**SIPR (50%) PhD Studentships 2024/2025**

# **Information for Applicants**

* Prior agreement must be confirmed (as a letter for support) from the host institution that they (or another funding body) will provide 50% of the fees and stipend along with the necessary funding and resources for the PhD studentship, including equipment, office space and institutional postgraduate support for the duration of the project. This confirmation should be attached with the full application.
* Any award of funding will be conditional to receiving a letter of support from Police Scotland (or the relevant external body) where the project will require access to personnel or data.
* Successful studentships should be openly advertised through the appropriate channels (e.g., Find a PhD). Host institutions will decide on appropriate candidates and be responsible for the selection decisions.
* Once successful studentships have been selected, the lead host institution will be required to enter into a funding agreement with SIPR. This agreement will set out the expectations of the host institution and the PhD candidate, including advising annual plans, financial and reporting requirements, ethical conduct, and publication. Annual progress plans for each studentship will be sent to the SIPR executive committee.
* Students will be expected to acknowledge SIPR support in all reports and any publications resulting from the supported studentship.

**Assessment Process**

Each application will be subject to a robust assessment process involving two review stages. The first stage will include an independent review panel consisting of senior Scottish and international academics, as well as police personnel. Each assessor will review and score all applications against the following criteria and make and recommendation to fund or not based on:

* The strength of the supervisory scheme
* The project’s strategic alignment with SIPR research themes
* The project’s strategic alignment with Scottish Government and Police Scotland Policing priorities
* The project’s feasibility
* The project’s innovation
* The perceived benefits and impact of the project

All precautions will be taken to safeguard against conflicts of interest, including ensuring that no reviewer represents any of the applying host institutions. All applicants will have the opportunity to submit a short rejoinder (maximum 500 words) in response to the comments from the first review panel. The applications with the highest scores from the first round will then be considered by an Awarding Panel. This panel will be chaired but a senior academic based in Scotland who is external to the SIPR Leadership Team, and they will consider both the reviewers’ comments as well as the applicants rejoinder.

In addition to the academic chair, the Awarding Panel will also consist of senior police officers and staff, senior members of the Scottish Police Authority, the SIPR Director and Associate Director (Development), and the SIPR Knowledge Exchange and Business Manager, and potentially other senior academics drawn from the SIPR International Advisory Committee. This panel will be responsible for choosing the two successful applications by majority vote.

**Application Form and Project Proposal**

# **Host Institution**

**Note**: The host institution will be liable for the provision of 50% of the fees and stipend of the studentship. The host will also be required to provide all necessary resources, e.g., office space, IT, postgraduate support, etc. Approval from the host institution should be gained before making this application.

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1. **Other Collaborating Institutions (if applicable)**

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1. **Supervision**

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|  | **Name** | **Position** | **Institution** | **No. of current doctoral students** | **No. of doctoral completions** |
| **Director of Studies** |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Second Supervisor** |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Additional Supervisor (if applicable)** |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Advisor (if applicable)** |  |  |  |  |  |

A key criterion for funding is that the proposed research will contribute to one or more of SIPRs strategic research priority themes. More information on the strategic priorities can be found [here](https://www.sipr.ac.uk/strategic-research-priorities/).

1. **To which strategic research priority area and SIPR network does your research best align?** (Select all that apply from the table below – minimum of one theme and one network)

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| **Theme / Network** | **Yes** | **No** |
| Theme 1: Policing and Health, safety and well-being |  |  |
| Theme 2: Technology and digital policing |  |  |
| Theme 3: Policing systems, capability and resilience |  |  |
| Network: [Education and Leadership](https://www.sipr.ac.uk/education-and-leadership/) |  |  |
| Network: Evidence and Investigation |  |  |
| Network: [Police Community Relations](https://www.sipr.ac.uk/police-community-relations/) |  |  |
| Network: [Public Protection](https://www.sipr.ac.uk/public-protection/) |  |  |

1. **Strategic Alignment (1,000 words)**

Describe how this research aligns with SIPR’s [strategic research priority themes](https://www.sipr.ac.uk/strategic-research-priorities/)and policing priorities in Scotland (see[The Joint Strategy for Policing](https://www.scotland.police.uk/spa-media/5bvht3rs/joint-strategy-for-policing-2023.pdf?view=Standard)2023 and[Strategic Police Priorities for Scotland](https://www.spa.police.uk/who-we-are/priorities-for-policing/#:~:text=There%20are%20six%20strategic%20priorities%20for%20policing%20in,and%20security%2C%20confidence%2C%20partnerships%2C%20sustainability%2C%20people%2C%20and%20evidence.)).

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1. **Project Proposal (2,000 words)**

Please provide a description of the project including an outline of the background to the research, the aims and objectives, partners involved, and methodology and proposed timeline for the project.

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1. **Impact (1,000 words)**

Please provide an outline of the intended benefit and impact of the studentship including plans for engagement, dissemination, and impact.

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**NOTE: Please ensure that a letter of support is attached from the host institution (or funding body) confirming they will provide 50% of the fees and stipend along with the necessary funding and resources for the PhD studentship, including equipment, office space and institutional postgraduate support for the duration of the project**.

The timeline is as follows:

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| Funding call launched | Friday 1 November 2024 |
| Deadline for expressions of interest by e-mail | Friday 22 November 2024 |
| Deadline for full applications (proposals and HEI letter of support) | Monday 17 February 2025 |
| Reviewers return comments | Friday 28 February 2025 |
| Award panel meets | W/c Monday 3 March 2025 |
| Notification of decisions | Friday 14 March 2025 |
| Anticipated PhD start date | Autumn 2025 |

If you have any questions about this scheme, please contact Professor [Kirsteen Grant](mailto:k.grant@napier.ac.uk), SIPR Associate Director (ECR Development).

Please indicate your expression of interest and intent to apply by e-mail to [SIPR@napier.ac.uk](mailto:SIPR@napier.ac.uk).