

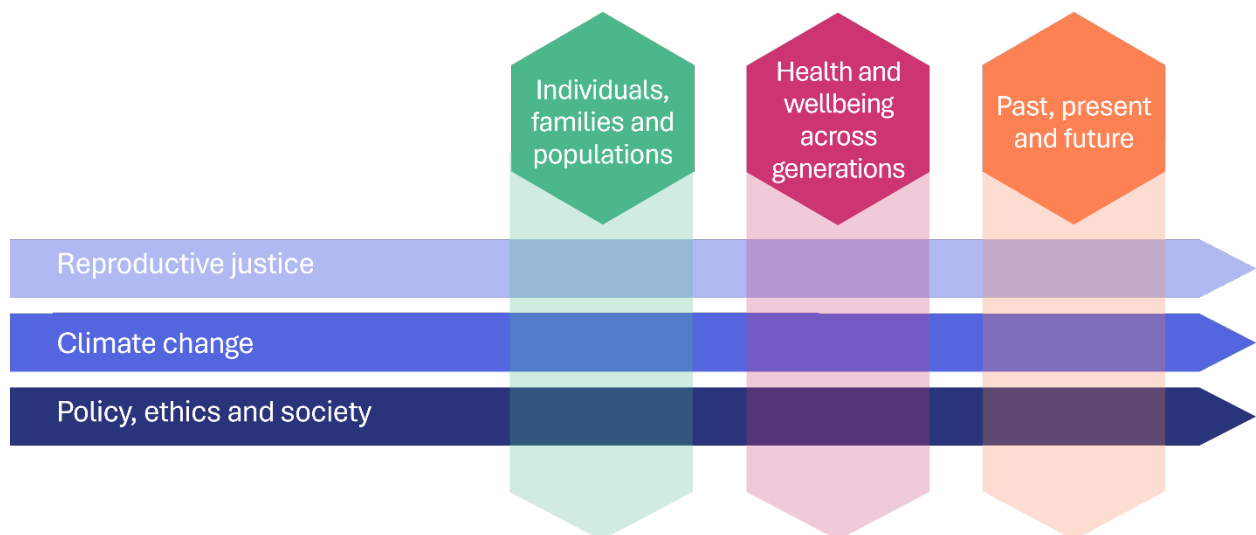
Call for challenge leads (June 2025)

Background

In March 2025, we shared a proposal to introduce a research theme framework, as a way of bringing together and organising our membership. We hoped that this framework would:

- enable members to shape Cambridge Reproduction's strategic priorities at a grassroots level;
- stimulate new, cross-disciplinary collaborations and funding applications;
- bring researchers together to create impact and engagement outside academia;
- intersect with our funding schemes, events and other activities.

The proposed framework is for three broad thematic areas that intersect with three cross-cutting contextual challenges:



The full proposal is available [on our website](#).

Call for challenge leads

We are looking for a person to lead each of our three cross-cutting challenges:

- Reproductive justice
- Climate change
- Policy, ethics and society

These challenges provide a broader context for thinking about reproduction, as well as potentially intersecting with each thematic area to produce more focused questions (e.g. about how climate change impacts on intergenerational health, or how we can develop policy to meet the challenges posed by future reproductive technologies).

Challenge leads will work with the theme leads and with the Cambridge Reproduction Steering Committee and Executive Committee to ensure that these contextual challenges are embedded throughout the Cambridge Reproduction programme. They will serve a 2-year term in the first instance. This is an exciting opportunity to advance our new research themes and increase cross-disciplinary exchange.

How to apply

Any member of Cambridge Reproduction – from any department, and at any career stage, from PhD student upwards – may apply to become a challenge lead.

We are looking for people with a passion for interdisciplinary research and collaborative working, as well as a vision for how we can embed the cross-cutting challenges across the whole Cambridge Reproduction programme. Challenge leads should be willing to represent the interests of all members of Cambridge Reproduction, including those from different departments or Schools.

There is no set budget for the cross-cutting challenges, but challenge leads are encouraged to consider how their proposals may intersect with the wider Cambridge Reproduction programme, including the funding schemes, events (Cambridge Reproduction Forum, Cambridge Reading Group on Reproduction and Cambridge Festival) and networks (ECR Committee and other connected groups). Specific activities or events may be funded directly by Cambridge Reproduction, at the discretion of the Executive Committee.

To apply, please send a recent CV and a half-page statement outlining what you would bring to the role to [Christina Rozeik, Cambridge Reproduction Programme Manager](#). We particularly welcome any ideas you have for how we might advance particular challenges and increase cross-disciplinary exchange across the network. The deadline for applications is 18 July 2025.

If you have any questions about the research theme framework, or about your application, please contact Christina Rozeik as above.

Timeline

23 June 2025	Results of consultation and final research theme framework proposal shared with the Cambridge Reproduction membership; call for theme leads
18 July 2025	Deadline for expressions of interest for theme leads and challenge leads
1 September 2025	Theme leads and challenge leads announced and members invited to join
early October 2025	Theme groups meet to discuss ideas and make plans
22 October 2025	Themes introduced at the Cambridge Reproduction Forum