



EPSRC Update to UKCTRF

12th September 2018



UK Research and Innovation, launched on 3 April 2018, and is the new funding organisation for research and innovation in the UK.

“This is a significant moment – we are an organisation with over 7,00 staff across the world – from Swindon to Antarctica and from Beijing to the Boulby Mine. Our work will span all research disciplines at scales ranging from the galactic to subatomic and we will partner with UK and international businesses in every sector.

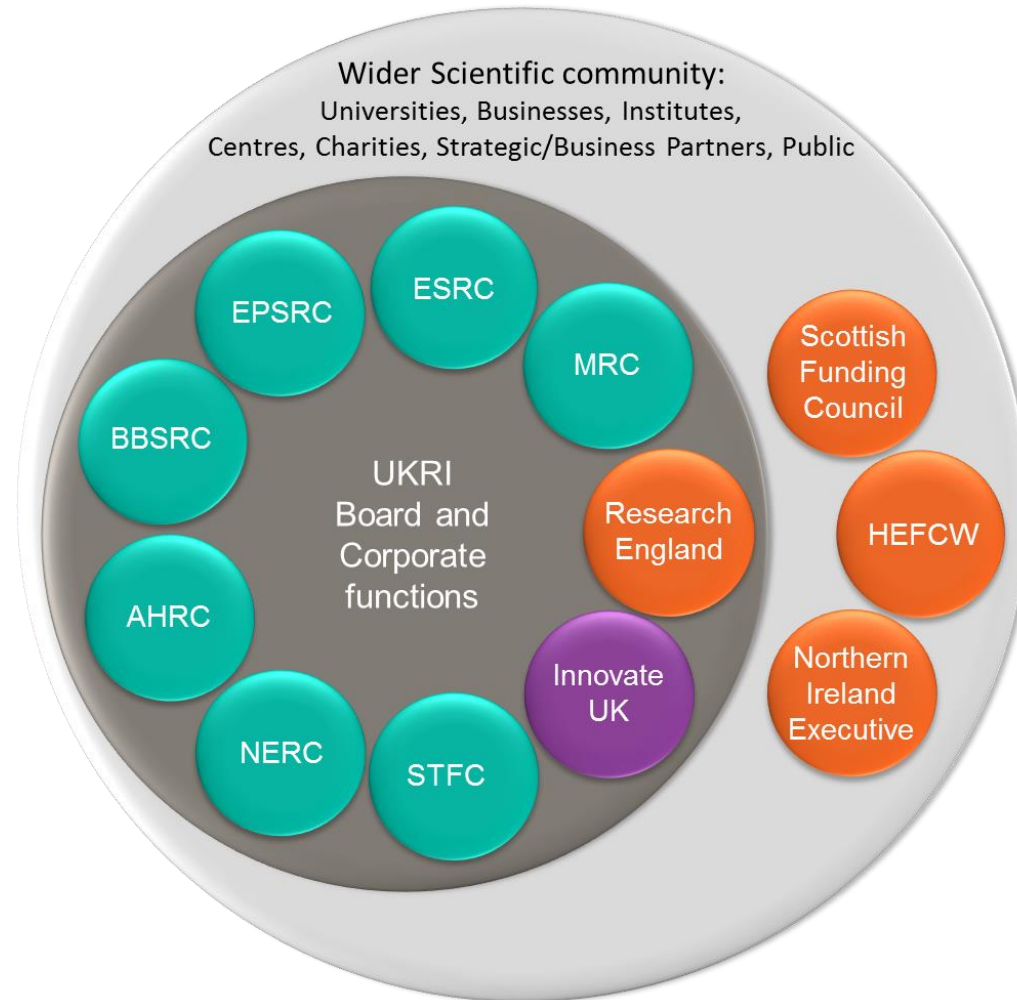
We will build on our existing strengths, personified in our people, while pioneering new ways of working, such as delivery of the Industrial Strategy Challenge Fund.”

