**NECEM Call for Proposals**

We are delighted to announce NECEM’s call for proposals to its Flexi Fund. Please feel free to distribute the call’s information to relevant networks/partners. If you have any questions don’t hesitate to contact us: Justina.Heslop@newcastle.ac.uk.

**Eligibility**

This call is open to staff of any UK university engaged in research into or relating to advanced materials for renewable energy generation, and who are eligible for EPSRC support.  Academic or research staff already funded under the parent NECEM award are not eligible to apply as PIs, but may be included in a proposal as CoI, with their role clearly indicated in the proposal as advisory/supportive to the PI.

Proposals will be expected to align with and contribute to the themes of NECEM and be interdisciplinary in their ambition and outcomes. It is expected that PDRAs funded will be hosted at one of the three leading universities (Durham, Newcastle, Northumbria), but external collaborations, particularly with other centres is encouraged.

**Research Call Arrangements**

The full proposal should be a PDF document and will consist of: track record and capacity to deliver (1 page); case for support (2 pages), including research challenge, novelty and timeliness, aims and objectives, programme of work including methodology, tasks and deliverables; pathways to impact and outreach (1 page), management, work-plan and budget (1 page).  Applications must be based on 100% FEC and show the contribution to be made by the grant (80% FEC).

As a guideline we expect projects to typically include 6 months – 1 years PDRA time and include the costs of associated consumables.

The deadline for submission of proposals: **Friday 8th March 2019.** Proposals should be submitted to Justina.Heslop@newcastle.ac.uk.

**Review Process and Selection Criteria**

Proposals will be reviewed internally by staff of management committee of NECEM, together with external input from the management of other EPSRC-funded Energy Materials Research Centres and the industrial advisory board.  The criteria against which proposals will be assessed includes, but not be limited to:

* Demonstrated excellence and ability to deliver;
* Novelty and quality of the proposed research;
* Complementary fit to the current programme and additionality;
* Industry and additional engagement; letter of support
* Potential for impact.