

ESRC's portfolio of data collections and data services



Digital Footprints is one of the three major areas of new opportunity that the ESRC Data Infrastructure Strategy commits to over 5 years.



Population Research UK coordination hub

Apply for hub team funding to lead, coordinate and manage Population Research UK.

The team must be based at UK research organisations eligible for UKRI funding.

Opportunity status:	Open
Funders:	Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC) , Medical Research Council (MRC)
Funding type:	Grant
Total fund:	£10,800,000
Award range:	£10,260,000 - £10,800,000
Publication date:	10 May 2023
Opening date:	9 May 2023
Closing date:	10 July 2023 4:00pm UK time



Economic
and Social
Research Council

Issues we're trying to solve include:

- Data is hard to find & access
- Bilateral licensing creates inefficiencies, prevents interlinking, and creates reproducibility challenges
- Lack of data → lack of tested, robust new methods, tools, ethical standards, governance practices
- Inequities in data access

The landscape of data readiness

‘The availability and quality of the UK nation’s data dictates our ability to respond in an agile manner to evolving events.’

Data Readiness: Lessons from an Emergency. The DELVE Initiative

Scope and vision

- Data generated through our everyday engagement with devices and systems
- Address critical gaps within the research data landscape to harness the research potential of such data
- Unlock new evidence-based insights to address global challenges
- Ensure our work is trustworthy, inclusive and responsible, secure, and sustainable

WatPop

Alan Smith (University of Plymouth) and Andy Newing (University of Leeds)



Study uses water data to map population changes caused by tourism

In Devon and Cornwall, up to one in 20 dwellings represent self-catering tourist accommodation but very little is known about occupan

Funding opportunity

Pre-announcement: ESRC responsive mode: secondary data analysis round one

Opportunity status:	Upcoming
Funders:	Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC)
Funding type:	Grant
Maximum award:	£300,000
Publication date:	24 April 2023
Opening date:	26 June 2023
Closing date:	28 September 2023 4:00pm UK time



James M Flanagan (Imperial)

Yasemin Hirst (UCL)

Sudha Sundar (Birmingham)

Hanna Brewer (Imperial)

Marc Chadeau-Hyam (Imperial)

<https://www.clocsproject.org.uk/>

What is the Digital Footprints programme?

The Digital Footprints programme is a 6 year programme to be delivered in two phases:

Phase 1

- £10 million
- Running from April 2022 to September 2024

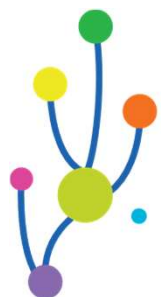
Phase 2

- £49 million
- Running from April 2023 to April 2029

Phase 1 (2022-2024):



Consumer
Data
Research
Centre



Urban
Big
Data
Centre



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Funding opportunity

Deliver foundations for a transformation in digital footprint data

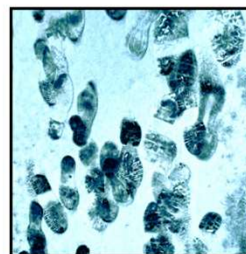
Opportunity status:	Open
Funders:	Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC)
Funding type:	Grant
Total fund:	£2,500,000
Maximum award:	£500,000
Publication date:	26 August 2022
Opening date:	26 August 2022 9:00am UK time
Closing date:	31 August 2023 4:00pm UK time

Timeline

○	26 August 2022 9:00am
	Opening date
○	31 August 2023 4:00pm
	Closing date
○	1 March 2024
	Latest possible project start date

<https://digitalfootprintscommunity.org>

ESRC Digital Footprints Strategic Advice Team



A 2-year ESRC project funded to convene & leverage national and international expertise from across the entire Digital Footprints landscape.

Welcome!

The purpose of this webpage is to provide an overview of current and upcoming ESRC Digital Footprints Strategic Advice Team (SAT) activities and to provide ample avenues for stakeholders and community members to get involved and provide input. The ESRC's Digital Footprints programme presents an enormous opportunity for social and economic researchers across the UK and, to maximise the success of the investment, we are here to collect expertise and perspectives and also share opportunities widely.

This is a simple website by design, aimed to provide easy access to our formal activities, which include:

- Workshops
- Interviews and a questionnaire
- Digital Data Dives

We will review and digest the input we receive across these various activities, providing a series of reports and roadmaps, as we go.

About the ESRC Digital Footprints Programme

An overview of the Digital Footprints programme and ESRC contact information can be found [here](#). As Phase 2 opportunities become available

Objectives

Unlock access to data by building long-term partnerships with data owners

Deliver a secure, efficient, effective digital research infrastructure

Deliver research-ready digital footprint data to researchers

Foster public trust in digital footprints research through public involvement & engagement and responsible practices

Promote innovation by leading a thriving and skilled interdisciplinary digital footprints research community

Address the unique methodological and technical challenges of using digital footprints data for research

Deliver benefits for UK society and economy from the opportunities posed by digital footprints data

Pillars
4 research themes

Guide data acquisition priorities, inform cross-cutting activities, focus outputs on strategic challenges

Strategic Hub

provides

Leadership, partnerships, oversight, coordination, cross-cutting activities

Digital Research Infrastructure
federated for interoperability and linkage

Ethics & legal resource

Data Owners

provide

Data for research under multilateral license agreements

x 6 services

Data acquisition, domain expertise, secure hosting, data stewardship

Data Service A

provides

Dataset Dataset

Data Service B

provides

Dataset Dataset

Researchers

analyse & produce

Research findings, new methods & tools



Digital Footprints Two Year Plan

2023

- Accelerator scheme outline stage closing 20th of July
- Digital Footprints Strategy published
- Partnership development & engagement underway
- Strategic Advice Team championing & engaging the research community
- Data services – expression of interest open
- Digital research infrastructure – call open

2024

- Strategic hub fully established
- Data services commence
- Cross cutting programmes – call open

Your involvement

Strategic Advice Team

- [Digitalfootprintscommunity.org](https://digitalfootprintscommunity.org)
- Workshops
 - international best practice: 18th of May
 - technical aspects of our digital research infrastructure: 7th of June
 - Meet the Digital Footprints Strategic Hub team: 27th of June

Your involvement

Calls:

- [Deliver foundations for a transformation in digital footprint data – UKRI](#)
(EOI stage closing 20th of July)

Consultations:

- DARE UK - SATRE: TREs features survey, Federated Architecture
Blueprint request for comment
- Joint Committee on Human Rights will scrutinise the Data Protection and Digital Information Bill for its impact on human rights – submit evidence
by 26th of May

Connect with me: Deborah.Kroll@esrc.ukri.org



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Thank you



ESRC: Economic and Social Research Council



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