Sir Mark Walport
UKRI Chief Executive

**LAUNCH
OF UKRI**

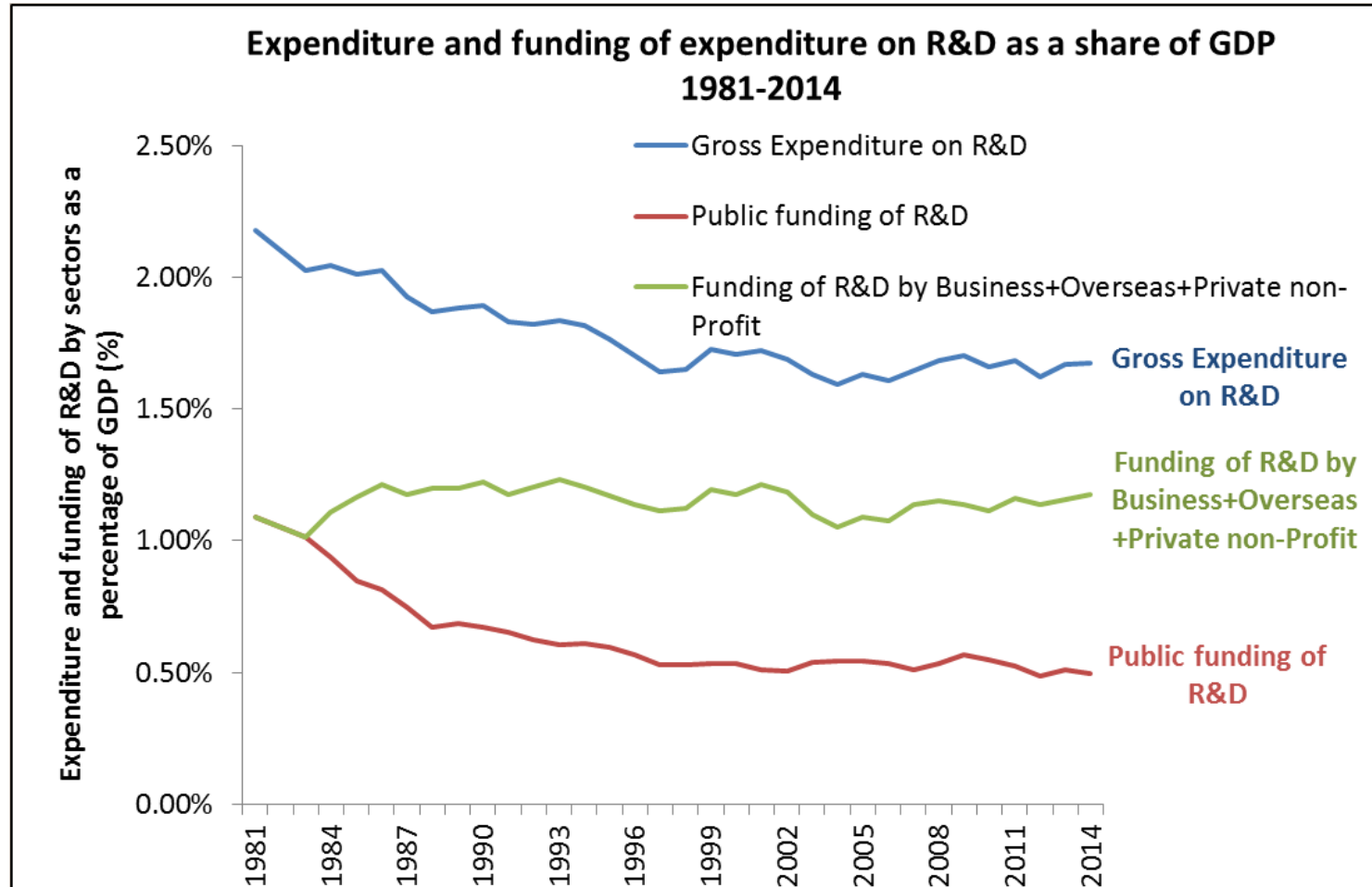


UK Research and Innovation brings together the seven **UK Research Councils**, **Innovate UK** and a new organisation, **Research England**, working closely with its partner organisations in the devolved administrations.



