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Minutes of the UK Committee on Research Integrity Business meeting, 4 July 2023

Time: 3pm to 4pm

Location: British Library, 96 Euston Rd, London NW1 2DB

Attendees	
Jane Alfred	Chris Graf
Nandini Das (virtual)	Claire Henderson, UK Committee on
Maria Delgado	Ralitsa Madsen
Louise Dunlop	Jil Matheson
Andrew George (Co-chair)	Gillian Rendle, UK Committee on Research Integrity Secretariat Lead
Ian Gilmore (virtual)	Elizabeth Saunders, Senior Strategy Advisor, Research Integrity, UKRI
Rachael Goberman-Hill (Co-chair)	

1. Welcome and introductions

- 1.1. The UK Committee on Research Integrity was welcomed to the business meeting.
- 1.2. Jeremy Watson and Miles Padgett had sent apologies.
- 1.3. The action log was reviewed. The following actions were complete:

Secretariat	Circulate the annual statement executive summary and recommendations for comment by 27 April
Secretariat	Liaise with EDI team on accessibility of annual statement
Secretariat	Create comms plan/publication schedule for case studies

Secretariat	Circulate links to draft documents on the annual statement
UK CORI	Discuss how to best liaise with key stakeholders in June to support the launch of the annual statement

- 1.4. Members were reminded to continue to promote the committee website via their social networks.
- 1.5. Members noted that the committee’s response to the Science, Innovation and Technology Select Committee’s May 2023 report on their inquiry into reproducibility and research integrity was on track to be submitted in July.

2. Declarations of interest

- 2.1. The chairs highlighted the new potential conflict of interest presented by Miles Padgett’s new appointment as Interim Executive Chair for EPSRC. The committee agreed that as the role was interim there was no material risk at this stage, however, members agreed to an ongoing review to ensure any potential or perceived conflicts would be appropriately managed. Members were asked if there were any additional interests to be declared.
- 2.2. Ralitsa Madsen declared a new interest as newly appointed UK reproducibility Network (UKRN) local lead for University of Dundee.

3. Terms of reference

- 3.1. The committee discussed and approved the terms of reference. There was a point of clarification over 3.2, which stated:
 “The committee will: develop a strategy and roadmap for the future position in relation to UKRI. To be developed in the first year, the strategy must reflect the need for collective ownership and action on research integrity across the sector. The roadmap will be developed on the basis of the strategy and describe the steps that the UK Committee on Research Integrity will take to achieve this.”
- 3.2. Members agreed that this means that the strategy would be developed in the first year, which has been completed, and that the roadmap would be developed subsequently. The roadmap is a piece of work that will be taking place moving forward from now.
- 3.3. Members were content with this clarification and the terms of reference were formally approved on this basis.

4. Workplan, including annual statement commitments

- 4.1. The committee approved the workplan for publication on the website with minor revisions.
- 4.2. The scope of the landscape mapping workstream was considered, noting recent developments across the research system. It was agreed this area of work should be prioritised in the autumn.
- 4.3. Members were asked to consider important topics that should be surfaced in the committee's 2024 annual statement.
- 4.4. Members emphasised the importance of evaluating the committee and its workstreams' effectiveness. The committee noted earlier discussions about evaluation and that this had not been progressed to date due to limited available resource in the secretariat team, but this would now be prioritised and evaluation would be discussed at the next meeting.

Action: members to consider important topics that should be surfaced in the committee's 2024 annual statement

Action: secretariat to block time to discuss evaluation on the October meeting agenda

5. Any other business

- 5.1. A webinar to launch the committee's 2023 annual statement was being planned for September. Members were asked to contact the secretariat team if they were interested in being involved. Members were also encouraged to identify and suggest conferences in which the committee could discuss its work.

Action: members interested in being involved in the September webinar to inform secretariat team.

6. Standing items

6.1. Equality, diversity and inclusion (EDI)

The committee noted the following EDI considerations:

- *Relating to the annual statement* – The committee was pleased with the diversity of images used in the annual statement, which illustrated a broad range of disciplines
- *Relating to the mapping enablers and inhibitors workstream* – The co-chairs emphasised the importance of placing EDI at the front and centre of this work from the outset
- *Relating to stakeholder engagement and promotion of the annual statement*– Members recognised the importance of being able to

capture and record the different views of people they are engaging with “on the ground” for example, through conferences.

Action: secretariat to implement a process for members to better capture stakeholder feedback

6.2. **Communication matters arising**

The post meeting summary for the newsletter would be authored by Chris Graf, who would also chair the reflections agenda item.

6.3. **Reflections on the meeting and ways of working**

The committee thanked the British Library for their generous hospitality and conveyed its appreciation for the talks by guest speakers that took place earlier in the day and the value that they added.

7. **Close, and date of next meeting**

7.1. Members of the committee were thanked for their time and contributions. The next committee meeting will be held on 17 October 2023 hosted by Queen’s University Belfast.

7.2. The co-chairs thanked members for their engagement, energy, and contributions and drew the meeting to a close.

Actions

- **Members** to consider important topics that should be surfaced in the committee’s 2024 annual statement
- **Secretariat** to block time to discuss evaluation on the October meeting agenda
- **Members** interested in being involved in the September webinar to inform the secretariat team.
- **Secretariat** to implement a process for members to better capture stakeholder feedback