

# **The Radioactive Waste Management Research Support Office: RWM RSO**

**University of Manchester, University of Sheffield,  
RWM and wider academic community.**

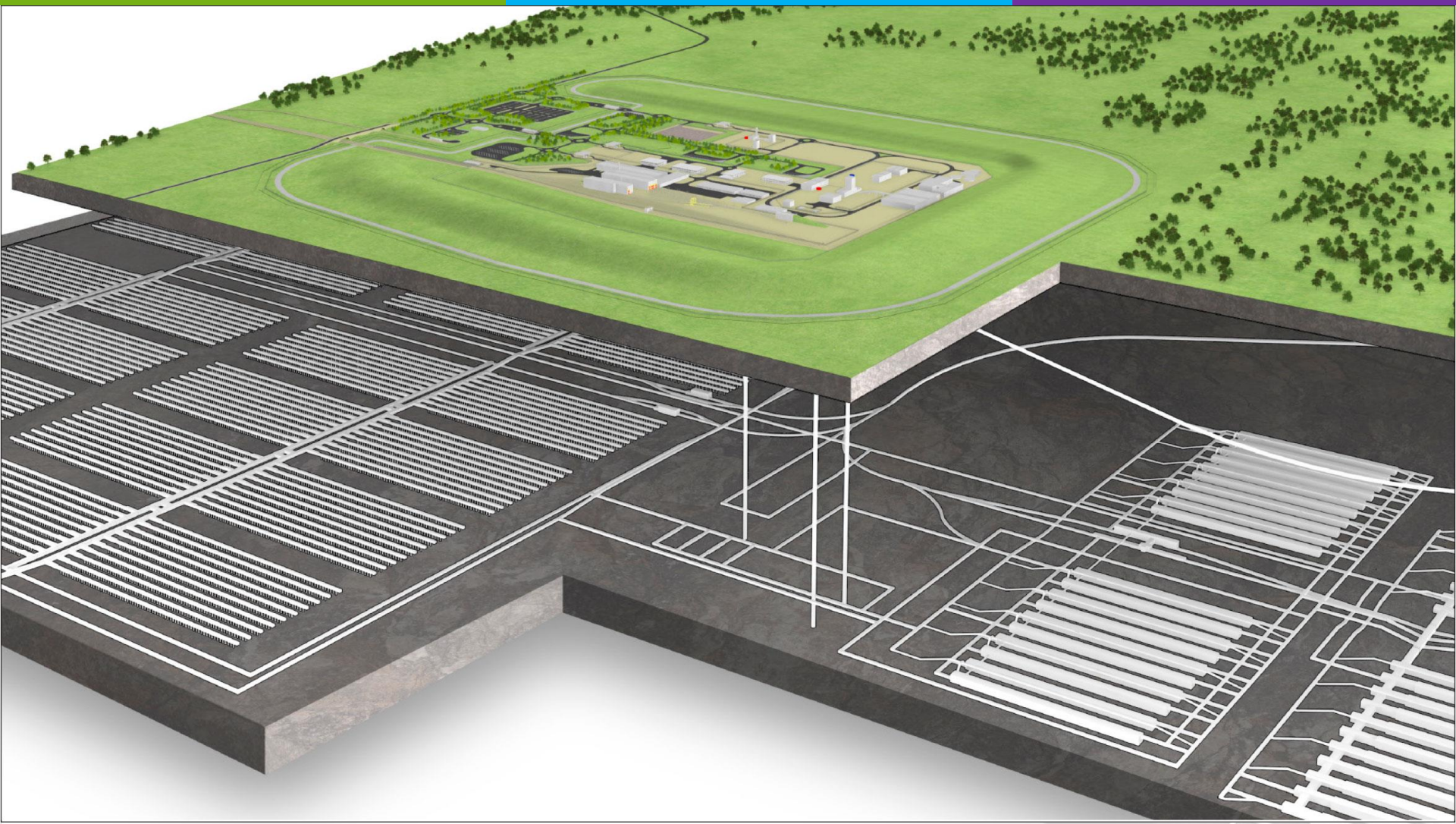
Katherine Morris – Academic Lead, RWM RSO

