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| **SWDTP Supervisor Supporting Statement** |
| **Student name**: |
| **Title of Research Proposal** |
| **Lead Supervisor, Department, Institution + Number of PhD candidates supervised to completion (required).** *Note: the Lead Supervisor must have supervised at least ONE PhD (preferably more) to completion as a first supervisor*:  |
| **Second supervisor, Department, Institution + Number of PhD candidates supervised to completion (required):**  |
| **If applicable, name of any additional supervision and/or mentoring:** |
| **Name of SWDTP Pathway** (see <https://www.swdtp.ac.uk/prospectivestudents/pathway-information/>): |
| **Please indicate *if* this proposal addresses one of the three ESRC Strategic Steers** *(proposals do not have to address any of these steers)*: |
| Advanced Quantitative Methods (AQM) |  |
| Use of ESRC data sets (including details of which data set and how familiar the candidate is with that data, if a student is funded under the data set steer then this must be a robust part of their project as it cannot be changed at a later date) |  |
| Interdisciplinary awards research which straddles other research council remits |  |
| **Please detail any resources and/or research facilities required in the project (e.g. equipment or assays). NOTE: the SWDTP Hub cannot provide any funding for access to facilities/equipment that are not available at the institutional level:** |
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| **IMPORTANT:** the candidates have been told that their applications will be assessed against the following criteria – hence the importance to receive comments from you (as the potential Supervisor) against these same criteria. |
| 1. **Academic Excellence** – including grades, references (where available), research training already undertaken and other activities/prizes **(450 words max.)** |
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| 2. **Research Potential** – achievable within the duration of the award, understanding of the field, potential for original contribution, consideration of relevant past research and theory, and fits strategic priorities, including* ESRC - <https://esrc.ukri.org/about-us/strategy-and-priorities/>
* Chosen Faculty / School / Department
* ID pathway Synergy between the proposal and the research strategies. Please highlight evidence.

Avoid generic statements of strategic fit. Fit could best be demonstrated by pointing to specific research areas and groups and their importance, by reference to supervision arrangements, inter-department and faculty links, where appropriate, and by overlap with target foci of UKRI and other major funding bodies. **(300 words max)** |
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| 3. **Research Proposal** - clear research question, clear understanding of demands of project, conversant in relevant/ proposed methods (or aware of methodological needs 1+3), and aware of ethical issues/ constraints on project, and the potential <https://esrc.ukri.org/research/impact-toolkit/what-is-impact/> **(300 words max)** |
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| 4. **EITHER ONE OR OTHER OF THE FOLLOWING (4.1 or 4.2 – NOT BOTH)****4.1 Collaborative, Impact and Engagement Elements**\* - important factors include relevant external partner identified, collaboration plan (with partner), impact and awareness of opportunities and challenges that external collaborations bring. Various relevant ESRC links include:* Collaboration https://esrc.ukri.org/collaboration/
* Knowledge exchange activity <https://esrc.ukri.org/collaboration/guidance-for-collaboration/>
* Impact https://esrc.ukri.org/research/impact-toolkit/
* Evaluation and Impact https://esrc.ukri.org/research/research-and-impact-evaluation/

 *[\*NOTE:* The ESRC continue to emphasise the importance of collaboration with non-academic public, private and civil-society sector organisations. Applications should highlight any relevant forms of *knowledge exchange and collaborative working with an external (non-academic) public, private or civil-society sector organisation e.g. Co-funding, Internships, Placements or Contribution in terms of time, resources, access to data, etc. Collaboration must include substantive knowledge exchange and not just one-way engagement (e.g. data collection)]***4.2 Ambitious and Novel Research Proposal** - important factors include novelty/fresh ideas, new concepts / techniques with the potential for significant scientific or societal and economic impact, innovative or even untested methods within the context of the particular project, involve multiple or unusual disciplinary combinations both within and beyond the social sciences, and accessing difficult/challenging data or generating new data in challenging settings.  **(300 words max)** |
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| **Signature** :…………………………………………………………………………….**Date**:  |