



# National Nuclear User Facility Management Group update June 2023

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# National Nuclear User Facility



## NNUF Phase 1

- Established to support the Government Nuclear Industrial Strategy launched in March 2013

## NNUF Phase 2

- Funded by BEIS in 2019; delivery partner is EPSRC
- £81m in total: project running until early 2024
- £60m capital, £12m support, £6.5m to fund researchers from HEIs and national labs to use NNUF facilities
- 15 facility projects funded in round 1 (2019)
- 10 facility projects funded in round 2 (“Call 2a”: 2021)

## Management Group

- PI Prof Chris Grovenor (Oxford), Co-I Prof Malcolm Joyce (Lancaster), Co-I Prof Francis Livens (Manchester)
- NNUF Administrators: Francesca McGowan (Oxford), Mary English (Lancaster)

# NNUF user access scheme:

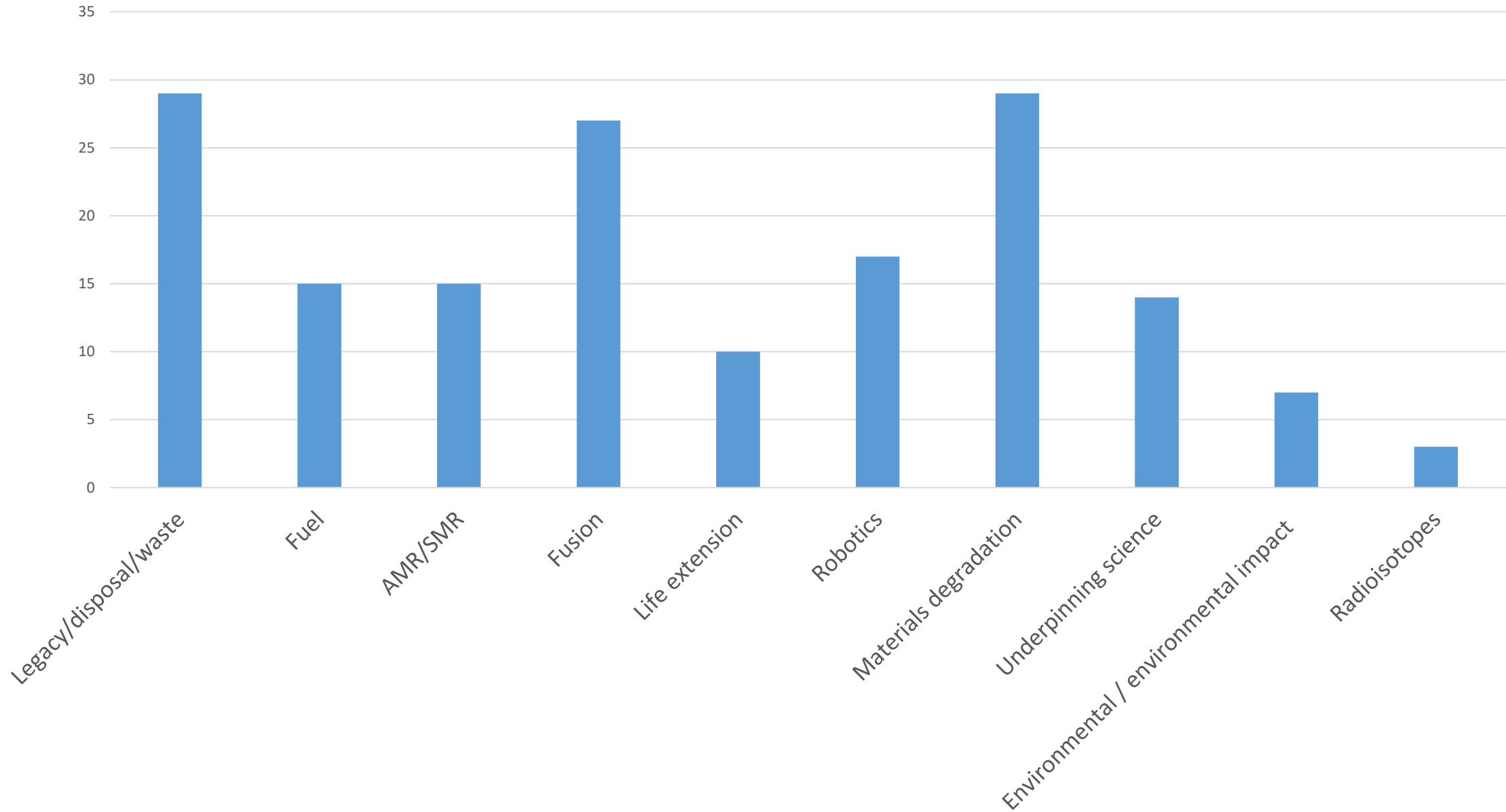
[nnuf.ac.uk/how-gain-access](http://nnuf.ac.uk/how-gain-access)



- £7.5m available (includes new £1m for new Larger Projects Competition)
- 144 access applications granted (and many completed). Nearly £4m committed.
- Access awarded to users from 31 different UK HEIs and national research institutes, plus a small number of international institutions
- 223 unique users, including 66 PhD students and 46 PDRAs
- Call 12 now closed – panel meeting tomorrow

# NNUF access awards by research area

(some projects fit into more than one area)



# Research outputs acknowledging support from NNUF (so far)

- # of papers identified in Scopus (24.06.23) 106
- # of citations to these papers 627
- H index of NNUF funding 15

“In February and April 2022, the Lyra robot, carried out a survey of the 140m-long underfloor duct which runs under the central corridor between the laboratories.

