

UK Research and Innovation

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Sally Hunt
General Secretary
University and College Union
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15 March 2018

Dear Ms Hunt

I am writing in response to your letter of 12 March 2018, regarding industrial action by UCU and the upcoming deadline for Research Council-funded researchers to complete their annual submissions to ResearchFish.

We have listened to the points raised by UCU and by a range of our funded researchers online and through social media. We have also reviewed our internal statistics on the current rate of submissions. As of midnight last night we had received 85.8% of submissions (2017: 85.7%) and we know there are a large number of submissions being made today.

It is encouraging that researchers have already prioritised their submissions and we do not believe it is necessary to extend the deadline. As in previous years, we will be offering researchers who have not completed their submission one last opportunity to submit post-deadline, and will consider sympathetically any extenuating circumstances before applying our sanctions policy.

Yours sincerely,



Sir Mark Walport

Chief Executive, UK Research and Innovation