

PHASE 2 INVESTMENT PROCESS

1. Background

The MBIE Science Board has confirmed Phase 2 funding of \$24.3M over five years for the *Building Better Homes Towns and Cities: Ko ngā wā kaingā hei whakamahorahora* National Science Challenge (BBHTC NSC). This is a \$700k increase on Phase 1 funding.

In Phase 2 of the BBHTC NSC there is a research budget of up to \$3.25m per annum to invest in research activities that deliver to the Phase 2 strategic direction. The Challenge will invest in four research programmes of 3-5 years in duration with a maximum investment of \$750k per programme per annum, except for the cross-challenge Kāinga Tahi, Kāinga Rua programme, which has a maximum budget of \$1m per annum. Programmes may consist of a set of interlinked research objectives within a single research programme, or a series of discrete projects that contribute to achieving the programme's overall objectives. Contracts for outcomes will be negotiated with host institutions with detailed work programmes agreed every 18 months.

There is a smaller amount of funding available to invest in research each year during Phase 2 than was available to support the Phase 1 programme. This is because the overall budget for research in Phase 2, while similar in aggregate amount as in Phase 1, will be allocated over a five-year funding period compared with the 2.5-year funding period for Phase 1. For this reason, research will be focused on a smaller number of critical issues that are central to achieving the Challenge mission and are aligned to the two strategic research domains outlined in the Phase 2 strategy¹:

- Homes and Spaces for Generations | Kāinga Tahi, Kāinga Rua
- Thriving Communities and Region | Te Pā Harakeke

The four programme areas that the challenge research will be organised around are:

- Affordable Housing
- Kāinga Tahi, Kāinga Rua
- Urban Wellbeing and Development
- Thriving Regions

¹ The BBHTC NSC's strategy for Phase 2 can be found on the Challenge's website at:
http://buildingbetter.nz/publications/BBHTC_Phase_ii_Future_Strategy.pdf

2. Investment Process

The first round of research investment in Phase 2 of the BBHTC NSC will be a co-created, negotiated investment. It will not be an open contest of ideas. Phase 2 research programmes will build on the learnings of Phase 1. This does not mean that existing programmes will be automatically “rolled over” into Phase 2. Research ideas for Phase 2 must be appropriately co-created and critiqued to ensure that they are well aligned to the Challenge vision, mission and strategic research domains. There must also be a strong case made to show how they will deliver impact. Building on Phase 1 does mean that we build on our current strengths and relationships with communities and collaborators.

The investment process has two components: (1) establishing the Phase 2 research facilitation model and (2) developing research programme content.

Investment signals for Phase 2 research programmes of the BBHTC NSC.

Research programmes must align to one or both of the two strategic research domains outlined in the Phase 2 strategy:

- Homes and Spaces for Generations | Kāinga Tahi, Kāinga Rua
- Thriving Communities and Region | Te Pā Harakeke

As noted above the four research programme areas for the first investment of Phase 2 are:

- Affordable Housing
- Kāinga Tahi, Kāinga Rua
- Urban Wellbeing and Development
- Thriving Regions

In addition to demonstrating alignment to the Strategic Research Areas, research programmes will be required to demonstrate how they deliver outcomes to appropriate priority investment areas including the indicative priority investment areas (PIAs) outlined in the Phase 2 strategy:

- Defining the affordable home
- Getting better value from homes and neighbourhoods
- Affordable housing and thriving regions
- Alternative / additional PIA (with supporting narrative) that aligns to one or both of the strategic research domains

A core focus of the Phase 2 strategy is on reducing inequities within housing and built environments at home, neighbourhood, and regional scales.

Transport, connectivity, wellbeing, and climate change are cross-cutting themes that are relevant across all programme areas.

All programmes must deliver on the principles of National Science Challenges including best teams, additionality, Vision Mātauranga, multi disciplinary, stakeholder partnership, and communication.

The Challenge's approach to Vision Mātauranga for Phase 2 focuses on appropriate teams, facilitation models, methodologies, Māori researcher capacity and capability, and partnerships with diverse Māori communities.

Alignment, partnership, and co-funding (direct and in-kind) with other research programmes and initiatives, including those being developed by other Challenges, research organisations and stakeholders are encouraged.

Process overview and key dates

25 January 2019	Expressions of Interest for research facilitation due with the BBHTC Directors
1 February 2019	BBHTC facilitation roles announced
21 February 2019	BBHTC Governance Group meets
28 February 2019	Research briefs due to BBHTC management office
17 April 2019	BBHTC Governance Group meets
30 April 2019	Release of GG approved research programme for Phase 2
13 May 2019	Full proposals due
4 June 2019	Presentations to Governance Group and Independent Science Advisory Panel
1 July onwards	Contracting of new research programmes

Stage 1 Programme Facilitation

Programme facilitators for the initial research in Phase 2 will be by appointment. It is expected that these programme facilitators will be existing senior researchers within the Challenge. The reasons for this are to ensure that programme facilitators have demonstrated capability in working in the bicultural and collaborative manner that characterises our Challenge and have a good understanding of the Challenge strategy and direction. Key factors that will be taken into consideration for programme facilitation include:

- the research facilitation and bicultural management model for the programmes
- kaupapa Māori research leadership models for Kāinga Tahi, Kāinga Rua
- the institutional support available for the hosting of a research programme
- how the tuakana teina model, along with other capability development and succession strategies, will be enacted
- how He Awa Whiria will be operationalised through the facilitation model
- how the facilitation model contributes to the delivery of Vision Mātauranga
- delivery track record in Phase I
- demonstrated ability to partner with end-users, communities of interest, and stakeholder partners

We would like to use Phase 2 as an opportunity to grow our research facilitation expertise.

