



Arts & Humanities  
Research Council

## **AHRC guidance for the Principal Investigator (PI) Response**

### **Principal Investigator Response (Right of Reply)**

For all schemes, except the Research Networking scheme and Follow-on Funding schemes, applicants whose application passes the quality threshold (i.e. receive two or more reviews graded at 4, 5 or 6) will be given the 'right of reply' to the reviews received. The Principal Investigator (PI) will be invited to submit a PI response to the reviews and any technical assessments received. This allows applicants to correct any factual errors or conceptual misunderstandings, or to respond to any queries highlighted in the comments from the reviewers. It is not intended to be an opportunity for the applicant to change or re-constitute a proposal in light of the comments.

Applicants are not obliged to submit a response, but are encouraged to do so, as responses from applicants are forwarded to the peer review panel and are taken into account when proposals are moderated.

If a response is not received from the PI within the period stated, then the application will proceed to the peer review panel without it.

If a PI considers that a response to a particular review or reviews is not required, they should include a statement to this effect in their response..

### **Points to consider for PI response:**

- there is no need to repeat reviewer comments
- you should aim to keep language neutral in tone, even if you feel strongly about a reviewer's comments
- it is important to focus on answering questions and addressing any issues raised by reviewers
- you should aim to be specific in your comments
- You should not re-write the application.