**ORGANISATION
OF UKRI**

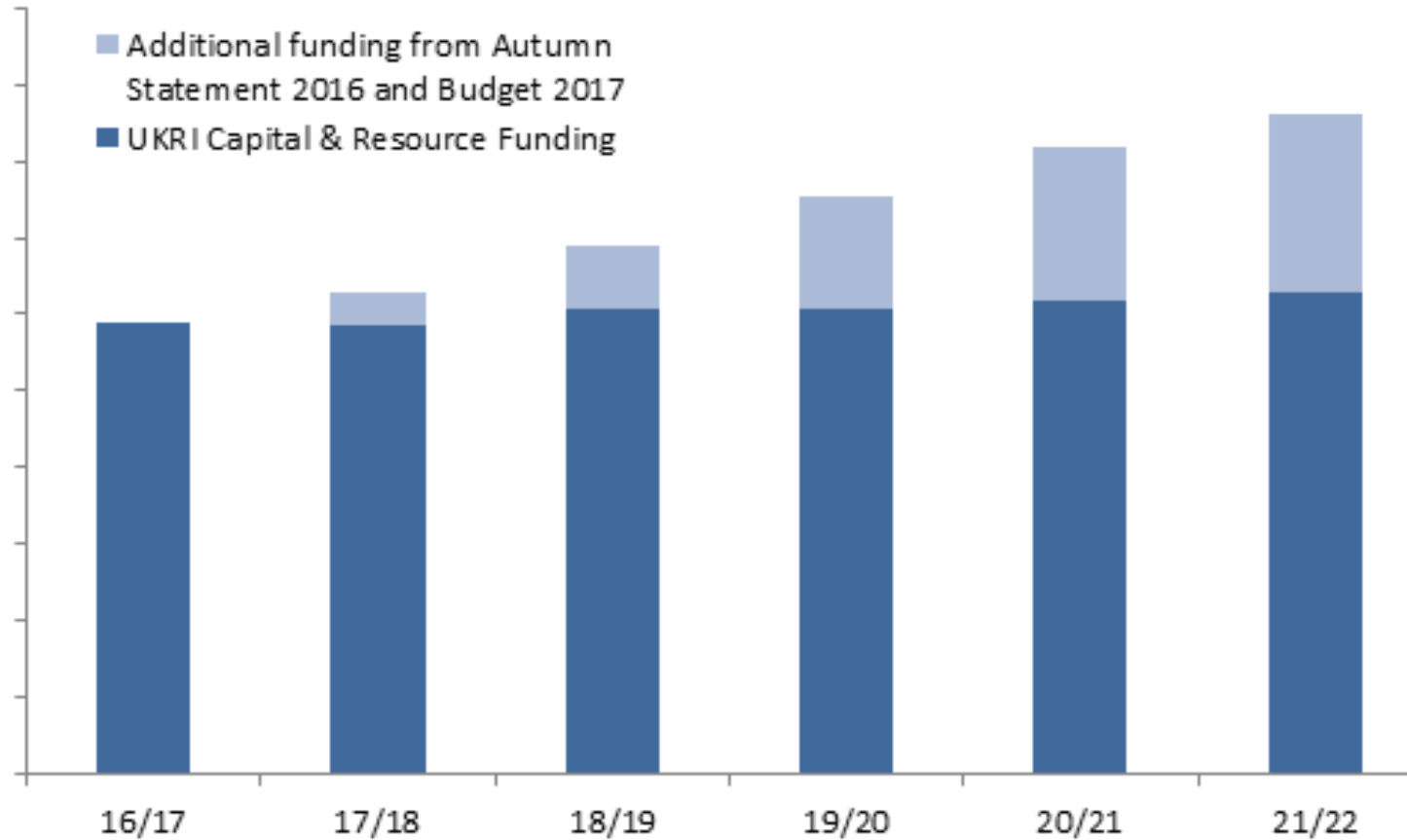




**R&D
SPENDING**