If you wish to be considered for programme facilitation, you may address your interest to either the Director, Ruth Berry (Ruth.Berry@branz.co.nz), or the Director Māori, Dr Jessica Hutchings (kiaora@jessicahutchings.org.nz). There is no template for programme facilitation; expressions of interest should be no more than two pages in length.

You may also nominate a senior researcher within the Challenge for programme facilitation, either to Jessica or Ruth.

Timeframes

Expressions of Interests and nominations for Programme Facilitation are due with the BBHTC Directors by 25 January 2018.

Stage 2 – Building research ideas

Process

Existing BBHTC researchers and research teams are encouraged to come together to workshop research ideas for Phase 2. Research teams may be formed from existing SRA teams or include natural groupings incorporating teams from more than one SRA and contestable projects. The Directors will assist with making these connections if requested.

Research teams are not restricted to those already funded by the Challenge. They should be the “best team” for the job. Teams should be multi-disciplinary and multi-organisational. Where appropriate, you are encouraged to seek new collaborations within the Challenge rather than duplicating existing expertise. Where there are demonstrated skill gaps or capacity issues, new skills should be sought.

Key end users, communities of interest, and stakeholder partners should be included in the programme development process. However, this must be on the understanding that participation does not constitute a commitment to funds provided by the Challenge.

If you have not received funding during Phase 1 and consider that your skills and working style are a good fit with Phase 2 of the Challenge, please discuss with your colleagues who are currently working with the Challenge. Research team details can be found on the *Building Better Homes Towns and Cities: Ko ngā wā kaingā hei whakamahorahora* National Science Challenge website http://buildingbetter.nz/about_us/people.html.

The Directors have developed a template to help to assist them in developing the collaborative process for refining and finalising the research portfolio. Each team should develop a research brief that addresses the questions specified below.

Questions for research teams to address in Stage 2:

1. *How will your programme deliver on the Phase 2 strategy?*
2. *How will your programme draw from our learnings in Phase 1?*
3. *How will your programme deepen our approach to co-creation and collaboration?*
4. *Who are your community / end-user / stakeholder partners?*
5. *What are the consequences of undertaking this research / What is the value proposition for this research?*
6. *How will you technically (methodologically) put a research plan/programme together*
7. *Why is BBHTC the best environment to undertake the proposed research?*
8. *How will the proposed research deliver on Vision Mātauranga?*

Timeframes

Research briefs are due to the BBHTC Office by 28 February 2019.

Development of the Phase 2 research programme

The development of the high-level Phase 2 research programme for the Challenge will be undertaken by the Directors from the research briefs received at this first stage and in consultation with programme facilitators. This will be presented to the Governance Group at its meeting on 17 April 2019 for discussion and approval to proceed to the development of full proposals for research programmes.

Stage 3 – Research teams configured, co-creation of research projects with communities of interest, full proposals submitted.

Programme facilitation teams will lead the development of a research programme along with communities of interest. A full proposal template will be utilised and a Guidelines document for the development of the full proposals will be available early in 2019.

The Directors will co-convene hui with the identified Programme facilitation teams to further develop and refine ideas, connections, and synergies within and across the four research programme areas.

Timeframes

Full proposals are due 13 May 2019.

Project team presentations will be made to the Governance Group and the Independent Science Advisory Panel on 4 June 2019.

Programme facilitators will be notified of the programmes approved for funding (week beginning 12 June 2019).

Contracting will be from mid June for start dates from 1 July 2019.

Phase 2 BBHTC NSC
Research Brief template
2018

Instructions

The research briefs will be used as a resource by the Challenge Directorate to develop a proposed programme of work for Phase 2. This first part of the research development process draws together existing research teams to build on what we have achieved in Phase 1 and to workshop and consider what research programmes based on the teams expertise may look like in Phase 2. Please complete the research brief template for your team by responding to the following question.

How will you technically (methodologically) put a research plan/programme together that addresses delivery on the Phase 2 strategy, draws from our learnings in Phase 1, deepens our approach to co-creation and collaboration with existing communities and new ones where appropriate?

Please complete the following template. Please keep your document succinct. The maximum length for Research Briefs is ten pages of A4 in 12 point type.

Title and facilitation team

Enter title and names of people who facilitated this process

Contributors to research brief and your process for building ideas

List the names of team members you worked with to develop the research brief and the process used for building ideas.

Summary statement of proposed research

Provide a brief summary of the proposed research programme.

Rationale and justification

Brief description of why this research is important - why it should be prioritised for funding in Phase 2.

Alignment with Phase 2 strategy

How does the research align to the phase 2 strategy?

Research Question(s)

What is(are) the specific research question(s), please prioritise them?

Approach and Methodology

What is the proposed approach and methodology for this research?

Vision Mātauranga

How will Vision Mātauranga be delivered through this programme.

Outcomes

What are the outcomes that this research will achieve?

Communities of Interest

Who are the communities of interest connected to this proposed research, how does this build on existing relationships from phase 1 and what are the new relationships proposed?

Outputs

What are the significant outputs that could be generated from research to deliver impact?

Co-funding

What co-funding opportunities could be explored for this research?

Aligned research

What (past or current) research does this research align with? How will you ensure that this research stays aligned with key complementary research?

Key skills

What are the key skills required to undertake this project?