



## TOWARDS OUTSTANDING RESEARCH REVIEWS (TORR)

### INFORMATION SHEET

#### **Why have I been invited to take part in this research?**

You have been invited to participate in this study due to your recognised academic expertise and experience reviewing research applications. In addition, this research focuses on the Wellcome Trust's 'Fellowship in Humanities and Social Sciences', a prestigious scheme for which you have already reviewed.

#### **What is the purpose of this research?**

The purpose of TORR is to develop an understanding of the decision-making processes underpinning expert peer-reviewers' evaluations of research proposals. We have conducted interviews and a validation survey with peer reviewers to identify the criteria they pay attention to when evaluating an application. The present study aims to assess what evaluative criteria peer reviewers use when making their recommendation for funding.

#### **What will happen if I take part?**

If you decide to take part in the study, you will be asked to assess a set of thumbnail hypothetical applications on-line. In appreciation of your time and help with this research, you will receive a £45 voucher by email, only redeemable in [Amazon UK](#).

#### **Do I have to participate?**

No, your participation is voluntary and you can withdraw your data up to two weeks after submitting the task, without giving a reason (see contact details at the end of this section). Two weeks after submitting the task, all responses will be anonymised, and it will no longer be possible to remove your anonymous answers from the database.

#### **What are the possible disadvantages or risks of taking part?**

Only (anonymised) aggregate data will be used to conduct analyses and produce research outputs. We do not foresee any disadvantages or risks associated with taking part in this study.

#### **What are the possible benefits of taking part?**

You may enjoy taking part as a reviewer and gain insights from this exercise. Your involvement in this study will contribute to advancing our understanding of how expert peer-reviewers make decisions regarding the suitability of a FELLOWSHIP application for funding. We ultimately seek to share knowledge of how expert reviewers approach the reviewing task, to provide guidelines for the reviewing process of novice reviewers and optimise future funding practice.

#### **Will my participation in this study be kept confidential?**

Yes, all information you give us will be kept confidential. Only the immediate research team will have access to information that identifies your participation in this research and no one external to the project will be able to connect your data with any other information that

identifies you, in accordance with the UK Data Protection Act 2018 and GDPR. All identifying information will be password-protected and stored securely on university secure data bases. National laws may require us to show information to university or government officials (or sponsors), who are responsible for monitoring the safety of this study. Directly identifying information (e.g. names) will be safeguarded and maintained under controlled conditions in a password-protected and encrypted cloud storage. You will not be identified in any publication from this study.

### **What will happen to the results of the research study?**

Anonymised findings from this study will be published in open access academic journals and presented at meetings. Published data may include general participant characteristics (e.g. age group, gender). Findings will also be used to inform our future research.

### **What will happen to my data upon completion of the study?**

All identifiable data will be destroyed upon completion of the project. Following analysis and publication of findings, anonymised data sets may be made available to other researchers through publications and the Kingston University Research Data Repository, in compliance with the Wellcome Trust's policy on data, software and materials management and sharing. We have checked and are satisfied with the Wellcome's Trust's policy – there are no GDPR implications since the data will be anonymised.

### **Who should I contact for further information?**

If you have any questions or require more information about this study, please contact us using the following contact details:

Principal Investigator: Prof Gaëlle Vallée-Tourangeau, Faculty of Business and Social Sciences, Kingston University London, Kingston Hill, Kingston upon Thames, Surrey KT2 7LB.

Email: [g.vallee-tourangeau@kingston.ac.uk](mailto:g.vallee-tourangeau@kingston.ac.uk)

Co-investigator: Prof Priscilla Harries, Joint Faculty of Health, Social Care and Education at Kingston University London, Penrhyn Road, Kingston upon Thames KT1 2EE and St George's, University of London, Blackshaw Road, London SW17 0QT.

Email: [p.harries@sgul.kingston.ac.uk](mailto:p.harries@sgul.kingston.ac.uk)

Co-investigator: Dr Tushna Vandrevala, Faculty of Business and Social Sciences, Kingston University London, Penrhyn Road, Kingston upon Thames KT1 2EE.

Email: [t.vandrevala@kingston.ac.uk](mailto:t.vandrevala@kingston.ac.uk)

In the eventuality that you wish to withdraw your data please contact the team research officer [Joanne.Ahmed@kingston.ac.uk](mailto:Joanne.Ahmed@kingston.ac.uk)

*The research has received a favourable ethical opinion from the Kingston University Ethics Committee.*

*If you wish to complain about any aspect of how you have been treated in this research, please contact Professor Jill Schofield who is the Dean of the Faculty of Business and Social Sciences at Kingston University London. Professor Schofield's contact details are as follows: Dean's Office, Faculty of Business and Social Sciences, Kingston University London, Penrhyn Road, Kingston upon Thames KT1 2EE. Email: [j.schofield@kingston.ac.uk](mailto:j.schofield@kingston.ac.uk) Tel: 020 8417 9000 ext. 65229.*

*Any questions relating to the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) or how the University is processing personal data should be addressed to the University's Data Protection Officer by e-mail: [dataprotection@kingston.ac.uk](mailto:dataprotection@kingston.ac.uk). We have removed the mail address since data collection will take place during Covid.*