

# **Q&A on Strategic Equipment**

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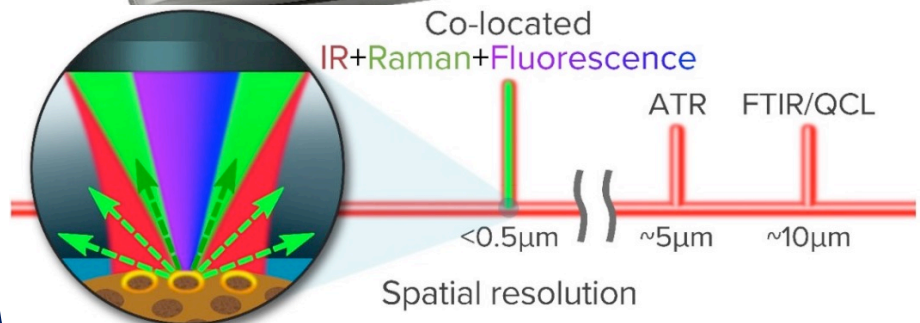
# Raman centre of excellence

## Strategic equipment – part 1 *approved*

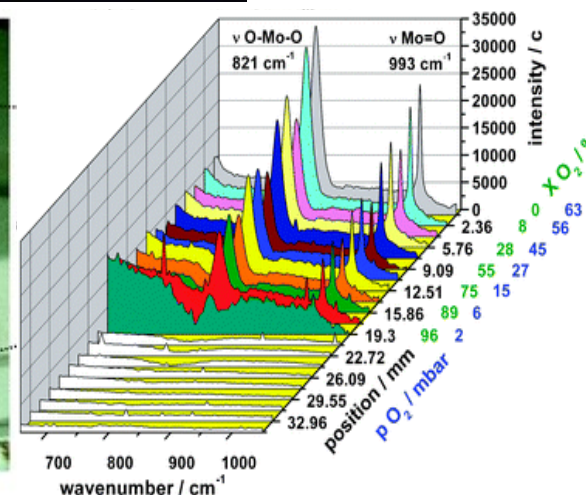
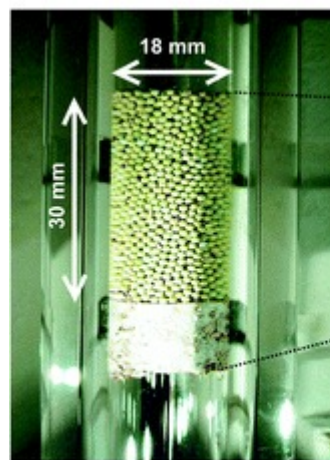


Liquid fibre  
optic probe

Solid fibre  
optic probe



O-PTIR (unique Raman/IR imaging)



Existing  
Equipment  
(Harwell)

- Renishaw Invia microscope
- Avantes AvaRaman spectrometer (fibre optic probe)

## Access

- Free, via online portal

# Strategic equipment – Eol call

<https://ukcatalysishub.co.uk/uk-catalysis-hub-strategic-equipment-call>

- £ 1.2 million (@ 80 % FEC)

**Call opens**  
**(1<sup>st</sup> June 2025)**

**Call closes**  
**(26th September 2025)**

**Successful bid notified**  
**(30<sup>th</sup> November 2025)**

**Invoicing complete**  
**(31<sup>st</sup> March 2027)**



## **Application process**

- ~ 2-page pro-forma
- Summary of the request (item, cost, purpose)
- Location of the equipment/embedding
- Community engagement
- Management & sustainability
- Added value
- Timeline (work plan)

## **Assessment process**

- **Multi-institution panel**
- Quality and breadth of the science it enables against phase III objectives (primary (1°));
- User engagement and sustainability (2° major)
- Strategic importance (2° major)
- Applicants' track record/host institution (2°)
- Plans to manage the equipment (2°)

# Call Specifics

- The strategic equipment call is intended to support cutting edge **theory** or **experimental research** during UK Catalysis Hub phase III.
- The resource can be used to fund either a **single piece of equipment or multiple pieces** which should either enable new research or else improve the performance of existing research capability.
- Equipment costs will be funded at **100 % FEC** if located at a national facility or campus or if at a UK HEI, **at 80 % FEC** with the remaining 20 % required from the host institution or a 3<sup>rd</sup> party. Additional contributions (leverage) from other parties are also welcome.
- As with all UK Catalysis Hub equipment it is expected that this new equipment operates with **zero cost recovery for basic measurements/experiments**.
- Consideration should be given to what strategic equipment is already available to the community to avoid significant duplication.

