



St Mary's  
University  
Twickenham  
London

# **St. Mary's University, Twickenham**

**Policy Support Fund 2023/24  
Guidelines**

## Policy Support Fund

The university has been awarded a Policy Support Fund from Research England. Our allocation this year is £50k. We are delighted to announce an Open Call for applications to this fund. Applicants are invited to apply for projects of no more than £15k as we hope to fund several projects from the Policy Support Fund.

To apply for funding, applicants must complete the application form found in a separate attachment. Completed application forms must be returned to [research@stmarys.ac.uk](mailto:research@stmarys.ac.uk) with the email subject: Policy Support Fund Application.

**Applications must be received by 5pm 30<sup>th</sup> November 2023** (*any applications received after this date will not be considered*).

Committee review and decisions will take place in December for work and projects to be undertaken between January - July 2024. **Any funds awarded need to be spent by the end of July 2024** (please note that there is no facility to rollover unspent funds into the next financial year).

### Eligible costs include:

- Research Assistant salaries
- Activities related to research and data collection
- Engagement with stakeholders
- Training and development events
- Workshops
- Travel and conference attendance.

### Activities which will not be supported by the fund include:

Buyout of teaching (unless in exceptional circumstances where there is a letter of support from Head of School and Faculty Dean) and costs associated with publishing a journal article.

### Overview of Policy Support Fund Priorities and Criteria

The Policy Support Fund is allocated to support universities to link effectively with policy research priorities and opportunities, from the local to the international. The funding supports universities in undertaking research with local, regional, national and international structures (with a particular focus on local and regional challenges) including:

- parliament
- central government
- devolved administrations
- local government
- health and education bodies
- the justice system
- other regulatory organisations

Applications should fit the remit above and could include:

- New research activity working in partnership with policymakers, particularly to better understand local, regional or national challenges.

- Extending existing policy-related research activity.
- Facilitating the use of existing research and the exchange of knowledge between universities and policymakers.
- Activity aimed at improving the dialogue between universities and policymakers.
- Activity and training to better equip academics, including postgraduate researchers and early career researchers, to communicate effectively with policymakers.
- Partnerships and collaborations aimed at supporting evidence-based policy making.

**Ethics**

If the proposed activities within your application present new research, it will be necessary to gain ethical approval before commencing the work.

**Reporting**

It is a requirement that anyone awarded funding from the Policy Support Fund must complete a report of their project.