

Background

UK Research and Innovation (UKRI) is committed to supporting and contributing to a healthy research and innovation culture and environment that nurtures high levels of research integrity. This annual narrative statement details how we have used our role to support the research sector to strengthen values and norms that are conducive to producing robust and trustworthy research and how we have embedded these values and norms into our processes. The statement also promotes transparency by providing data on research misconduct from UKRI's unique position as both an employer and funder of research.

Narrative statement on research integrity

The activities detailed below are examples¹ of the wide range of internally and externally facing work (ongoing and completed), undertaken by UKRI during the reporting period of 1 April 2021 to 31 March 2022, which aim to support the sector to produce research of the highest quality.

i) Externally facing activities undertaken on behalf of the sector, or to support the research community

1. Published UKRI strategy

In March 2022 UKRI published its five-year strategy.² UKRI's commitment to strengthening values that are conducive to producing robust and trustworthy research was clearly demonstrated in its strategic objectives and accompanying priority areas.

2. Establishing the UK Committee on Research Integrity

In May 2021, the UKRI Board approved the establishment of the UK Committee on Research Integrity.³ The UKRI Board determined the committee should be empowered to act and take decisions independently of UKRI, and therefore agreed to establish and host the committee as a free-standing committee for three years on behalf of the sector.

The UK Committee on Research Integrity interim chair, Dr Helen Munn OBE, engaged extensively with stakeholders across the sector on the intended role and remit of the committee. The sector was supportive of a committee that would provide strategic leadership across the UK.

Following the conclusion of a highly competitive recruitment round, inaugural co-chairs Professor Andrew George MBE and Professor Rachael Gooberman-Hill were appointed in February 2022.⁴ The first action that the chairs will undertake in 2022-2023 is to lead a recruitment campaign for the appointment of six to eight committee members.

In March 2022 the first UK Committee on Research Integrity event took place. Led by the newly appointed co-chairs and the interim chair, demonstrating the committee's commitment to collaboration, two workshops explored accountability for research integrity in the UK. Attendees outlined what accountability with respect to research integrity meant to them and participated in focused discussions about reporting, incentives and transparency⁵. This work will inform the committee's development of an evidence base on research integrity.

¹ This list is non-exhaustive.

² <https://www.ukri.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/UKRI-210422-Strategy2022To2027TransformingTomorrowTogether.pdf>

³ <https://ukcori.org/>

⁴ <https://www.ukri.org/news/inaugural-co-chairs-of-uk-committee-on-research-integrity-announced/>

⁵ <https://ukcori.org/resources/>

3. Revised UKRI policy on the governance of good research practice

Following extensive collaboration across UKRI and external engagement with those we fund and other funders, on 31 March 2022 the revised UKRI policy on the governance of good research practice and accompanying guidelines were published.⁶

Significant changes to the policy included:

- Change to reporting requirements. Organisations must inform UKRI upon deciding to undertake formal investigations.⁷ Previously organisations were expected to inform UKRI at the preliminary stage.
- Improved clarity about individual and organisation responsibilities to promote positive research practice for high integrity research. UKRI expects grant holders to take a leadership role in developing and role modelling a positive and learning culture within their research and innovation teams.⁸

4. HoC Science and Technology Select Committee Inquiry into reproducibility and research integrity

UKRI submitted written evidence to the House of Commons Science & Technology Committee's Inquiry into reproducibility and research integrity.⁹ The response focused on how a positive, inclusive, open research culture is key to improving challenges associated with reproducibility and replicability. UKRI also provided a response about how the new UK Committee on Research Integrity will have the opportunity to influence the debate about reproducibility.

In February 2022, Professor Dame Ottoline Leyser, UKRI CEO, gave oral evidence to the Inquiry.¹⁰ During the evidence session she noted that due to limited data it is not possible to tell if research integrity in the UK is getting better, worse or staying the same. However, it is clear that the degree of pressure researchers feel under has increased. There is work to be done to investigate excessive pressure and stress in the research base and to shift the type of activities the system rewards and incentivises. The committee heard that addressing the latter is a focus for UKRI. Following this, supplementary written evidence provided clarity around the proportion of UKRI's funding that goes to replication studies, meta-research, and long-term grants for 'slower' science.¹¹

UKRI look forward to the publication of the final report and reviewing the recommendations.

