



Research  
England

## Circular letter

# Consultation on the design of the UK's future research assessment system

To	Heads of Research England-funded higher education providers
Reference	RE-CL-2022-02
Publication date	22 February 2022
Enquiries to	researchpolicy@re.ukri.org

Dear Vice-Chancellor or Principal

## Consultation on the design of the UK's future research assessment system

1. The four UK higher education funding bodies are consulting on the design of the UK's next research assessment system, as part of the [Future Research Assessment Programme](#) (FRAP).
2. The Programme is a significant piece of work aimed at exploring possible approaches to the assessment of UK higher education research performance. It seeks to identify those that can encourage and strengthen the emphasis on delivering excellent research and impact, and support a positive research culture, while simplifying and reducing the administrative burden on the Higher Education sector.
3. Responses to this consultation will be considered alongside a range of internal and commissioned evaluations, feedback on the current REF exercise, and advice from the Programme's International Advisory Group. Decisions on the design of the next exercise will be taken by the four funding bodies.
4. We invite responses from higher education institutions and other individuals, groups and organisations with an interest in the conduct, quality, funding or use of research. This includes businesses, government and public sector bodies, charities and other third sector organisations.

<sup>1</sup> Research England (RE) is a council of UK Research and Innovation (UKRI), a non-departmental public body with responsibility for research and innovation funding in the UK, established by the Higher Education and Research Act 2017. <https://www.ukri.org>



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5. The full consultation document is available at Annex A.
6. Responses to the consultation should be made using the online form provided available alongside this consultation at <https://www.jisc.ac.uk/future-research-assessment-programme/consultation> by **noon on Friday 6 May 2022**.

## **Further information**

7. Any questions about this letter should be addressed to [researchpolicy@re.ukri.org](mailto:researchpolicy@re.ukri.org).

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'David Sweeney', with a large checkmark-like flourish at the end.

David Sweeney, Executive Chair