



UK Research
and Innovation

Research bureaucracy: Sector-led transformation

Assurance

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UK Research and Innovation

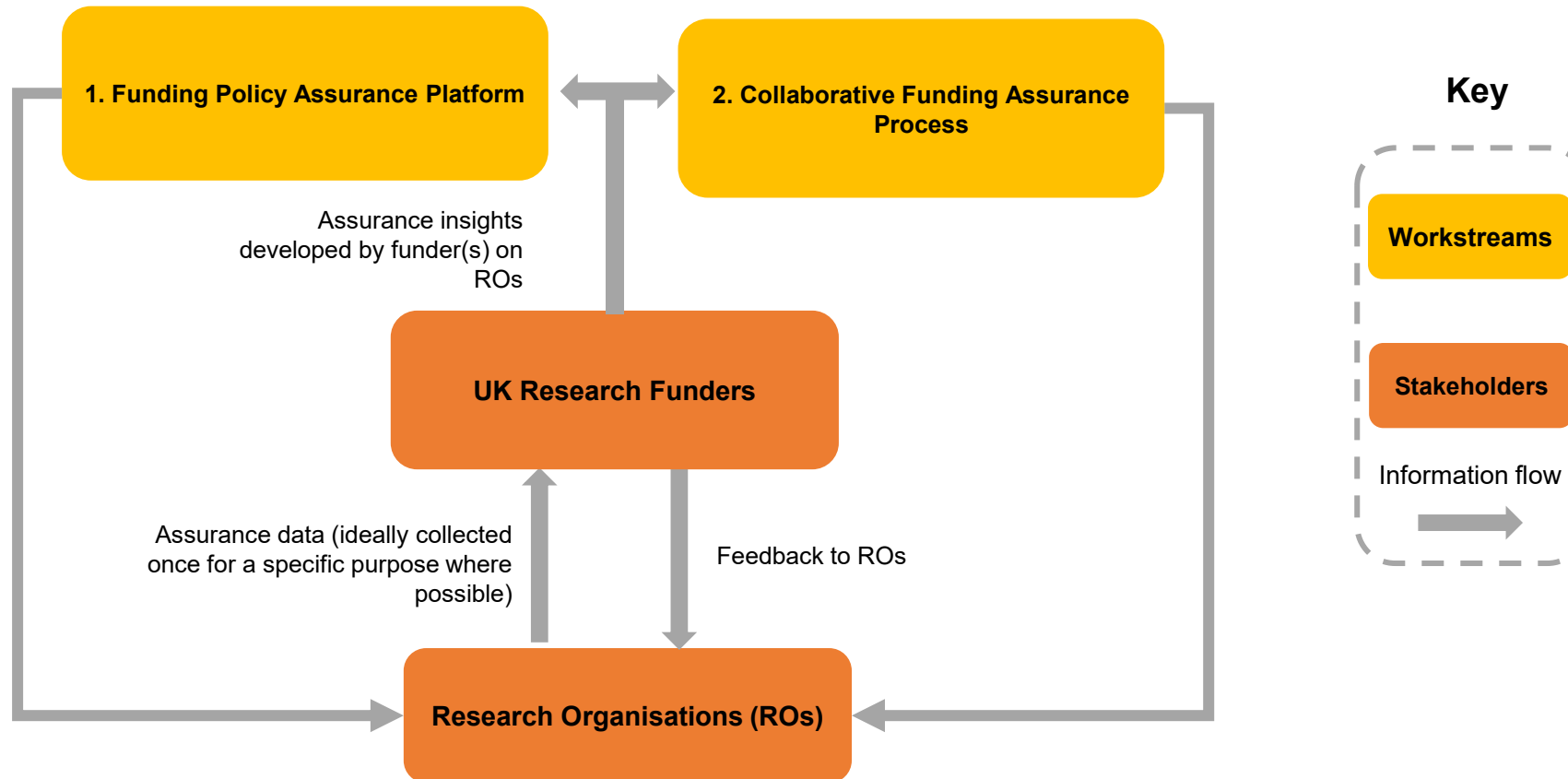
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Assurance Vision: a shared and collaborative assurance model



1. Funding Policy Assurance Platform

Led by Wellcome who have developed the platform with four other Funders (UKRI, Cancer Research UK, NIHR, The Royal Society).

- Shared platform for research funders and recipients of research and innovation funding
 - Standardised baseline assurance: greater alignment and transparency between funders
 - Feedback intended to measure maturity over time
 - Incorporating a trial of some limited AI functionality
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- Requirements compiled by funder consortium
 - Build management, resourcing and funding by Wellcome
 - System design and build by Wellcome's consultancy partner, Hyphen8



Digital platform launched in November 2025 aiming for 15+ participating organisations

Admin resource from UKRI


Platform support from Wellcome and Hyphen8

Success criteria under development

Evaluation in late summer 2026

If successful and delivers the anticipated outcomes and benefits, the concept and digital platform could be prepared for roll out from Autumn 2026.

Contact Support

Introduction	
Bullying and Harassment	✓
Research Misconduct	✓
Whistleblowing	✓
Equity, Diversity & Inclusion	✓
Conflicts of interest	
Environmental Sustainability	
Fair Research Assessment	✓
Researcher Development	✓
Responsible Conduct of Research	
Research Involving Human Participants	
Research involving animals	
Sub-contracting	
Fraud	
Modern slavery	
 Submission	

Research Misconduct


* Does your Organisation have a Research Misconduct Policy?

Yes
 No

Provide details of your organisation's policy on Research Misconduct for staff. Ensure the information provided covers

- The standard of behaviour expected from all staff.
- Your procedure for handling allegations.
- Your procedures for communicating with funders regarding investigations and upheld allegations of discrimination (person/role).

Attachments

 B&H Policy
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Provide further Information about your Research Misconduct policy

Merged into the same document as B&H

Please add a value to the below dates indicate when your Organisation has their Research Misconduct policy review.

Date of Last Review ⓘ	Date of Next Review ⓘ
Sep 2, 2025	Sep 1, 2026

2. Collaborative Funding Assurance Process

Shared assurance plan 25/26 covering financial and non-financial assurance.

30 assurance reviews of research performing organisations with zero overlaps and of which 2 are being conducted a joint reviews with a single report.

Shared processes and methodology as far as is possible.

Reliance on each others work as far as possible.

Outcomes factored into decisions on future assurance reviews.

Significant Interest from other funders



UKRI Funding Assurance Reforms



- Working towards shared and collaborative assurance processes working with other funders
- A single integrated assurance process covering all UKRI funding.
- Streamlined commissioning, fieldwork and reporting leading to quicker turnaround, therefore less time needed to complete assurance reviews and shorter journey from kick-off to close-out.
- Sharing our processes, documentation and thematic fundings on an open-source basis with funders and research organisations.
- Commitment to ongoing dialogue with the sector on possible future funding assurance improvements including a trial of self assurance in 26/27 .