5. Exploring Research Integrity Indicators

In partnership with Cancer Research UK and GuildHE, UKRI commissioned the agency Research Consulting to consider potential indicators of research integrity. The work sought to explore whether indicators are being used, if they are effective, and if they offer a potential opportunity for the UK to develop an agreed approach to evaluating integrity.

During this reporting period Research Consulting conducted a literature review, interviewed 29 experts in research integrity and indicators across the UK and internationally, and developed a draft discussion document. The project is ongoing and the final outputs: a discussion document, workshop summary, executive summary and a response from the project sponsors and the UK

⁶ <https://www.ukri.org/publications/ukri-policy-on-the-governance-of-good-research-practice/>

⁷ <https://www.ukri.org/publications/ukri-policy-on-the-governance-of-good-research-practice/> paragraph 4.2

⁸ <https://www.ukri.org/publications/ukri-policy-on-the-governance-of-good-research-practice/> paragraph 3.7-3.8

⁹ <https://committees.parliament.uk/writtenevidence/39849/pdf/>

¹⁰ <https://committees.parliament.uk/oralevidence/3383/pdf/>

¹¹ <https://committees.parliament.uk/writtenevidence/107443/pdf/>

Committee on Research Integrity, will be published in the first half of the 2022- 2023 reporting period.

6. Information Sharing

Research organisations, funders and publishers have various responsibilities when they become aware of allegations of research misconduct. Some of these either depend on, or comprise, sharing information about the allegation between organisations. There is evidence¹² that improvements in such information sharing could help organisations better discharge their responsibilities and reduce burden and bureaucracy.

In partnership with ARMA, the Leverhulme Trust and the Committee on Publication Ethics (COPE), UKRI convened three fact-finding workshops on information sharing between research organisations, funders and publishers. The workshops established current practices, perceived challenges and identified opportunities in sharing information between organisations, in situations where there are concerns, allegations or cases of intentional research misconduct. Separate workshops were held with each of the stakeholder groups. This information will be passed on to the new UK Committee on Research Integrity and will form part of their evidence base.

7. Concordats and Agreements Review (CAR)

Concordats and agreements (hereafter 'initiatives') 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, including the Concordat to Support Research Integrity, have grown organically, in response to challenges and opportunities, and cover a range of issues to support researchers and their activities.

Commissioned by Universities UK, Wellcome and UKRI, the first phase of this work mapped and explored the collective role these varied initiatives have had in shaping research culture and environments across the UK.¹³ The second phase will respond to the call from both initiative owners and the research and innovation community to explore potential alignments to help reduce workload and coordinate reporting, while also complementing the work of the Independent Review of Research Bureaucracy.¹⁴

This work represents an important and significant step forward for sector-wide collaboration and understanding of an important set of instruments that help create a better research culture in the UK.

8. Research and innovation community adoption of Résumé for Research and Innovation (R4RI) – like narrative CVs

The Résumé for Research and Innovation (R4RI) is a content-rich alternative to a traditional academic CV which enables applicants to better demonstrate their contributions to research and innovation, teams and wider society. R4RI and similar narrative CVs can be used to evidence contributions towards better research cultures, including high integrity practices.

¹² <https://researchintegrityjournal.biomedcentral.com/articles/10.1186/s41073-021-00109-3>

¹³ <https://www.universitiesuk.ac.uk/what-we-do/policy-and-research/publications/research-concordats-and-agreements>

¹⁴ https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1094648/independent-review-research-bureaucracy-final-report.pdf

To support the widespread adoption of R4RI-like narrative CVs, UKRI established two communities of practice: the Joint Funders Group (JFG)¹⁵ and the Alternative Uses Group¹⁶ (AUG). The JFG explore aligned approaches for use of the CV in funding decisions and the AUG, in partnership with Universities UK (UUK), explore the CV use in the assessment of people. Across these two groups, 52 organisations from the global research and innovation system committed to adopt these narrative CVs, co-produce materials and share best practice through the Résumé Resources Library.¹⁷ UKRI itself is in the process of rolling out R4RI in all funding opportunities that require track record information.