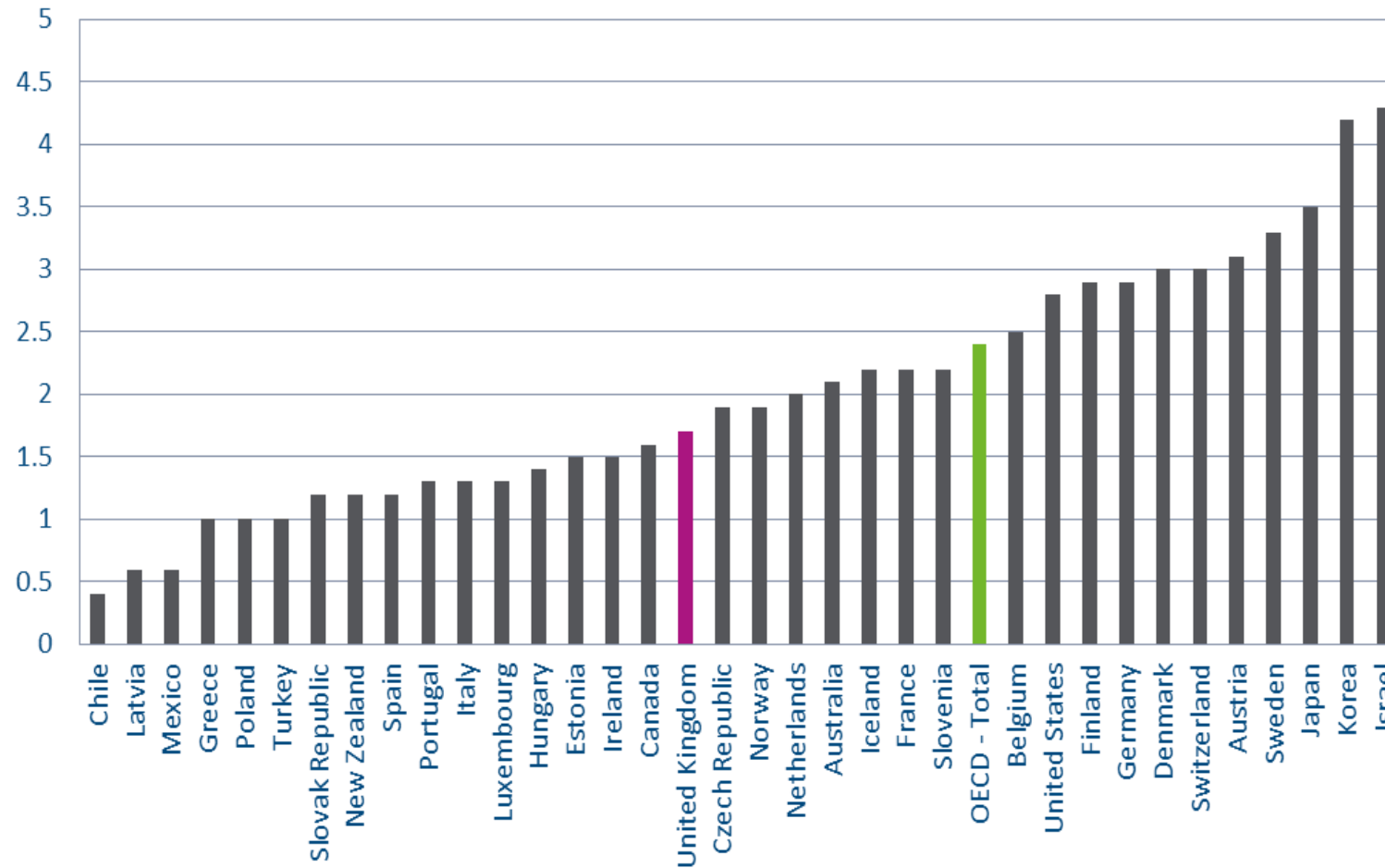
Illustrative UKRI budget 2016/17 to 2021/22



