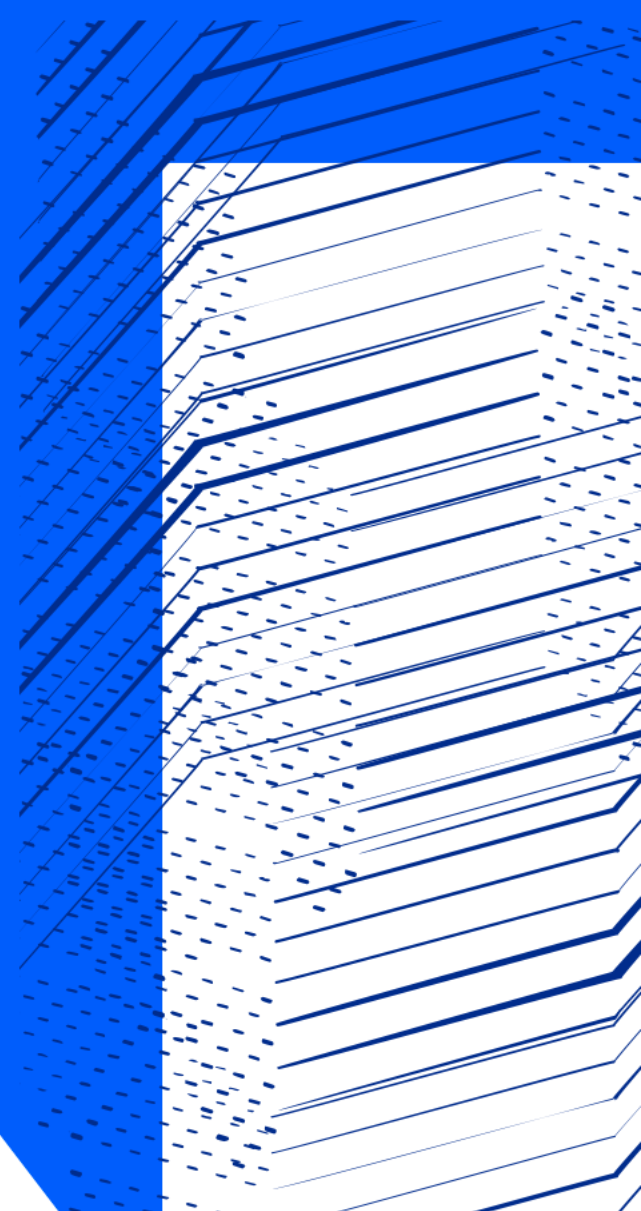




Science and  
Technology  
Facilities Council

# Thoughts on mentoring for UK Research Software Engineers

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# Mentoring in a UK RSE Context

Mentoring: impartial sounding board, contribute different viewpoints, space to review

Coaching: focussed on a specific goal

## Types of mentoring

### Advice & contacts:

**Mentor in yr organisation,  
may not be a RSE**

+ve understands context

–ve not domain expert

### Advice & contacts:

**RSE specialist, may not be in  
yr organisation**

+ve understands domain

–ve not expert on context

### Assessment against criteria:

#### Chartership

+ve external quality mark

–ve no agreed professional  
standards (yet?)

# Things to consider

- What does an RSE want to get out of mentoring?
  - Technical support, wider network, safe space to explore issues...
- Importance of mentoring for minority groups
  - Do mentors need to be in the same minority group?
  - If yes, then what impact does that have for mentors and volume of requests?
- Does it have to be a one to one relationship?
  - Peer networks, support & challenge groups
- How might the UKRSE help facilitate this?
  - Finding mentors, training, facilitating partnerships?
  - **Discussed at the RSEConf19: Watch this space!**