The research and innovation community adoption programme role models high integrity by upholding values of honesty, rigour, transparency and open communication, as well as care and respect for those involved in research.¹⁸ It has introduced the first known Shared Evaluation Framework (SEF) which is designed to gather and monitor insights and impact related to adopting R4RI-like narrative CVs. This has helped gather early evidence from JFG members that 57% of applicants reported that the narrative CV enabled a better opportunity to have achievements demonstrated and valued.¹⁹

9. UK Reproducibility Network funding

The UK Reproducibility Network²⁰ (UKRN) is a national peer-led consortium that investigates factors contributing to robust research, promotes training activities and disseminates best practice relating to reproducibility and replicability. UKRN were awarded £4.5M from the Research England Development (RED) fund in September 2021 to drive uptake of open research practices across the sector, furthering the UK's position at the forefront of rigorous and reproducible research.²¹

10. MRC National Asset Call

Following the successful delivery of the 2020 National Asset call, which awarded a total of ~£1,6m across 12 MRC units, to promote broad collaborative activity, networking, and open science approaches, MRC held the Unit & Centre Networking call in 2021. The 2021 call was aimed to enhance a culture of collaboration and resource-sharing and help to increase scientific impact, promote open science approaches and enhance the positioning of MRC units as outward-facing national assets. Nine awards totalling £2,5m (including matched centre/unit funding), each of which involved at least three MRC units and/or centres, were made and commenced in January 2022.

11. MRC sex in experimental design

MRC has taken a leading role in the UK by developing a new requirement which considers sex in experimental design for animal and in vitro research. MRC is improving best practice and ensuring highest standards of rigour and integrity by implementing this requirement. An expert working group, convened in September 2021, produced a set of recommendations that will be adopted from September 2022.²²

¹⁵ <https://www.ukri.org/what-we-offer/supporting-healthy-research-and-innovation-culture/research-and-innovation-culture/joint-funders-group/>

¹⁶ <https://www.ukri.org/what-we-offer/supporting-healthy-research-and-innovation-culture/research-and-innovation-culture/supporting-the-community-adoption-of-r4r-like-narrative-cvs/>

¹⁷ <https://www.ukri.org/what-we-offer/supporting-healthy-research-and-innovation-culture/research-and-innovation-culture/joint-funders-group/>

¹⁸ <https://www.ukri.org/what-we-offer/supporting-healthy-research-and-innovation-culture/research-integrity/#:~:text=Research%20carried%20out%20with%20a,for%20a%20positive%20research%20environment.>

¹⁹ <https://storage.fnr.lu/index.php/s/YjunSGEQuSBRIa8#pdfviewer>

²⁰ <https://www.ukrn.org/>

²¹ <https://www.ukrn.org/2021/09/15/major-funding-boost-for-uks-open-research-agenda/>

²² <https://www.ukri.org/councils/mrc/guidance-for-applicants/policies-and-guidance-for-researchers/sex-in-experimental-design/>

Recommendations included:

- That consideration of sex was important for good experimental design in preclinical studies, so information on sex should always be included in applications where animals, tissues or cells were being used.
- MRC should begin to expect both sexes of animals, tissues and cells to be used by default, with clear reasoning and justification required for proposals involving single sex studies.
- MRC should support this change with guidance for board members, applicants and the wider community.

ii) **Internally facing activities to support UKRI staff, strategy and processes**

1. Concordat to support research integrity

From November 2021 to February 2022 the UKRI Research Integrity Strategy and Policy team worked closely with research integrity leads across the councils to develop and deliver a series of council-specific research integrity workshops. The workshops aimed to raise awareness of UKRI's research integrity related aspirations and commitments as set out in the Concordat to Support Research Integrity.²³ The workshops also aimed to identify good practice and understand how we provide on the ground support to encourage high quality in the research we fund. Similar workshops with UKRI centres, institutes and units are planned for 2022/2023. Once these workshops are completed, UKRI will consider how it can share best practice and continue to promote research integrity across the organisation.

2. NERC Culture Forum

The forum is an informal group for knowledge sharing and celebrating best practice relating to research culture and integrity across NERC's Centres and Capability Partners. The forum facilitates collaboration and sharing between NERC Centres and wider national capability partners. This group meets three times a year and has enabled a greater common understanding of responsible research.