**R&D
SPENDING**



Gross Expenditure on R&D as a percentage of GDP



R&D
SPENDING



Following the approach taken by ESFRI the roadmap will be structured in the following sectors:

- Biological sciences, health and food (BBSRC lead, MRC)
- Environment (NERC lead, Met Office)
- Energy (EPSRC – Newcastle University)
- Physical sciences & engineering (STFC lead, EPSRC)
- Social sciences, arts and humanities (ESRC Lead, AHRC)
- Computational & e-infrastructures (EPSRC lead, Edinburgh)

(It is recognised that there will also be cross cutting themes and that many infrastructures will contribute to more than one sector.)



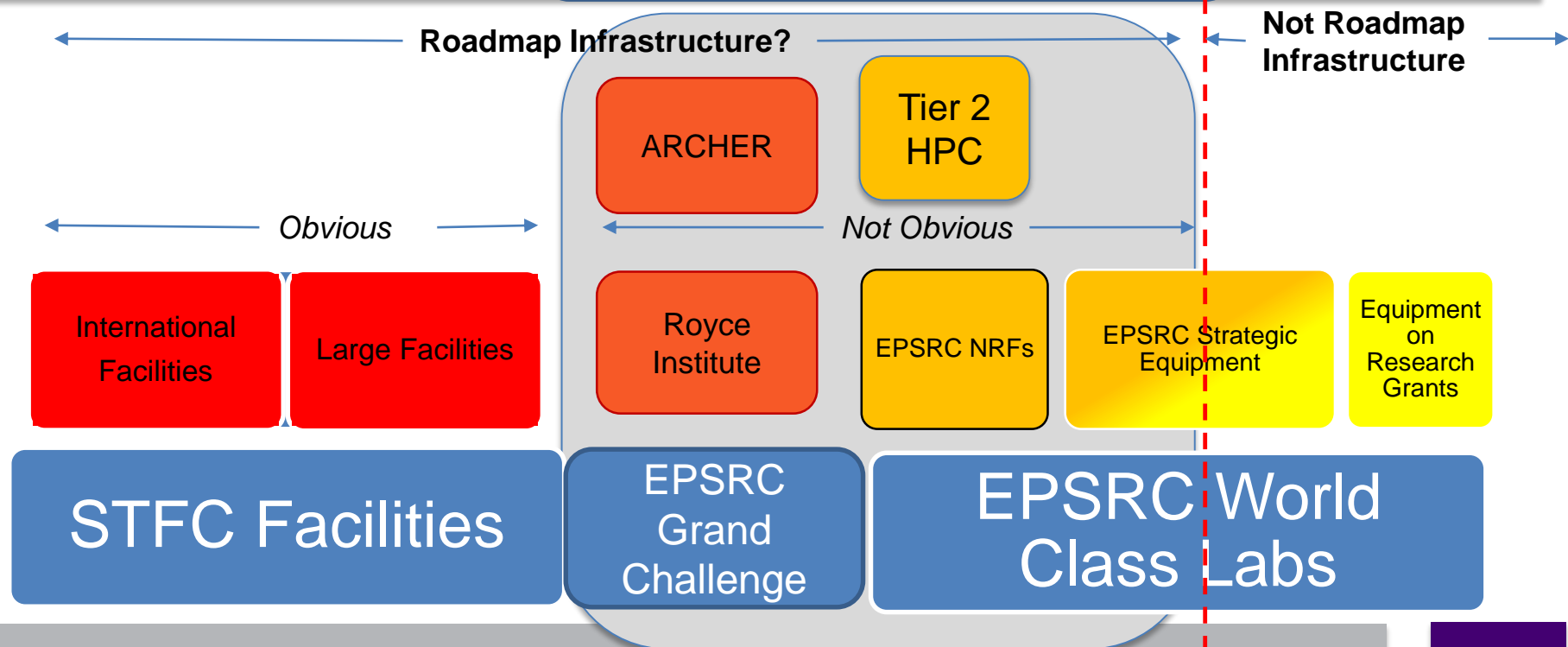
Capital Infrastructure and e-Infrastructure

