

## Case for Support 20 Questions

### Description of the Research Project/Programme of Research.

1. Does the description of the project begin with a section describing the general research approach?
2. Does it discuss funder-specific and project-specific requirements?
  - Ethics for work involving animals, human subjects or data about humans?
  - Data protection for work involving data about humans?
  - Data collection vs existing data resources (ESRC)
  - Home-office licences for work involving scientific procedures on vertebrates.
3. Does the description of the project break the project down into sub-projects or work packages?
4. Is there a clear statement of what each sub-project will discover, or what question it will answer?
  - It will help to make a list of the statements or to highlight them in the text.
5. Does each work package say what resources will be used?
6. Does it identify which resources are to be provided by the grant and which are available?
7. Does the description of the project explain how the project will be managed and how the sub-projects will relate to one another?
8. Is it clear how results will be disseminated?

### Background / Work which has led up to the project.

9. Does it begin with a one-sentence statement of the overall aim or of the problem that will be addressed by the research?
  - It will help if you highlight the sentence now.
10. Does it then state why the research problem is important?
  - It will help to highlight the sentence.
11. Does it back up the statement with evidence?
12. Does it have a subsection explaining why we need to know each of the

things that will be discovered in the project?

It may help to refer to the list compiled in answering question 4.

13. Does it cite evidence from the literature to make the case that the sub-questions are important?
14. Does this section cite evidence that the PI can manage a project of this scale and that the research team have the necessary skills to carry out all the work packages? Note that MRC, EPSRC, BBSRC and NERC specify that the case for support should have a special section for information about the achievements of the research team, which would be a place to highlight such evidence.

### **Introduction**

15. Does it begin with a one-sentence statement of the overall aim or of the problem that will be addressed by the research?  
Is it the same as the first sentence in the Background section?
16. Does it then state why the research problem is important using the same sentence as highlighted in 10?
17. Does it state what questions need to be answered, in the same order as they are justified in the Background section?
18. Does it state what the project will discover?
19. Are the statements in the same order and expressed in the same way as in the description of the project?
20. Does it state how the results will be disseminated?