Nuclear Academics Meeting, Cambridge

National Organisations Update

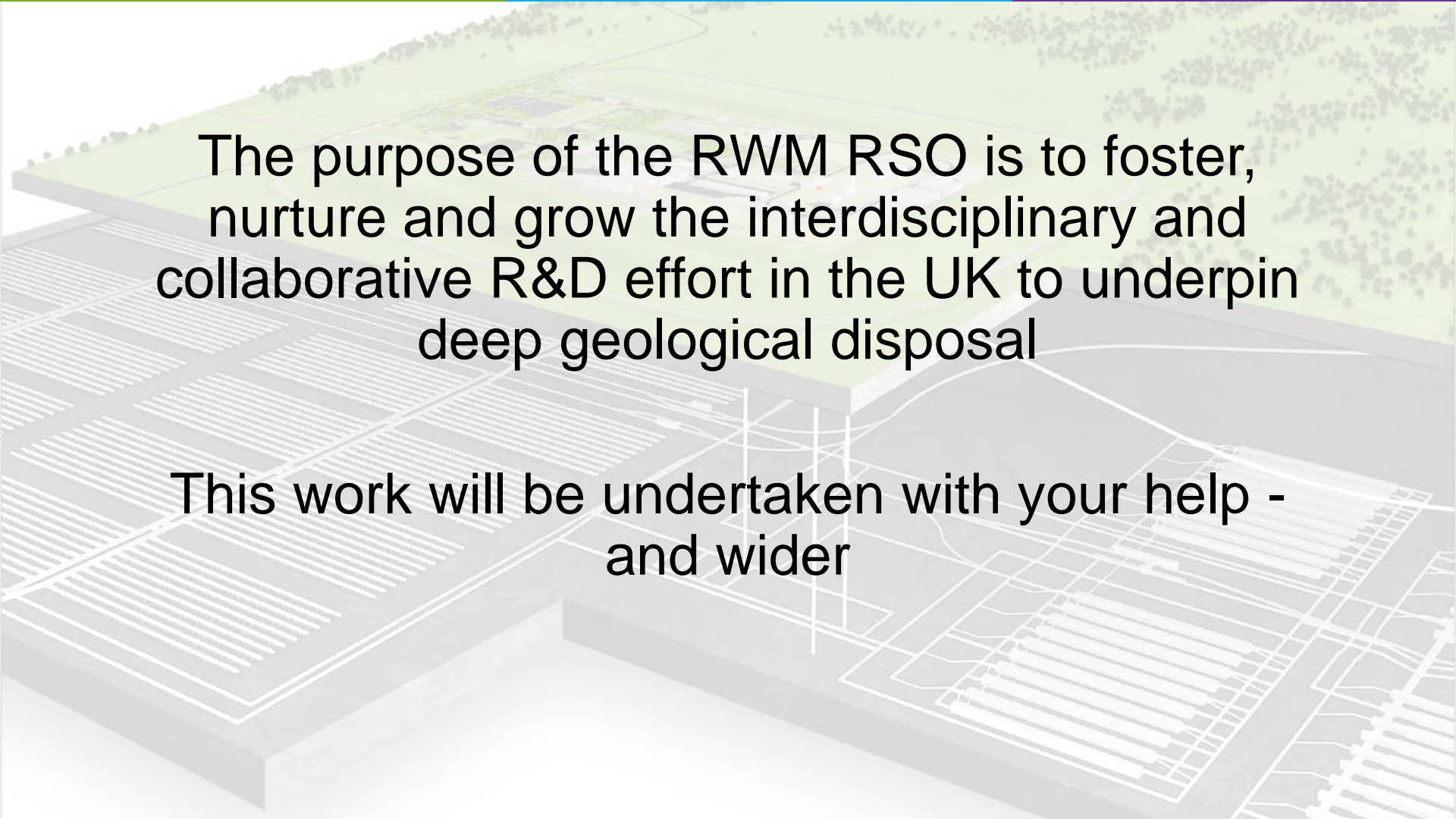
September 8<sup>th</sup> 2021

# The Challenge





# The RSO challenge

The background of the slide features a 3D perspective illustration of a deep geological disposal site. It shows a series of horizontal, rectangular disposal cells or tunnels arranged in a grid-like pattern, extending into the distance. The cells are separated by vertical walls. Above the disposal cells, there is a layer of green vegetation, possibly representing a forest or scrubland, which is situated on a sloping terrain. The overall scene is rendered in a light, semi-transparent style, allowing the text to be clearly visible over it.

