

Research Infrastructures and COVID-19 Research Responses to the questionnaire

ISIS Neutron and Muon Source, UK

ISIS provides beams of neutrons and muons which are used to study the atomic- and molecular-level properties of materials. Areas of application are very broad, and include energy materials, chemistry and catalysis, biomolecular sciences, engineering materials, fundamental magnetism and superconductivity, geological and archaelogical materials, and polymers and other soft matter systems.

SERVICE/S IMPLEMENTED

The ISIS Neutron and Muon Source has 34 experiment stations which allow materials to be studied with neutrons and muons at the atom level, including diffractometers, spectrometers, reflectometers, small angle scattering instruments, muon instruments and a chip irradiation facility. Proposals are normally submitted to two annual calls, but a rapid access system allows urgent studies to be submitted at any time, and an express mail-in system can be used for short measurements.

ISIS is not operational at present. Although ISIS has not set up a specific service to support Covid-19 research, our rapid and express routes can be used for any urgent and Covid-19 related work once we are operating again.

What stage in COVID-19 intervention your RI is addressing?

Although ISIS doesn't have a specific Covid-19 route, once we are operating again our express and rapid access mechanisms can be used for all urgent studies.

Instruments/databases involved:

n/a

How is the proposal submitted?

All ISIS proposals are submitted through our online portal which is available here: https://www.isis.stfc.ac.uk/Pages/Apply-for-beamtime.aspx

Who evaluates the proposal?

Proposals are peer-reviewed by external panels. Express proposals are given an internal technical assessment.

Is the submission continuous, or linked to a deadline?



Both - normally 2 calls per year, but proposals can also be submitted at any time.

• What is the estimated time from the submission to the access / service provision? For normal proposals, 6 months. Rapid and express are faster.

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE ACCESS

Restrictions: NO

In the case of analytical facilities, modality of access allowed: Remote and on-site access

Comment for remote access only:

If on-site access is allowed, is mobility support available?	NO
Is the access free for non-proprietary research?	YES
Is commercial access available at reduced prices?	YES
Are there limitations regarding the type of samples?	YES
Are there special requirements for shipment of the samples?	YES
Are there specific requirements regarding the preparation or	YES
handling of the samples?	

Additional comments related to the questions above: ISIS has dedicated access mechanisms for industry. We have a class-2 biolab.

ACCESSIBILITY OF THE PUBLICATION AND DATA

Is there any requirement to publish in open access journals?	NO
Is the data generated associated to metadata and is it publicly available?	YES
If yes, what is the embargo period?	3 years
Where is the data or metadata published? (e.g. in the institution's catalogue, in other open data repositories, etc).	institutional catalogue
Do you have further comments about data or metadata?	