

STFC support for PPT: Overview

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PPAP Community Meeting, Birmingham, 17th September 2012

Consolidated Grants 2011

CG is now the “one stop shop” for STFC support
18 CGI applications (including 4 from consortia)
supporting 160 academics in 51 projects
2 new groups (City, RHUL) bid in 2011






	11/12	12/13	13/14	14/15	15/16
PPGP(T) grants line	5001	4853	4909	5354	5530
Committed	2858	72	-	-	-
Available	2143	4781	4909	5354	5530
Requested	6558	13456	13765	12788	5822
Δ	-4415	-8675	-8856	-7434	-292

	PDRAs	students	academic FTE
Fundable	41.5	2	77.3
Funded	29.3	2	20.3

Projects funded in three bands:

	# projects	PDRAs	academic FTE	FEC
leading	20	20.7	11.1	20%
important	15	8.7	6.7	15%
competitive	10	-	2.5	10%

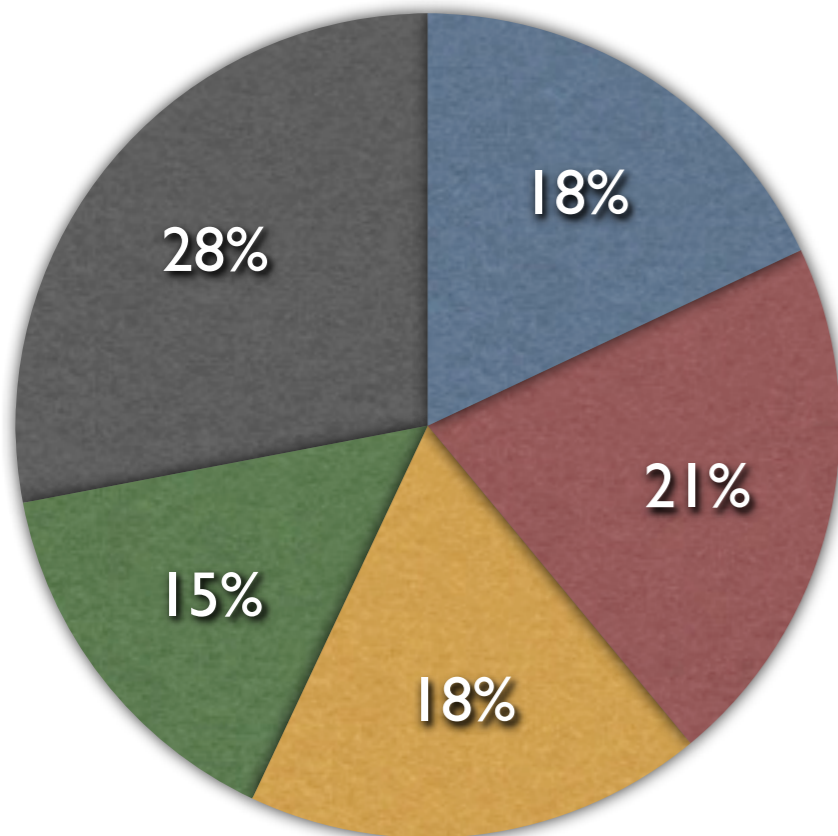
Trends over time

	2005	2008	2011
# bidding academics	122	155	163 
Budget (inc FEC)	-	£16.4M	£14.5M 
maximum FEC	-	28.5%	20% 
average FEC	-	20%	14% 
PDRAs	34 (+7 SPG)	34.3(+1 SPG)	29.3 

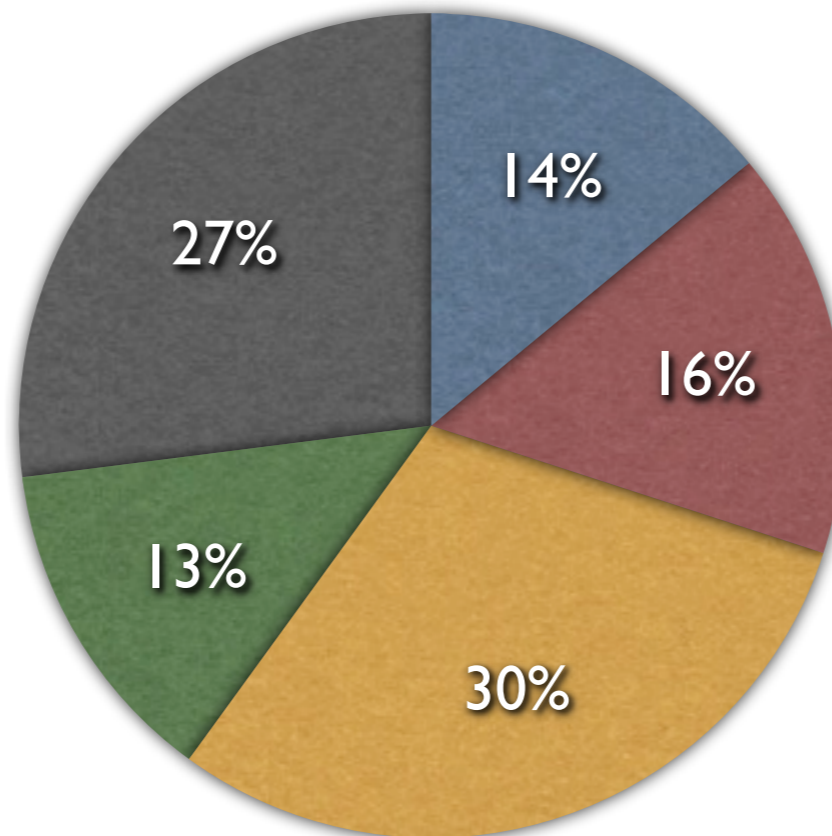
Slicing the PDRA pie...