The purpose of the RWM RSO is to foster, nurture and grow the interdisciplinary and collaborative R&D effort in the UK to underpin deep geological disposal

This work will be undertaken with your help - and wider

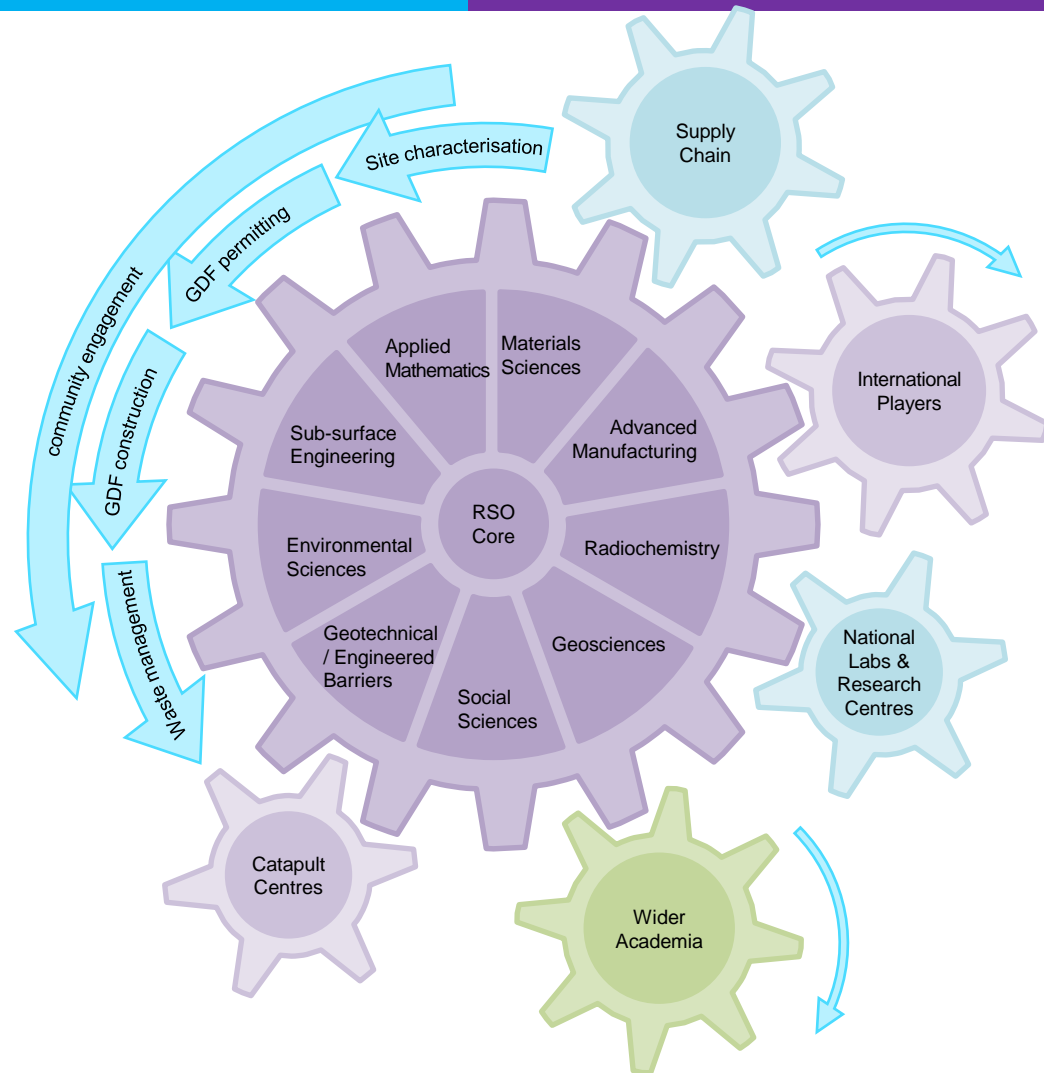
# RSO operation

**Hub:** RSO Core management team, driven by GDF programme needs – coordinating & prioritising research

**Spokes:** Academic Discipline Leads, working with RWM Subject Matter Experts – defining research scope

**Wheel / tyre:** Universities, research centres, international bodies – delivering research

**Together:** Delivering understanding to underpin GDF safety cases and developing an engaged, informed academic network



# People in the RSO: Core Team



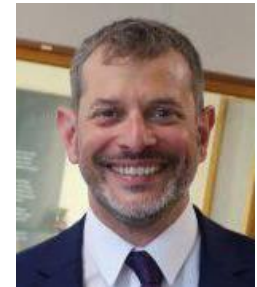
**Katherine Morris**  
Env Radioactivity  
Academic Lead



