



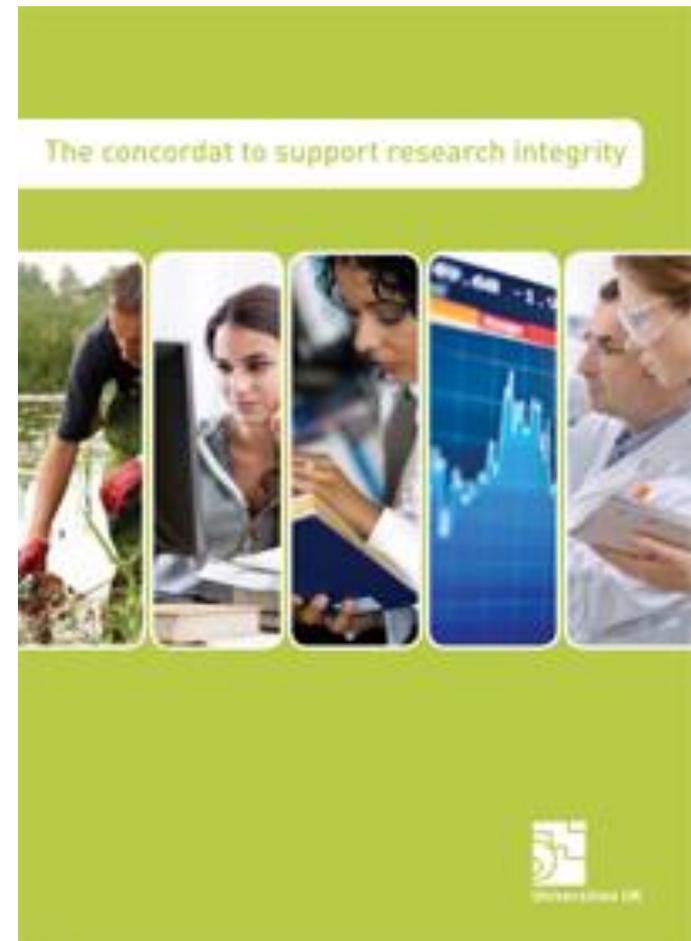
Universities UK

The Research Integrity Concordat

- » Context
- » Purpose & development
- » Inquiry into research integrity
- » Progress on implementation
- » Next steps

Context – the concordat

- » *“All those engaged with research have a duty to consider how the work they undertake, host or support impacts on the research community and on wider society”*
- » Published in 2012.
- » Five commitments.
- » One of the most downloaded documents on the UUK website.



Context – the concordat

- » Single, coherent policy statement on research integrity at the national level.
- » Works within existing systems and structures.
- » Applicable to all academic disciplines.
- » Established link between compliance with the concordat and the receipt of research funding.

Purpose of the concordat

- » Essentially two fold:
 - » to ensure that research produced by or in collaboration with the UK research community is underpinned by the highest standards of rigour and integrity.
 - » and, critically – to demonstrate that this is the case.
- » Has the concordat met these aims?

Development of the concordat

- » The concordat was developed by funders, employers of researchers, government and other stakeholders.
- » The concordat has benefited from the support of government (and continues to do so).
- » Development was influenced by work going on elsewhere – and work has continued to develop elsewhere.
- » How might the concordat develop in the future?

Research integrity inquiry

- » You will already have heard from the Rt Hon Norman Lamb MP, this morning.
- » Science and Technology Committee inquiry is underway, and we expect the report to be published soon.
- » Clear from the oral evidence session that the committee feels more action is needed to ensure that the concordat is effectively implemented.
- » UUK's view: progress has been made towards implementation, but there is still work to do.

Progress on implementation

- » Most obviously – the 2016 progress report.
- » But not the only activity – a further website survey was undertaken in February 2018.
- » UUK has also engaged with its members directly.



Progress on implementation

- » **The number of institutions which have provided at least one annual narrative statement has doubled** from 26% in 2016 to 54% of the sector in 2018, accounting for just over 80% of public funding for research in the sector.
- » In addition, **76 institutions are now voluntarily going beyond the commitments of the concordat** by publishing information on the numbers of allegations and investigations into research misconduct, accounting for over 80% of research funding.
- » **The numbers of institutions providing a named contact has also nearly doubled** since 2016, to 85 institutions, accounting for approximately 78% of research funding.

- » The extent of **provision of public research integrity-related information is strongly positively correlated with the scale of research activity** at each university.
- » For example, a university meeting the all three 'public information commitments' listed above receives on average 6.4 times the amount of research funding – and a university meeting any two receives 3.2 times the amount – as an institution meeting none.
- » How do we ensure that institutions with relatively low levels of research activity receive the support they need to meet their commitments?

Progress on implementation

Public information element	Number providing (as % research funding)	Number not providing (as % research funding)	Change in numbers providing since 2016
Dedicated webpage	104 (92.9%)	31 (5.1%)	+2
Statement	74 (81.7%)	63 (16.7%)	+38
Investigations data *	76 (80.5%)	59 (17.5%)	(not gathered in 2016)
Named contact	85 (78%)	50 (20%)	+40
Contact email	85 (82.9%)	50 (15.1%)	+35
Separate whistleblower contact *	40 (28.4%)	95 (69.6%)	(not gathered in 2016)

Progress on implementation: HEFCE/Research England case study

- » The former HEFCE monitored HEIs' compliance with the concordat annually.
- » Engagement with non-compliant institutions to produce and monitor progress against action plans for compliance.
- » Research England has assumed responsibility for this area from the former HEFCE.

Progress on implementation

- » Improvement suggests that the Concordat continues to serve as an effective stimulus for the support of research integrity in the UK.
- » Awareness-raising activities of the signatories and other organisations – such as UKRIO – are having an impact.
- » There's still room for improvement.
- » The sector must not be complacent.

- » UK Research Integrity Forum convened on 26 March 2018.
- » Signatories have met to consider the proceedings of the Forum.
- » The signatories will meet again in mid-June to consider the findings and recommendations of the Committee report.
- » UUK is committed to ensuring that all UUK members meet the commitments of the concordat by the time it undertakes a further survey in early 2019.
- » Organisations signed up to the concordat extend beyond UUK's membership.

Sector level governance and reporting mandates

- » The three key priority areas for the signatories are:
 - » Clarification over the recommendations of the Concordat
 - » Identification of guidance and other useful resources that encourage enhancement activities
 - » Clarity over sector leadership for research integrity

- » The three key priority areas for the signatories are:
 - » Reemphasise the value of research integrity – which is much more than just an issue of compliance.
 - » Explore and encourage the use of independent panel members in investigations into misconduct.
 - » Pastoral support

- » The three key priority areas for the signatories are:
 - » Promote case studies of institutions that have embedded research integrity into practice.
 - » Inculcate a culture of research integrity over the longer term.
 - » Identify senior leaders within the sector who are prepared to act as champions for research integrity.

Date	Item
June 2018	Signatories of the Concordat meet to consider the recommendations of the Committee's report.
September/October 2018	Annual statement published by the signatories of the Concordat. The statement will provide a report on progress and full response to the recommendations of the Committee report.
October 2018	Consultation on draft supplementary guidance on compliance with the Concordat.
December 2018	Revised guidance published, alongside a revised statement that sets out the expectations of the signatories. .
February 2019	Launch of self-assessment tool.
April 2019	Research Integrity Forum to assess progress against the Concordat.



Universities UK

Questions