3. STFC open science steering committee

This year STFC labs set up an open science steering committee. The committee provides a forum for discussion of open science practices, policies, and services for the labs. Open science cafés are held regularly and allow a safe space for people to informally discuss errors and mistakes in research practice, reproducibility and research improvement, fostering a high integrity research environment and culture.

iii) **Information relating to Research Integrity collected by the UKRI Funding Assurance Programme²⁴**

During Financial Year 2021-22, 35 Research Organisations were subject to a Funding Assurance review. Their compliance with UKRI terms and conditions, encompassing research integrity and ethics, was examined. The 2021-22 Funding Assurance workplan included a mixture of Higher Education Institutions, Independent Research Organisations and Research Institutes across the UK, and four international Research Organisations (listed at Annex 2). Assurance activity for Research Organisations is significantly informed by the value of Research Council funding they receive. Those that feature in the top 40-funded Research Organisations are subject to an assurance assignment every three years; those in the top 40-100 on a five-to-six-year cycle. Research Organisations with lower volumes of funding are approached on a risk basis.

²³ <https://www.universitiesuk.ac.uk/sites/default/files/field/downloads/2021-08/Updated%20FINAL-the-concordat-to-support-research-integrity.pdf>

²⁴ <https://www.ukri.org/about-us/policies-standards-and-data/funding-assurance-programme/>

As part of the Funding Assurance review, research organisations must complete a Funding Assurance self-assessment questionnaire.²⁵ During this reporting period, revised questions relating to research integrity in the self-assessment questionnaire were piloted, evaluated and became part of business as usual. Research organisations responded positively to the strengthened questions, noting that they provide an opportunity for reflection. As a result of the revised questions, an upward trend in the number of research integrity issues were identified. Common issues identified in the self-assessment questionnaires were in relation to organisation-prepared Annual Statements, namely issues with the content not aligning to the requirements of the Concordat,²⁶ statements not being published in a timely manner, or not being approved by an appropriate governing body prior to publishing.

A high-level review of all IROs was performed in 2020-21, encompassing a review of key policies and an assessment of their IRO status. As this was the first review of its kind, a large number of gaps were identified in relation to IROs who were recipients of UKRI funding prior to updates to our due diligence processes which now encompass a review of research integrity and ethics policies.

A high-level review of all IROs was performed in 2020-21 encompassing a review of key policies and an assessment of IRO status. This was the first opportunity to assess all IROs since an update to our due diligence process to include research integrity and ethics. Gaps identified in relation to IROs who are recipients of UKRI funding, and recommendations raised in respect of 30 organisations which were found to have low to high level infractions of UKRI's policies on research integrity and ethics, will be followed up to confirm recommendations are acted on and policies meet our expectations.

iv) Records of research misconduct allegations, as reported to UKRI (including research misconduct allegations reported in organisations that are a legal part of UKRI)

Under commitment 5 of the Concordat to Support Research Integrity²⁷ employers of researchers must provide a high-level statement on any formal investigations of research misconduct that have been undertaken and include data on the number of investigations.²⁸ UKRI chooses to include additional data from research organisations it funds, recognising that the more data that is publicly available the greater the insight into the health of the sector.

Summary information for allegations reported to UKRI is given in **Annex 1** for Financial Year 2021-2022.²⁹ It should be noted that any discernable upward trend in numbers of cases may reflect increased awareness of UKRI policy requirements and better reporting. UKRI does not investigate allegations of research misconduct in the research performing organisations that we fund, unless those organisations are part of UKRI in legal terms.³⁰ The latter is included in **Annex 1, table 3**.

²⁵ <https://www.ukri.org/publications/funding-assurance-programme/>

²⁶ <https://www.universitiesuk.ac.uk/sites/default/files/field/downloads/2021-08/Updated%20FINAL-the-concordat-to-support-research-integrity.pdf>

²⁷ <https://www.universitiesuk.ac.uk/sites/default/files/field/downloads/2021-08/Updated%20FINAL-the-concordat-to-support-research-integrity.pdf>

²⁸ <https://www.universitiesuk.ac.uk/sites/default/files/field/downloads/2021-08/Updated%20FINAL-the-concordat-to-support-research-integrity.pdf> pg 16

²⁹ It should be noted that some cases may be duplicated, where reported to more than one research council. The councils are working towards eliminating such 'double counting'.