**Lucy Bailey**  
RWM Lead



**Sam Shaw**  
Env Mineralogy  
Manchester Lead



**Neil Hyatt**  
Radioactive Waste  
Management  
Sheffield Lead



**Helen Bayram**  
Project  
Manager

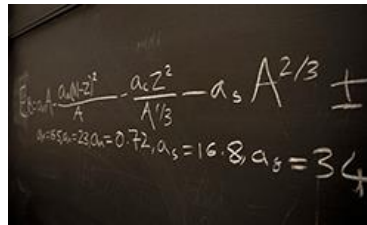


**Sam Roberts**  
Project  
Administrator

# Scope definition



Advanced manufacturing



Applied mathematics



Applied social science



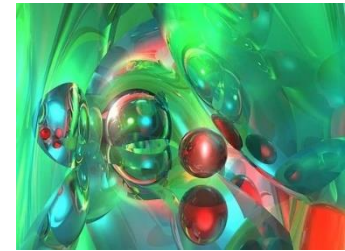
Environmental science



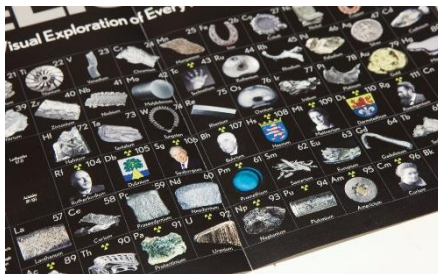
Geosciences



Geo-technical /  
engineered barriers



Materials science



Radiochemistry



Sub-surface engineering



Skills



# Discipline Leads



Adrian Bull



David Copplestone



Claire Corkhill



Scott Heath



Steve Jones



Francis Livens



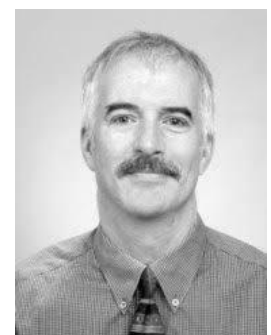
Becky Lunn



Majid Sedighi



Kevin Taylor



Robert Zimmerman

# Subject Matter Experts



Matt Bailey



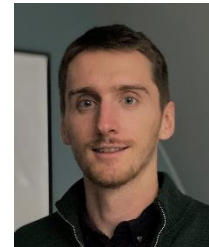
Will Bower



Steve Brown



Rob Carroll



Andy Cooke



Michelle Cowley



Dan Garbutt



Oliver Hall



Richard Hardy



Rosie Hibberd



Matt Kirby



Ray Kowe



Annabelle Lilycrop



Simon Norris



Mike Poole



Kat Raines



Amy Shelton



Sally Thompson



# Research brief development

Research priorities identified with SMEs and Discipline Leads and wider community.

SMEs secure RWM funding / RSO considers gearing and determine the scale and type of research to support (i.e. PhD, PDRA or other)

Research brief development – PhD, PDRA, Topic Area

Research brief is developed into a funding call which is published openly and transparently



