

## CAR P2 External Advisory group membership and ToR

The project has convened an external advisory group to provide advice to the project. The membership is comprised from the R&I community, approached by initiative owners, the project board, and the collective desire to have representation from the devolved nations:

Name	Role	Organisation
Rachel Persad	Policy Manager, Research and Innovation	Guild HE
Professor Julia Buckingham	Chair of the Board of Trustees	The Institute of Cancer Research
Kelly Vere	Director of Technical Skills & Strategy,  Programme Director: Technician Commitment	University of Nottingham
Dr. Lucy Van Essen-Fishman	Lead Policy and Research Analyst	Higher Education Statistics Agency
Cat Ball	Assistant Director, Research and Innovation	Scottish Funding Council
Dr. Catriona Firth	Associate Director of Research Environment	Research England

Dr. Hywel Edwards	Head of the Research, Innovation, and Engagement	Higher Education Funding Council for Wales
Michael Leonard	HE Research and Knowledge Exchange	Department for the Economy
Dr. Anne-Marie Coriat	Registrar	University of Edinburgh
Dr. Victoria Moody	Director of Research and innovation sector strategy  Co-Investigator and Deputy Director, UK Data Service	Jisc
Dr. Samuel Westwood	Lecturer in Psychology	University of Westminster
Alison Evans	Treasurer and Board Member	ARMA
Professor Rory Duncan	Pro Vice-Chancellor, Research and Innovation	Sheffield Hallam University

## Terms of Reference

Agreed: September 2022

## Background

Concordats and agreements are a significant part of the landscape of frameworks and practices that contribute to research cultures and environments in which UK research takes place. These initiatives have grown organically, in response to challenges and opportunities, and cover a range of issues to support researchers and their activities.

CAR phase 1, now finalised, for the first time ever, mapped and explored the collective role these varied initiatives have had in shaping research culture and environments across the UK. This was published in March 2022<sup>1</sup>. This report represents an important and significant step forward for sector-wide collaboration and understanding on an important aspect of research culture in the UK.

Universities UK, UK Research and Innovation (UKRI) and the Wellcome Trust have now jointly commissioned Phase 2 of the project bringing together the initiative owners and the research and innovation (R&I) community to look for potential future alignments to increase influence, capacity, and efficiency across the landscape. This second, ongoing, phase is responding to the call from both initiative owners and the R&I community to explore potential alignments to help reduce workload and coordinate reporting, while also complementing the work of the Independent Review of Research Bureaucracy<sup>2</sup>.

The project started in July 2022 and is expected to finish in November 2022.

The project will be undertaken by a consultancy. Universities UK, UKRI and the Wellcome Trust have jointly formed a project board to own the project and play an active role in providing oversight, guidance, and sign-off on the project.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.universitiesuk.ac.uk/what-we-do/policy-and-research/publications/research-concordats-and-agreements>

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[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/1094648/independent-review-research-bureaucracy-final-report.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1094648/independent-review-research-bureaucracy-final-report.pdf)

### **Aim of the External Advisory Group**

The External Advisory Group will provide high level steer, challenge, and advice to the project at a small number of key points through its life. It will:

- i. Receive briefs from the project about progress, plans and outputs.
- ii. Advise the consultants and the Project Board on the key elements of the work. This includes challenge and input on:
  - The review of the latest insights, evidence, and potential themes for exploration produced by the consultant as the project progresses
  - The suggested co-designed/identified potential solutions for increased efficiency, capacity and influence on research cultures and environments
  - The final reports/outputs produced by the consultant
- iii. Advise on how best the conduct of the work, and the project outputs, are sensitive to the perspectives of different stakeholders and audiences.
- iv. Provide contributions on how the External Advisory group members areas may be able to support the project stakeholders (initiatives owners and R&I community) to realise their collectively identified ambitions/roadmap
- v. Recommend to the project board where the membership of the challenge group might be supplemented with visiting experts where required
- vi. Consider the proposals/roadmaps put forward in the final report and its potential implications for future efforts to improve research culture (e.g., UK Government People and Culture Strategy), ensuring it reflects future-oriented alignment for increased influence, capacity, and efficiency and reduce bureaucracy (e.g., UK Government Bureaucracy Review) in the research system.
- vii. Advise the project board on the release and dissemination of the final report to research and policy leaders and the wider research community across the sector. This could involve guiding how best to enable inclusive and constructive engagement with the project outputs, plans and uptake in relevant sectors.

## Operation

I. The Group will be co-chaired by Daniel Wake, Policy Manager at UUK and Shomari Lewis-Wilson, Senior Manager, Research Culture & Communities at Wellcome.

II. It will meet three times. Meetings will be virtual and held via zoom. The group may also work by correspondence where possible.

III. Members are requested to treat any updates or outputs being shared in the meeting as confidential and not to be shared outside of the group unless advised.

IV. UKRI will provide the secretariat.