³⁰ This refers to UKRI owned Centres, Institutes and Units where we employ researchers, for example the MRC London Institute of Medical Sciences, NERC's British Antarctic Survey and STFC labs (non-exhaustive list).



UK Research
and Innovation

MISCONDUCT ALLEGATIONS INFORMATION HELD BY UKRI³¹

Financial Year 2021-22.

Records of misconduct allegations information held by UKRI from Financial Years 2015-16 to 2020-21³² are available on the UKRI website.³³

Table 1 details all cases of research misconduct allegations reported during this reporting period to UKRI by institutions in receipt of UKRI funding in line with the UKRI fEC grants standard terms and conditions of grant.³⁴

Table 2 details all cases of research misconduct allegations that were reported to UKRI by institutions in receipt of UKRI funding, in line with UKRI terms and conditions, prior to this reporting period, but which were ongoing at the time of the publication of the previous annual narrative statement and have concluded during the reporting period of this statement.

Table 3 details all cases of research misconduct allegations reported during this reporting period to UKRI where UKRI is recognised as the employer.³⁵

Definitions of unacceptable research conduct**Fabrication**

This comprises the creation of false data or other aspects of research, including documentation and participant consent.

Falsification

This comprises the inappropriate manipulation and/or selection of data, imagery and/or consents.

Plagiarism

This comprises the misappropriation or use of others' ideas, intellectual property or work (written or otherwise), without acknowledgement or permission.

Misrepresentation, including:

- Misrepresentation of data, for example suppression of relevant findings and/or data, or knowingly, recklessly or by gross negligence, presenting a flawed interpretation of data
- Undisclosed duplication of publication, including undisclosed duplicate submission of manuscripts for publication
- Misrepresentation of interests, including failure to declare material interests either of the researcher or of the funders of the research
- Misrepresentation of qualifications and/or experience, including claiming or implying

³¹ Please note that this report covers research activities and as such the activities of Innovate UK are currently out of scope.

³² Research England records of misconduct allegation information are included in reports from Financial Year 2019-20 on the UKRI website.

³³ <https://www.ukri.org/about-us/policies-and-standards/research-integrity/>

³⁴ <https://www.ukri.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/UKRI-021122-fECGrantTermsAndConditions.pdf>

³⁵ This refers to UKRI owned Centres, Institutes and Units where we employ researchers including MRC institutes such as MRC London Institute of Medical Sciences, NERC's British Antarctic Survey and STFC labs (non-exhaustive list).

qualifications or experience which are not held

- Misrepresentation of involvement, such as inappropriate claims to authorship and/or attribution of work where there has been no significant contribution, or the denial of authorship where an author has made a significant contribution

Breach of duty of care, whether deliberately, recklessly or by gross negligence:

- Disclosing improperly the identity of individuals or groups involved in research without their consent, or other breach of confidentiality;
- Placing any of those involved in research in danger, whether as subjects, participants or associated individuals, without their prior consent, and without appropriate safeguards even with consent; this includes reputational danger where that can be anticipated
- Not taking all reasonable care to ensure that the risks and dangers, the broad objectives and the sponsors of the research are known to participants or their legal representatives, to ensure appropriate informed consent is obtained properly, explicitly and transparently
- Not observing legal and reasonable ethical requirements or obligations of care for animal subjects, human organs or tissue used in research, or for the protection of the environment
- Improper conduct in peer review of research proposals or results (including manuscripts submitted for publication); this includes failure to disclose conflicts of interest; inadequate disclosure of clearly limited competence; misappropriation of the content of material; and breach of confidentiality or abuse of material provided in confidence for peer review purposes

Improper dealing with allegations of misconduct:

- Failing to address possible infringements including attempts to cover up misconduct or reprisals against whistle-blowers
- Failing to deal appropriately with malicious allegations, which should be handled formally as breaches of good conduct

Table 1 – Records of research misconduct allegations information first reported to UKRI in its role as a funder in financial year 2021-22