Radioactive Waste  
Management

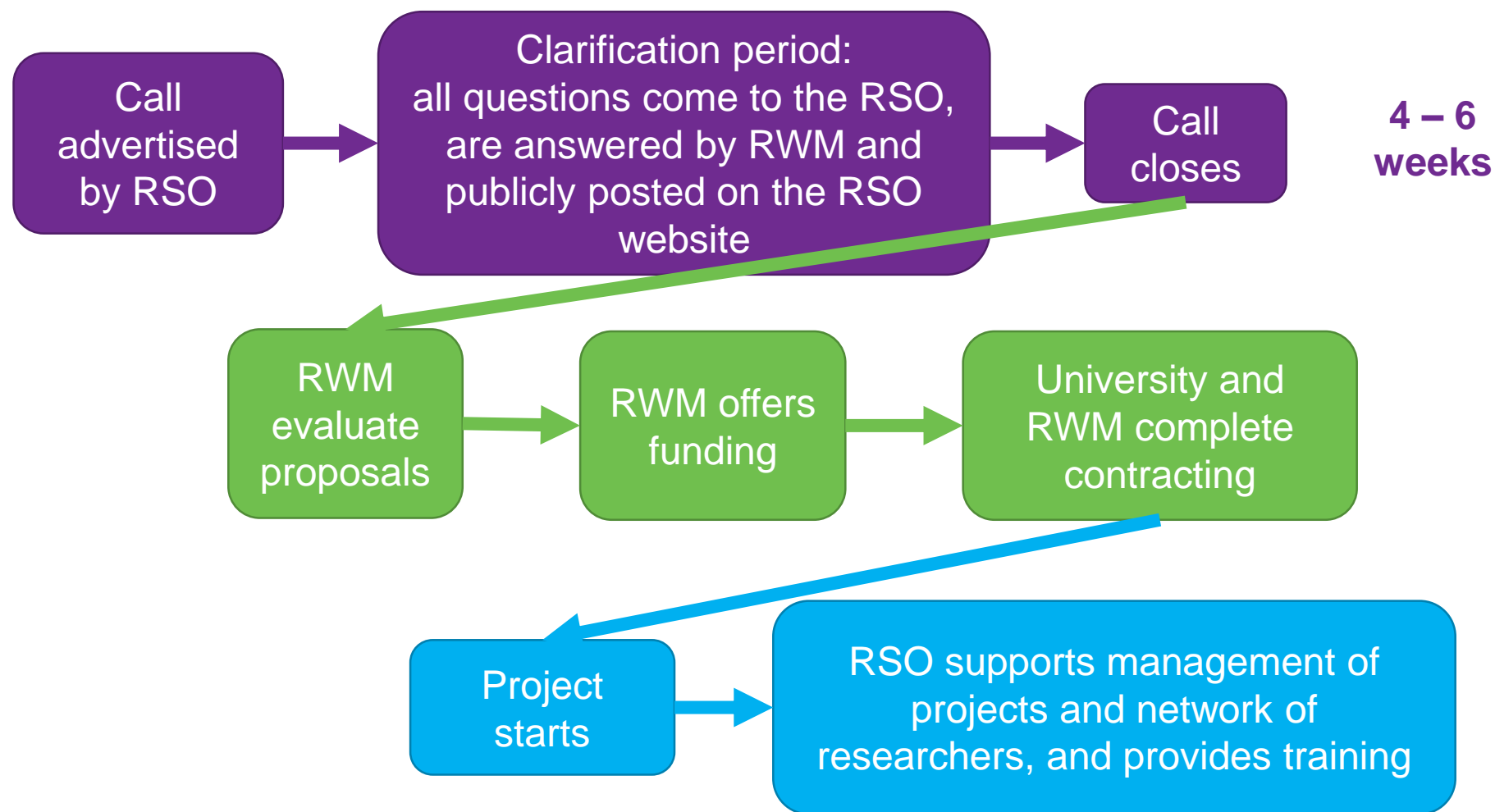
NDA/RWM/167

Geological Disposal  
Science and Technology Plan 2020

October 2020



# Calls for RWM funded research: process



# Upcoming opportunities

## **2021 / 2022 RWM RSO PhD Bursary Call**

- Approx. 20 defined PhD projects advertised plus an open topic.
- Funding 10 – 15 new projects
- **Autumn 2021**

## **PDRA research calls**

- Applied Social Science – Citizen Participation, **Sept/Oct 2021**
- Materials - Glass dissolution resumption, call opening **Dec/Jan 2021**

## **Lower Strength Sedimentary Rock (LSSR) workshop**

- Announcement of opportunity released soon, Nov 2021

## **Webinars**

- Last Thursday of the month online lunchtime seminar series



# Contacts

[www.research-support-office-gdf.ac.uk](http://www.research-support-office-gdf.ac.uk)  
[rso-gdf@manchester.ac.uk](mailto:rso-gdf@manchester.ac.uk)



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