The technology was developed by teams at Dounreay, the Robotics and Artificial Intelligence in Nuclear (RAIN) Hub and FIS360, and was made available for the survey through the **National Nuclear User Facility's Hot Robotics programme.**

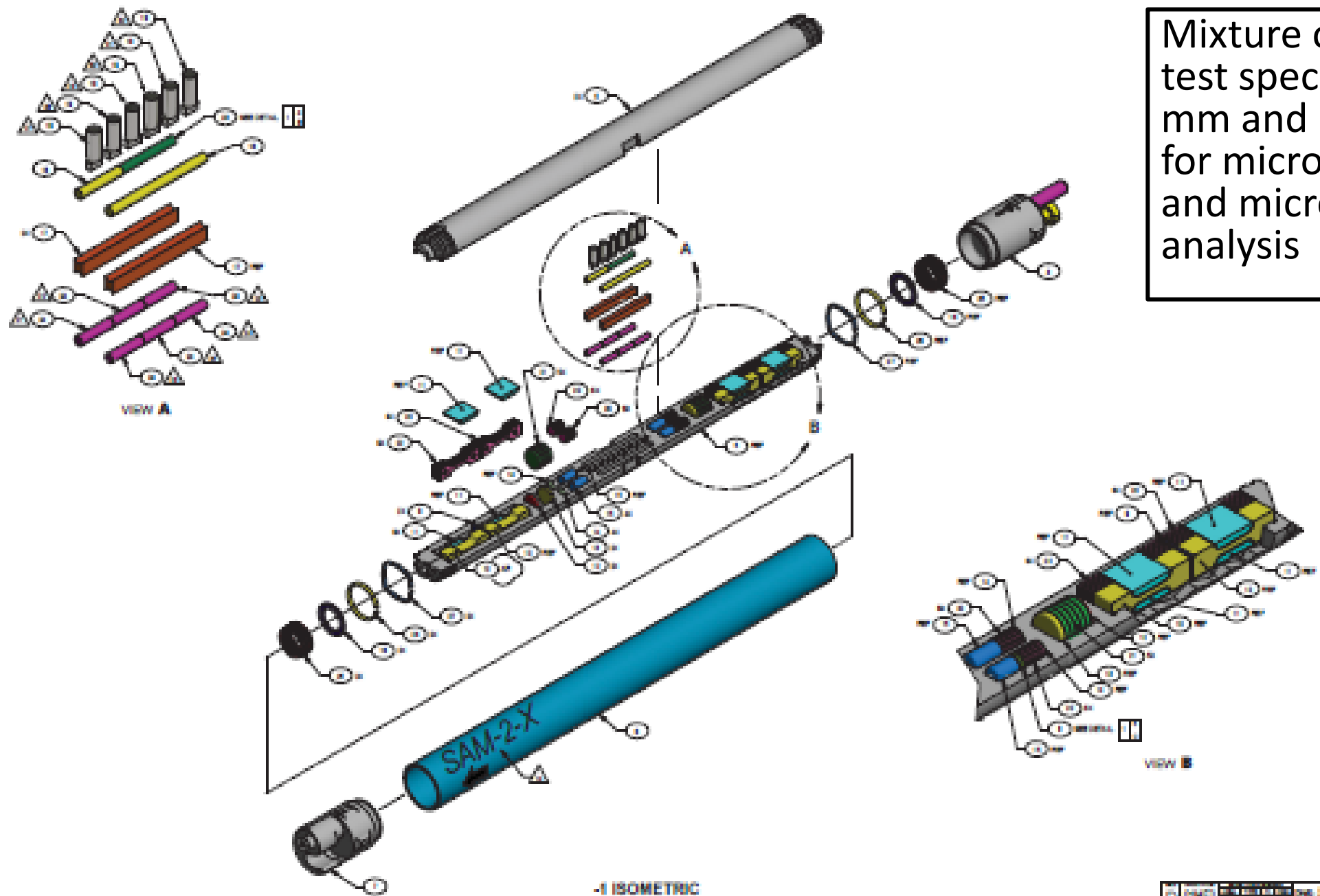
Now the characterisation survey is complete, a comprehensive picture of the duct will help make informed decisions on how the duct should be decommissioned.”

[Nuclear Decommissioning Authority: Annual Report and Accounts 2021 to 2022 - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/107422/2021-2022-annual-report-and-accounts.pdf)

[https://content.govdelivery.com/landing\\_pages/36508/8a7bb336883d49d5f9e3f278a5700839](https://content.govdelivery.com/landing_pages/36508/8a7bb336883d49d5f9e3f278a5700839)



Mixture of mechanical test specimens, and 6 mm and 3 mm disks for micro-mechanical and microstructural analysis



-1 ISOMETRIC

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# New: Larger Projects Competition

- Projects c. **£150-250k** (facility access fees, consumables, T&S, sample transport, some staff time if carefully justified)
- **Endorsement** required from **UK industry partner** or **UK end user**.
- **Applications must include** an estimate of facility **access charges**.
- End July 2023: Application deadline (using the current NNUF proposal form). Early applications welcomed.
- End August 2023: Decisions
- Start Date: No later than 1 Oct 2023
- End Date: No later than 15 March 2024