Research council / Research England	Type of misconduct ³⁶	Date first informed	Allegation proceeded to formal investigation?	Outcome
AHRC	Plagiarism	29/07/2021	Yes	Ongoing
BBSRC	Falsification	16/04/2021	Yes	Not upheld
	Misrepresentation	23/04/2021	No	Not upheld
	Misrepresentation	23/04/2021	No	Not upheld
	Misrepresentation	06/05/2021	Yes	Not upheld
	Misrepresentation	24/05/2021	No	Not upheld
	Plagiarism	26/05/2021	No	Not upheld
	Falsification	07/06/2021	Yes	Not upheld
	Other	12/07/2021	Yes	Upheld
	Other	26/08/2021	Ongoing	Ongoing
	Falsification	08/11/2021	No	Not upheld

³⁶ Classified according to the categories of research misconduct set out in the UKRI policy on the governance of good research practice

	Falsification	09/11/2021	No	Not upheld
	Plagiarism	24/02/2022	Ongoing	Ongoing
	Plagiarism	30/03/2022	Ongoing	Ongoing
	Falsification	25/02/2022	Ongoing	Ongoing
	Falsification	25/02/2022	Ongoing	Ongoing
EPSRC	Plagiarism	21/04/2021	Yes	Partially upheld
	Falsification	23/04/2021	No	Not upheld
	Falsification	07/06/2021	No	Not upheld
	Falsification	23/06/2021	Yes	Upheld
	Breach of duty of care	23/06/2021	No	Not upheld
	Plagiarism	06/08/2021	No	Not upheld
	Falsification	26/05/2021	No	Not upheld
	Falsification	19/08/2021	Yes	Upheld
	Plagiarism	22/09/2021	No	Not upheld
	Plagiarism	02/12/2021	Ongoing	Ongoing
	Falsification	21/01/2022	Yes	Upheld
	Fraud	09/02/2022	Yes	Upheld
	Breach of duty of care	21/02/2022	No	Not upheld
	ESRC	Plagiarism	02/06/2021	No
Plagiarism		21/07/2021	No	Not upheld
MRC	Falsification	13/04/2021	Ongoing	Ongoing
	Misrepresentation	13/04/2021	Ongoing	Ongoing
	Falsification	13/04/2021	No	Not upheld
	Misrepresentation	17/04/2021	No	Not upheld
	Misrepresentation	06/05/2021	No	Not upheld
	Falsification	06/05/2021	No	Not upheld
	Falsification	07/05/2021	No	Not upheld
	Falsification	07/05/2021	No	Not upheld
	Falsification	14/05/2021	No	Not upheld
	Misrepresentation	28/05/2021	No	Not upheld
	Other	14/06/2021	Yes	Upheld
	Falsification	01/10/2021	No	Not upheld
	Falsification	08/10/2021	Ongoing	Ongoing
	Falsification	11/10/2021	Yes	Ongoing
	Falsification	11/10/2021	Ongoing	Ongoing
	Fabrication	12/10/2021	Yes	Not upheld
	Other	03/12/2021	No	Not upheld
	Misrepresentation	14/03/2022	Ongoing	Ongoing
NERC	Plagiarism	07/02/2022	No	Not upheld
	Plagiarism	31/03/2022	No	Not upheld
RE	Fabrication	20/08/2021	Yes	Upheld
STFC	Misrepresentation	26/08/2021	Ongoing	Ongoing
	Misrepresentation	26/08/2021	Ongoing	Ongoing

Table 2 – Investigations into Research Misconduct cases which were ongoing during previous statements, but concluded during financial year 2021-22

Research council / Research England	Type of misconduct	Date first informed	Allegation proceeded to formal investigation?	Outcome
BBSRC	Breach of duty of care	15/12/2017	Yes	Upheld
	Falsification	13/11/2018	Yes	Upheld
	Falsification	06/08/2019	Yes	Upheld
	Fabrication	13/10/2020	Yes	Upheld
	Falsification	16/04/2021	Yes	Not upheld
	Misrepresentation	23/04/2021	No	Not upheld
	Misrepresentation	06/05/2021	Yes	Not upheld
	Misrepresentation	24/05/2021	No	Not upheld
	Plagiarism	26/05/2021	No	Not upheld
	Falsification	08/11/2021	No	Not upheld
	Falsification	09/11/2021	No	Not upheld
EPSRC	Plagiarism	18/03/2021	No	Not upheld
	Falsification	24/03/2021	No	Not upheld
MRC	Fabrication	22/02/2017	Yes	Upheld
	Misrepresentation	07/04/2020	Yes	Not upheld
	Falsification	24/09/2020	Yes	Upheld
	Plagiarism	14/02/2021	No	Not upheld
	Falsification	25/03/2021	Yes	Not upheld
	Misrepresentation	26/03/2021	No	Not upheld