FEATURES

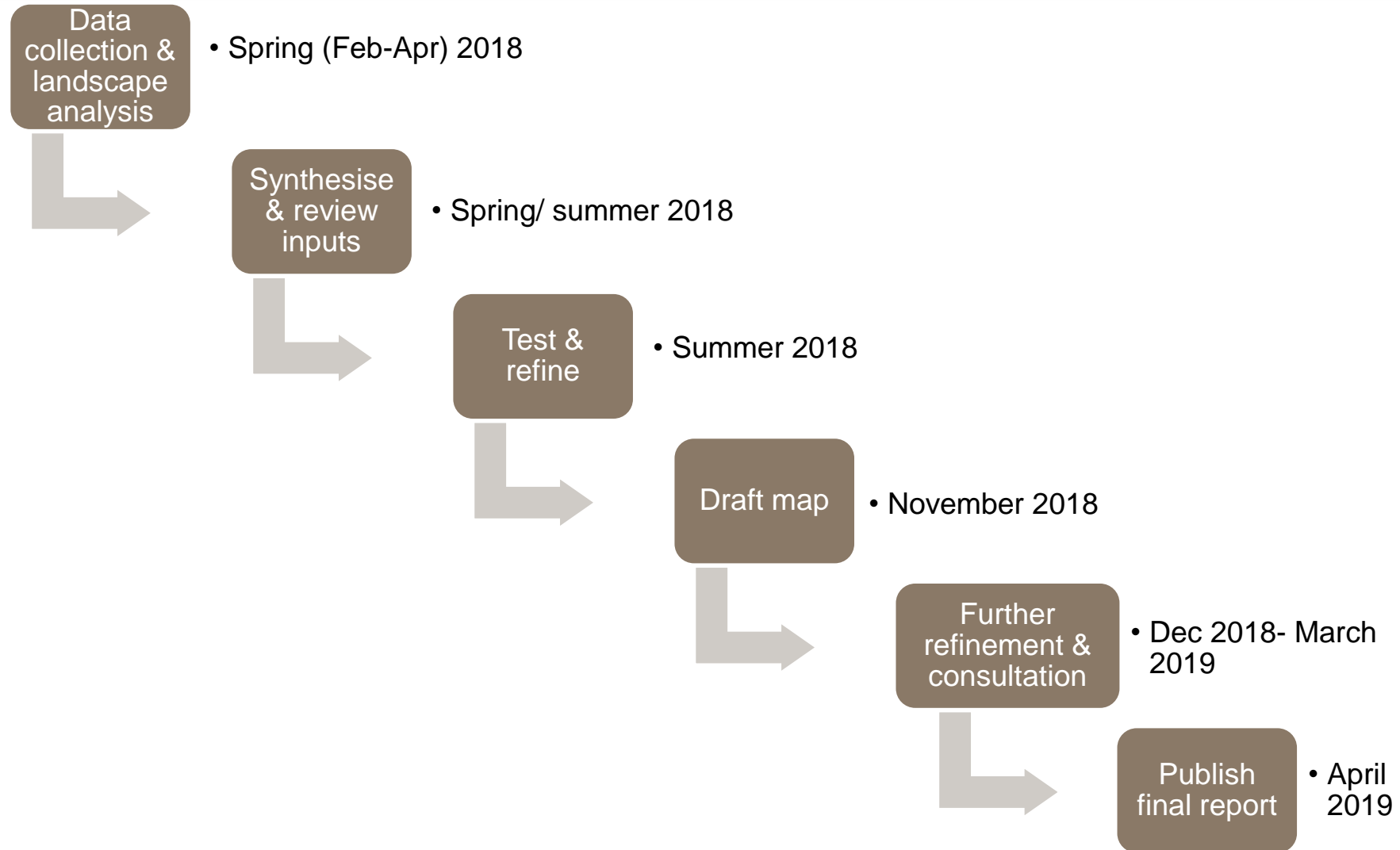
- National Research Facilities
- State-of-the-art equipment
- Large scale strategic equipment
- e-infrastructure

