Funder and RCUK websites that provide information about what is meant by Impact and how to develop a Pathways to Impact statement.

### Portfolio Requirements

***Minor Option*: 1 CAT point**

A summary of your the research for which you are writing the Pathways to Impact statement of no more than 1 side of A4

A Pathways to Impact statement in line with the funders application guidelines (identify the actual or proposed funder on the document)

### Transferable Skills

Original and critical thinking, recognising and validating problems, understanding context in which research takes place, communication skills.

### Support and Training Available

**Supervisor & Mentor**  Advice on content and what constitutes impact

**Research Council & RCUK websites** Examples and advice on writing Pathways to Impact plans, detailed requirements for the plan.

**LDC Courses** Ideas generation, Creativity & Innovation