Table 3 – Records of research misconduct allegations information first reported to UKRI in its role as an employer in financial year 2021-22

Type of misconduct ³⁷	Date first informed	Allegation proceeded to formal investigation?	Outcome
Fabrication	15/12/2021	Yes	Ongoing

UKRI encourages research performing organisations to conduct investigations into research misconduct allegations in a timely manner. This is to limit the impact these investigations have on the individuals involved and the research being conducted. However, UKRI recognises that the complexity of these cases can sometimes result in longer than recommended timelines.

NOTE: In accordance with UK data protection legislation, we do not normally disclose the identity of any individuals involved in any research misconduct allegations reported to UKRI. Information relating to the amount of funding in **Tables 1 & 2** also cannot be provided, as to do so may result in individual award holders being identified.

³⁷ Classified according to the categories of research misconduct set out in the UKRI policy on the governance of good research practice

FUNDING ASSURANCE QUESTIONNAIRE RETURNS, 2021-22

Questionnaires were received from the following 35 organisations for 2021-22.

Research Organisation
Aston University
Bangor University
Bath Spa University
Canterbury Christ Church University
Durham University
Earlham Institute
Francis Crick Institute
Glasgow School of Art
Indian Council for Medical research
Institute for Cancer Research
Keele University
Leeds Beckett University
London Business School
National Oceanography Centre
Open University
Scotland's Rural College (SRUC)
Sheffield Hallam University
Teesside University
The Welding Institute
University of Bedfordshire
University of Cambridge
University of Cape Town
University of Edinburgh
University of Liverpool
University of London
University of Manchester
University of Newcastle upon Tyne
University of Plymouth
University of Pretoria



University of South Wales
University of St. Andrews
University of the West of Scotland
University of Witwatersrand
The UN Environment Programme: World Conservation Monitoring Centre
Wellcome Trust Sanger Institute

FUNDING ASSURANCE HIGH-LEVEL REVIEWS, 2021-2022

Funding Assurance undertook a high-level review of the following 57 Independent Research Organisations (IROs) in receipt of UKRI funding in 2021-2022.

Research Organisation
Anthony Nolan
Armagh Observatory and Planetarium
Beatson Institute for Cancer Research
Birdlife International
British Film Institute
British Institute of International and Comparative Law
British Library
The British Museum
British Trust for Ornithology
Centre for Agriculture and Bioscience International
Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre
Chatham House
Earthwatch Institute
EMBL - European Bioinformatics Institute
Historic Buildings and Monuments Commission for England
Historic Environment Scotland
Historic Royal Palaces
HR Wallingford Ltd
Imperial War Museums
Institute for Fiscal Studies
Institute of Development Studies
Institute of Occupational Medicine
International Institute for Environment and Development
James Hutton Institute
London Institute for Mathematical Sciences
Malaria Consortium (UK)
Marine Biological Association
Moredun Research Institute
Museum of London Archaeology
The National Archives



National Centre for Social Research
The National Gallery
National Institute of Agricultural Botany
National Maritime Museum
National Museum Wales
National Museums Liverpool
National Museums of Scotland
National Portrait Gallery
The National Trust
The Natural History Museum
Nesta
The Office of Health Economics
Overseas Development Institute
RAND Europe Community Interest Group
Royal Botanic Gardens Edinburgh
Royal Botanic Gardens Kew
Royal Society for the Protection of Birds
Royal United Services Institute for Defence and Security Studies
Science Museum Group
Sightsavers
Tate
Tavistock Institute of Human relations
Transport Research Laboratory
UK Centre for Ecology and Hydrology
Victoria and Albert Museum
Young Foundations
Zoological Society for London