**Annex B – Lead Supervisor Supporting Statement for 2025 Entry**

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| **SWDTP Lead Supervisor Supporting Statement** | | |
| **Student name**: | | |
| **Title of research proposal:** | | |
| **Pathway(s) student has applied for:** | | |
| **Lead supervisor** (must be from an SWDTP partner university that offers the pathway(s) applied for) | | |
| **Name:**  **Primary Discipline** (from list at [Social science disciplines – UKRI](https://www.ukri.org/who-we-are/esrc/what-is-social-science/social-science-disciplines/))**:**  **Department/School:**  **Institution:**  **E-mail:** | | |
| (1) Please confirm that a second supervisor will be appointed when or before the student begins their PhD  (2) Please confirm that at least one of the lead and second supervisors has supervised one or more UK based postgraduate doctoral students from their start to a successful completion  (3) Please also confirm that the Lead Supervisor meets any requirements that the host institution sets locally on who is or is not eligible to take on this role | (1) YES / NO  (2) YES / NO  (3) YES / NO | |
| **(OPTIONAL)**  **Include below any further information you wish to provide about the supervisory team (e.g. details of the second supervisor, if known at this time)** | | |
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| **Please indicate (with a X) if the applicant has applied for consideration under any ONE of the following strategic steers:** | | |
| Data skills | |  |
| Advanced Quantitative Methods (AQM) | |  |
| **Please detail any resources and/or research facilities required in the project (e.g., equipment, software or surveys).** | | |
| *Note: the SWDTP cannot give funding for facilities/equipment/software/books/computing, etc. that we may reasonably expect to be provided as part of the research infrastructure available to support postgraduate students*  ------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------- | | |

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| **SUPERVISORY AND INSTITUTIONAL FIT** |
| *Please explain how you plan to support the student through their PhD and what ‘added value’ you, your institution and/or any relevant interdisciplinary and/or cross-institutional collaborations/training opportunities bring to supporting the student’s research, training and their professional and development needs. What we are looking to understand is: your approach to supervision and, for interdisciplinary or collaborative PhDs, a clear strategy to foster that interdisciplinarity / collaboration; why the proposed research is a good fit with you and, where applicable, the second supervisor, as well as to the broader institutional context and SWDTP partnership; the opportunities available locally for the student to be part of a wider network of postgraduates and their training, and/or how you will look to lever value from the SWDTP to support such networking, collaboration and communities of practice; and a clear statement of commitment to helping ensure that the research is completed within its period of funding. (500 words in total – this is a strict maximum).*  ------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------ |
| **RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS** |
| *In no more than three bullet points, each consisting of a single and short sentence, please summarise the research highlights and potential of what the applicant is proposing – these might include but are not limited to: what is novel about the research; why it matters; and who the beneficiaries will be.*  -------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------- |

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| **PASTORAL SUPPORT** |
| *All supervisors: Please provide brief information about who the student could talk to for pastoral support and advice, if they did not wish to discuss it with their advisors. Please also indicate how the student is informed about this person or service.*  ------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------- |
| If it is anticipated that the proposed project might include activities that pose a risk to the student’s mental well-being, please highlight this here and outline what support structures will be put in place to ameliorate the risk. You should also highlight any potential need for professional/clinical mental health support over and above what is available at an institutional level. Finally, please confirm below that you have had a conversation with the student about these issues. The information will not inform the initial scoring of the application, but we reserve the right not to offer funding to proposals where the risk to student mental health and well-being has not been adequately considered. |
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| **TIME MANAGEMENT AND NOT EXCEEDING THE FUNDING PERIOD** | |
| *All supervisors:* ***The ESRC expects all PhDs should be submitted before their funding period ends and can suspend institutions where this is not happening from receiving studentships for a period****. Assuming a funding period of 3 years and 3 months (or the part-time equivalent of 6 years and 6 months) in which to undertake the PhD (this excludes any extra time given for a research placement or for any required skills training), please confirm the following:* | |
| (1) I have a high confidence that the proposed research can be completed within a funded period of 3 years and 3 months (or part-time equivalent)  (2) I understand the importance of the student submitting within the funded period and the financial risk to my institution of them not doing so  (3) I understand that the research should not be considered to be a 4-year project (or the part-time equivalent)  (4) I will support the student to submit within their funded period and not add additional expectations that might delay the time of submission | (1) YES / NO  (2) YES / NO  (3) YES / NO  (4) YES / NO |

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| **DECLARATION** |
| We allow potential supervisors to read, comment and provide feedback on draft research proposals, if they are willing and have the time to do so. We also recognise that some research is collaborative and co-produced with an external partner that may provide guidance in framing what sort of research questions are of interest to them and what resources they have available to support the research (e.g. access to data, archives or policy networks). However, the research proposal should be substantively the applicant’s own work.  Please outline the level/nature of the involvement that you (or others) have had in the production of the research proposal. |
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| **Signature:**  **Date**:  *Please note by signing or submitting this form in support of the applicant, you consent to us adding your e-mail address to our contact mailing list for supervisors. You can, if you wish, subsequently opt-out from that list.* |