



**UKRI Board minute**

**29<sup>th</sup> April 2021: Spending Review Allocations for 2021-22**

---

- 1.1 UKRI Board members attended an additional Board meeting to discuss the Spending Review Allocations for 2021-22. The following were in attendance;

<b>Board Members and Observers</b>	
Sir John Kingman (Chair)	Sir Harpal Kumar
Professor Dame Ottoline Leyser	Vivienne Parry
Siobhan Peters	Professor Sir Leszek Borysiewicz
Fiona Driscoll	Professor Julia Black
Lord David Willetts	Dr John Fingleton
<b>Attendees</b>	
Tim Bianek	David Rogers
Grazka Kazmierska	Joel Herzig
Ruth Elliott	
<b>Apologies</b>	
Lord John Browne	Professor Dame Sally Davies
Professor Sir Ian Diamond	Jo Shanmugalingam
<b>Secretariat</b>	
Hannah Berriman	Tim Russell
Samantha Richardson	Zena Davies

- 1.2 John Kingman noted that a number of Board members have relevant conflicts of interest, which are noted in the UKRI Conflicts of Interest register. Professor Sir Leszek Borysiewicz noted a specific conflict as the Chair of Cancer Research UK and asked for it to be included in the minutes.
- 1.3 John Kingman thanked Siobhan, the team and Board members for the extraordinary amount of work involved in preparing the proposed allocations for 2021/22.

- 1.4 The Board discussed the proposed allocations of UKRI's expected financial settlement from BEIS for 2021-22, including the proposed allocation by council. The Board noted the importance of ensuring consistency in communicating the allocations and would welcome some advice on what can and cannot be communicated. The Board approved the proposed allocations of £7,984m Capital Departmental Expenditure Limits R&D (including £125m of ODA), £61m Financial Transactions and £10m Resource Departmental Expenditure Limits settlement from BEIS for financial year 2021-22
- 1.5 The Board noted that on 27 April 2021, Executive Committee agreed the approach to allocate:
- £55m of funding in recognition of changes to funding arrangements arising from the cuts to the ODA allocations.
  - £50m to support acute short-term pressures, including but not limited to operational issues such as avoiding redundancies and shutdowns

The Board agreed they would delegate any further required adjustments on these allocations to the UKRI CEO.

**DECISION:** UKRI Board approved the proposed allocations.

**DECISION:** UKRI Board delegated decisions on any further required adjustments to allocations to the UKRI CEO.

- 1.6 The Board highlighted the importance of ensuring we communicate the allocations clearly to the research and innovation community and wider public.

**ACTION:** UKRI comms and strategy teams to produce a breakdown of UKRI's budget allocation to ensure transparent communication to stakeholders

- 1.7 The Board noted they would welcome a wider discussion on how UKRI is strategically allocating funds, noting that this was an initial objective of UKRI. The Board acknowledged the difficulty in making strategic decisions without longer term budgets, but felt they need to be considered ahead of the next spending review.