

## **Questions for the community**

In addition to developing a strategy framework for planning and decisions on the astronomy programme in the coming years the AAP has identified a series of key questions upon which it seeks community input, and to stimulate discussion.

### **Regarding the AAP strategy:**

1. Are the core science headings correct in section 4.2?
2. If you were able to replace one of these headings, which one would you remove? What would you replace it with?
3. What are your views on the balance between the level of grant support against that used for facilities/missions etc? Do you have suggestions on how this level should be set?
4. Within the grants line (or otherwise?) how do we ensure sufficient science exploitation effort for future large projects (ALMA, JWST) so that we are not out-performed by our partners?
5. How far should grant awards reflect the strategy? Should some areas receive ring-fenced funding for projects/grants? Which ones and why?

### **Facilities and missions:**

1. Taking into account their different timescales, which of the facilities and missions given in the Table of Section 6, would you designate as of particularly high or particularly low priority? Why?
2. What gaps are there in the programme of future facilities and missions seen as high priority by the Panel?
3. What should follow Herschel in the far IR?
4. How should the UK move forward until the next generation of major X-ray space observatories (XEUS/ Constellation-X)?
5. What are your views on the priorities within the ESO programme ?(i.e. ELT, VLTI, ALMA, VLT 2nd generation, La Silla)
6. In the next generation of ESO/Gemini instruments, what should the UK be pushing for?
7. Do you have particular, and important, observing requirements that are not presently met, and will not be met within the current strategy?
8. What is the optimum way for the community to interface with ALMA (and other observatories)? Is it through regional support centres or university-based support groups?

### **Software and computing**

1. What are your views on astronomical software provision?
2. Will the advent of the Virtual observatory and E-science developments alter your scientific requirements? How should we influence any changes?
3. How should support for high performance computing infrastructure be provided? Is the current model/level correct?

### **Applying and developing the strategy**

1. What do you think is the best way for PPARC to apply the strategy?
2. What is the best way for the community to participate in the development of the strategy?