UKRI Infrastructure Roadmap

Innovation



UKRI Roadmap Timeline



November:

- ■ ■ Interim report focused on future issues and themes (5 pages!)
- ■ ■ Interim landscape analysis
- ■ ■ Will be used to support further targeted discussions/workshops
- ■ ■ Will NOT be a public consultation
- ■ ■ Will NOT set out a list of funding priorities

April 2019:

- ■ ■ Final report
- ■ ■ Landscape database/portal



- Call concluded in May with an interview panel; all existing consortia were renewed and one additional consortium, UKAMOR, has now come online.
- Given the ever more over-subscribed nature of the national HPC service efficient usage of allocations is extremely important.
- Each of the consortia is expected to provide an annual report by **30th November 2018**.



- The Mid Term Review of CoSeC is going to be performed over 3 days on 16th - 18th October 2018.
- The panel has been identified, and papers are being submitted from the CoSeC team this week. All of the communities that CoSeC supports (HEC and CCPs) have now also supplied their input.
- The panel report is expected to be completed by the end of October 2018 and a formal decision made shortly afterwards.



- Phase 2 of the Software Sustainability Institute ends on 30th November 2018.
- An invited submission has been received by EPSRC for Phase 3 of SSI and is currently out for Postal Peer Review.
- This will be reviewed by an inter-disciplinary, cross-council interview panel on 25th October 2018.
- <https://www.software.ac.uk/>



Software
Sustainability
Institute



- Call is currently open for applications to both ARCHER and Tier 2 centres.
- Closing date for applications to EPSRC: **9 October 2018 at 16:00**
- Closing date for the submission of an ARCHER technical assessment to the ARCHER team: **25 September 2018 at 16:00**



- Collaboration and constructive joint working continues;
- Most centres now running in production with good levels of utilization;
- Centres have contributed to platform benchmarking work: see, for example:
<https://www.archer.ac.uk/documentation/white-papers/parallelIO-benchmarking/ARCHER-Parallel-IO-1.4.pdf>
- Technical Working Group set up, with representatives from all centres.
- An annual report agreed with a common set of KPIs to capture impacts and outputs;
- A good degree of collaboration and best practice is occurring – Tier 2 is linking to ARCHER Champions and RSE Fellows.
- Tier 2 RAP is currently open in parallel with the ARCHER RAP and is following along the same timelines.



- Project team wrote and submitted a new case for support based on a simpler ARCHER2 proposal;
- This was approved through BEIS Commercial Assurance and UKRI Investment Committees in early September;
- The case describes a single hardware solution, supported by 5 year contracts for CSE and SP;
- Work has been ongoing to finalise procurement paperwork, including Statements of Requirements, Benchmarking, Service Levels and Key Performance Indicators;
- We expect to be able to enter formal procurement for hardware in December 2018;
- ARCHER2 Service start scheduled for November/December 2019 (depending on infrastructure requirements).



- We have captured information on the current ARCHER service and we are commissioning an 'Impact of HPC' study to follow-up on the 'Impact of HECToR' report: <http://www.storyofhector.org/>
- However, the first procurement did not yield bids of sufficient quality and we are re-issuing the invitation, as well as revising the structure and funding of the procurement.
- Consistent and evidenced Return on Investment data is an ongoing project to ensure a coherent story of the benefits of HPC to scientific research.

