When you are approached by a potential fellowship candidate, the following questions might help direct the conversation and help you determine if their ideas constitute a strong fellowship proposal.

You should be in a relevant area of research to determine if what they plan to do has the potential to be transformative.

Fellowship schemes are very competitive therefore only exceptional applications are likely to be funded. Please only support candidates you firmly believe stand a strong chance of being successful.

If you do not believe that their proposal is competitive, what might they do to strengthen their case for a future round? What is missing from their track record, their skills, their proposal?

Questions for the applicant – do their answers convince you – would they convince a reviewer/fellowship panel?

* What is the challenge that your research is addressing?
	+ E.g. Is there a global challenge they can point to?
* What is the step change that you are going to make?
* Why are you the only person, or the right person to undertake this work?
* What has been your contribution to the research to date/What will you be building on?
	+ What are your research highlights?
	+ Has your work had an impact either in academia or beyond academia?
* What training and development activities do you intend to undertake within the fellowship to take your career forward?
	+ This is not just about courses, they need to have thought about what they need to do to help them gain the skills and experience to be a leading researcher.
* What evidence do you have of your research leadership potential?
* Do you have a good understanding of the market/sector you will be addressing?
	+ Have you thought about who you need to work with (academic/non-academic) to make a difference?
* Why is Glasgow the right place to undertake this research?
* Why would a reviewer score this more highly than other proposals they read?
* Tell me your proposition in 20 seconds? (can they? Is it convincing?)

**Based on the answers to the questions above, is this proposal really appropriate as a fellowship rather than a research project?**

***A Fellowship proposal should be multi-faceted. In addition to the research programme, applicants will have identified training and development needs to achieve their academic goals. Fellowships are awarded based on the strength of the candidate as well as the research vision – a fellowship is an investment in the person.***

***A research proposal is self-contained with clearly defined objectives and outcomes.***

**Has the candidate presented a vision for their research and their career?**

**Have they planned a programme of research that is complemented by training and development activities to achieve their academic goals e.g. courses, partnership development, working in another organisation, learning new techniques from a partner…**