

University Board for Research and Innovation

24/31 A meeting of the University Board for Research and Innovation was held on Monday 10 June 2024 at 11.00am in Whiteknights House, Committee Room 2.

Present

Parveen Yaqoob, Pro-Vice Chancellor (Research and Innovation) [Chair]

Dominik Zaum, Pro-Vice Chancellor (

- The Board discussed whether there was sufficient representation from the range of academic career levels and role types. This would be revisited once Senate membership was confirmed for 2024/25 session.

Terms of reference

- In advance of formal approval at the first meeting of the next session, the Board reviewed Terms of reference. It suggested more explicit recognition of the Innovation remit, for example oversight of the Knowledge Exchange concordat, as well as the Technician commitment.

Research committees ways of working

- The Board welcomed the ways of working document, which outlined roles on committees, expectations of members and inclusive ways of working approach. It would be provided to Board/committees at the start of each session.

24/35 Update from the Chair K076(n)10.1

24/37 Research culture: Framework and Priorities [item 7a]

The Board noted the University's initial plans for developing research culture priorities. The University proposed to adopt the framework developed by Vitae (Research Culture Framework —

- o Driving adoption of an institutionally driven commitment at individual/community level.
- o Breaking down the currency of certain metrics (for example impact factors/H-index) in some disciplines to evaluate performance.
- There was intersection with research culture and research integrity and the importance of broader and fairer view of individual contributions and performance.
- CoARA differed from DORA in that it was action driven and broader than just publications.

24/41 Agrifood futures: Research Strategy and Investment Opportunities [item 9a]

The Board received the final report, Agrifood Futures: Research Strategy and Investment Opportunities ahead of its presentation to Senate.

The Board commended the report, encouraged by the opportunity for investment in facilities and skills and clarity about where to focus. It noted the following in discussion.

- The Strategy should reach out beyond the core disciplines, and explore
- There was a risk that the significant investment might divert attention away from pursuing external funding; however, in principle it should put the University in a better position to leverage external funding.
- A significant aspect to be determined through implementation was the structures through which the strategy would be delivered. There would be ongoing consultations with relevant School/Departments.
- The implementation of the strategy

travel. In 2023/24, the scheme had supported 120 applications to a total of £43k against a budget of £55k.

With regard to the Sub-Committee proposal to raise the limits to geographical locations, the Board was broadly supportive, subject to more detail being provided. Should the requirement be time sensitive, the Board was happy for the Chair to approve by Chair's action rather than wait until the October 2024 meeting.

Action: Chair to approve by Chair's action the raising of limits to geographical locations, subject to further detail from the Sub-Committee.

24/45 Date of next meeting

23 October 2024, 11am.