

Getting research funded

One-to-one advice, coaching and mentoring

1. The university identifies selected applicants for external funding ('proposers') and discusses their profiles with John Wakeford, Director of The Missenden Centre. The discussion should cover the nature of the issues to be addressed, the discipline area and potential funders involved, the current state of the bid and the character of the support needed. Also the anticipated timescale and the submission deadlines if applicable.
2. If the Centre is able and willing take this further, John identifies and appoints an appropriate personal advisor and quotes a price for the work to be carried out.
3. If the university wishes to take this up at an agreed fee, it raises a Purchase Order for the contract.
4. The proposer submits to the advisor a complete first draft of a bid for support from an external funding authority, together with a brief CV of the proposer and a statement as to their personal motives and objectives in submitting the bid.
5. John keeps in regular touch with the advisor to discuss progress and provide advice.
6. The advisor studies the background to the call by the funder as well as the funder's overall policy objectives in the light of earlier funded projects.
7. The advisor reviews the text submitted by the proposer, annotates it in detail and sends an electronic summary of his analysis to the proposer in the form of a reviewer report.
8. A date and time are agreed for a web conference or telephonic meeting to address any questions raised by the proposer.
9. The proposer submits a second draft: as near perfect as possible.
10. The revised text is scrutinised by the advisor, annotated and returned together with summary analysis and penultimate recommendations.
11. A second and hopefully final discussion takes place between the advisor and proposer.



12. The proposal is submitted to the potential funder subject to the approval of the University's research administration.
13. John invoices the University on completion of above and pays the advisor.