https://form.jotform.com/251052456913050

UK Catalysis Hub Strategic Equipment EoI  
2025/2026

Application Form This form should be completed adhering to the word limits where stated. Submit the form by 17:00 26th September 2025

1. Title \*

applicant title / name of equipment

Name \*

First Name

Last Name

Email \*

example@example.com

List the names and affiliations (Department/institute & Faculty) of the lead applicant and co-applicants. Please also list the name(s) of team member(s) who will be administering and monitoring the purchase and delivery of the equipment should your application be successful.

2. Team details \*

	Name	Lead/ Co applicant/ administrator	department / Institute	email
1				
2				
2				
4				
5				

3. Summary of the equipment request \*

0/750

Provide a description of the request, using the subheadings.

a. Item: Name and specific model of the item of equipment.

b. Cost of the item(s): Outline the cost of the item(s).

c. Description: Briefly describe the item of equipment and its primary functions/applications.

d. Scope: Describe how this investment will facilitate the undertaking of high quality catalysis related research and/or training of the relevant research community.

e. Strategic importance: Describe the fit to the Catalysis Hub strategic research priorities, and alignment to existing research strengths and activity.

(750words maximum)

4. Where will the equipment be located and why \*

Note. If the equipment will be located at a national facility the cost will be transferred at 100%. If the equipment will be located at an academic institution costs will be supported at 80% FEC. Please state why this is the ideal location  
0/100

5. Community Engagement \*

0/350

Please indicate :

a. What activities will be carried out to engage the Catalysis Hub community and to communicate what is possible with the equipment?

b. What measures and mechanisms will be put in place to ensure the equipment is open and free at the point of access?

c. How will you monitor the number and type of users, enhanced sharing, usage and collaboration? (350words maximum)

6. Management and Sustainability \*

0/600

a. How will you sustain the equipment in terms of maintenance, repairs, consumables and staff time throughout its lifetime?

b. Outline how this facility will leverage additional capability/benefits for the UK Catalysis Hub community.

c. How will you sustain and evolve a diverse and inclusive user base throughout the lifetime of the equipment?

d. What steps will you take to champion the visibility, recognition and career development

e. Please give an indication of any possible environmental impact of this investment.

f. Propose how 20 % of the full economic purchase cost will be obtained - for equipment located at Academic HEIs

(600 words maximum)

7. Budget

	Total budget for the proposal (inc./exc. VAT) in GBP	Costs requested for the equipment (inc./exc. VAT as appropriate) in GBP?
amount		
in kind contributions		

Provide the approximate total budget for the proposal

Prices should include VAT where appropriate. Please consult your finance departments before applying and clearly state if the equipment requested is eligible, or ineligible, for VAT Zero Rating.

Additional notes or explanations on budget request (e.g. currency conversion rates and 10% currency conversion buffers applied, and any other contributions to cost of the equipment): (150 words maximum)

0/150

8. Work Plan \*

0/150

Please indicate:

- a. Details of the timescales of the procurement process
- b. Timescale for delivery, installation and getting the equipment fully functional
- c. Expected lifetime of the equipment
- d. When potential risks may occur
- e. Maximum spend you could incur (invoicing must be submitted **before** 31 March 2027)

150 words maximum

9. Quotations for the equipment requested (if available/applicable)

	Please list the three lowest quotations against respective suppliers. Quotations should be included as an attachment to the application. Please indicate any negotiated discounts.
supplier 1	
supplier 2	
supplier 3	

10. Statement from Head of Department/Facility Director (where required\*)

0/400

- a. Confirm that the department/facility commits to host the equipment within its existing space footprint. Any potential estates costs beyond that provided by the equipment award or the host should be detailed.
- b. Confirm any cash contributions that will be made to the award if successful, including to the purchase of individual items of equipment.
- c. Confirm any in-kind support that will be provided to the successful running of the equipment, for example in terms of administrative and technical support.

\*a statement is required if you are hosting the equipment at a academic institution and the equipment will be transferred at 80%

(400 words maximum)

Submit

# Q&A

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