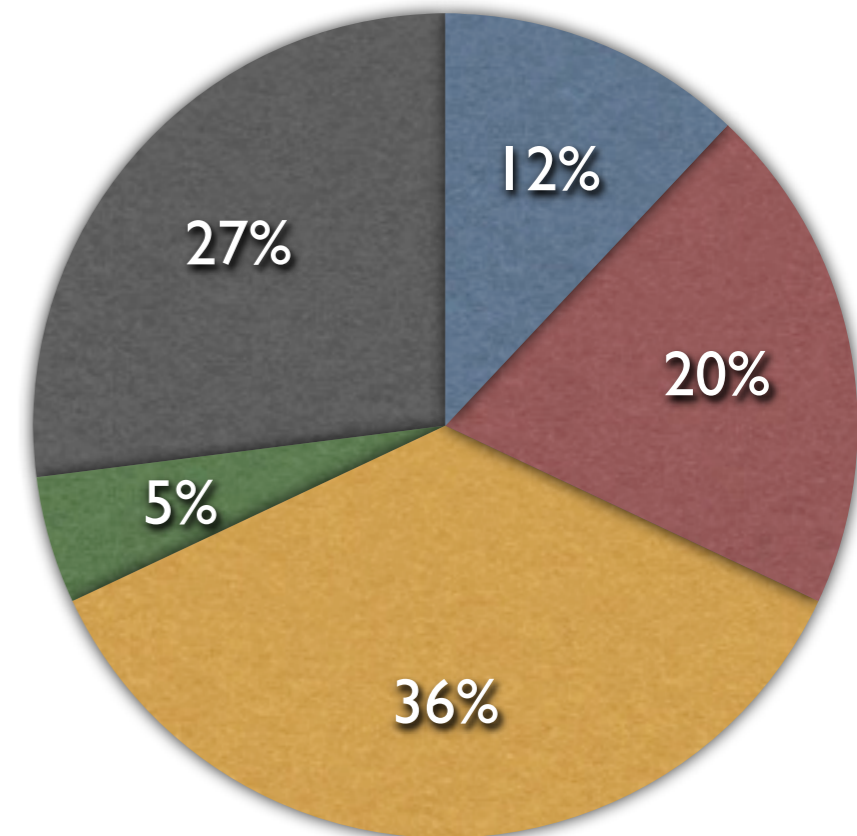
2005



2008



2011



- steady growth in pheno - onset of LHC
- lattice “bounce” reflects onset of DiRAC
- apparent decline in QFT probably a labelling issue
- what’s happening to cosmo?

Consortia - a new feature in the game

Four consortium bids in CGI I

- Manchester - Lancaster - Sheffield
- Sussex - RHUL
- Edinburgh - Heriot Watt
- Durham - Newcastle

Geographically-based rather than subject-based

PPGP judged consortium bid added strength in all cases

Fellowships (thanks Clare Heseltine (E&T))

AF	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012 (ERF)
PPT	2	0	1	1	1
PPE	2	2	2	1	3
Particle Astro	1	0	3	1	1
Astro	6	3	5	5	6
NP	0	1	1	2	2
Total	11	6	12	10	13

Why is PPT being out-performed by the other tribes?

PDF	2008	2009	2010 - present
PPT	3	2	-
PPE	1	2	-
Particle Astro	1	3	-
Astro	5	6	-
NP	1	0	-
Total	11	13	-

Studentships (DTA awards with 3.5 years funding)

	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
PPT	x/103	x/100	36	35	36
PPE	y/103	y/100	54	50	43
Astro	136	137	132	122	128
NP	20	19	13	13	13
Total	259	256	235	220	220

Also 57 STEP awards (£40k for 6-12 months) to assist passage from PGR to PDRA in period 4/12 - 9/15.

Mathematical Physics (thanks Mike Duff, Jerome Gauntlett)

Despite its *Excellent* ranking in EPSRC's own International Review of Mathematical Sciences, in the recent EPSRC Shaping Capability exercise it is the only subtheme to be reduced.

** The reason to reduce was because "over the past ten years capacity in Mathematical Physics has grown such that continuing support at current levels risks undermining support for capacity in other important areas. As such, support for this area overall will be reduced to ease the pressure on other areas."*

Impact is difficult to pin down, but assuming projects in QFT, gravity and strings/M theory are jeopardised, there is a potential cut of $O(\text{£}1 - 1.5\text{M})$ p.a. in these areas, (as well as loss of EPSRC-funded fellows)
ie. roughly 25% of STFC-funded programme

Meanwhile there are new groups in City, Southampton, Surrey...

High Performance Computing

Recent capital grants of O(£30M) establish the DiRAC HPC facility have not been matched by adequate recurrent funding for power, cooling & systems support

CGI I received bids totalling £570k p.a. to cover recurrent costs for DiRAC 2012-2014, from chiefly UKQCD and to a lesser extent COSMOS
i.e. 6.6 PDRA posts!

PPGP tensioned this bid against the rest of the PPT programme. HPC costs trimmed to £312k p.a.;
some PDRA posts were trimmed

Unless stable recurrent funding for DiRAC is found, tensioning will happen again in CGI3