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Minutes of the UK Committee on Research Integrity Business meeting 30 April 2025

Time: 15:00 – 16:00

Location: UK Research and Innovation, Caxton House, 6-12 Tothill St, London

Attendees	
Rachael Gooberman-Hill (Co-chair)	Ralitsa Madsen
Jil Matheson	Miles Padgett
Jane Alfred	Nandini Das (virtual)
Maria Delgado	Tolulope Ayanbola, UK Committee on Research Integrity Strategy Advisor
Louise Dunlop	Irene Fernow, UK Committee on Research Integrity Secretariat Lead
Ian Gilmore	Elizabeth Saunders, UKRI Senior Strategy advisor
Chris Graf	Rebecca Veitch, UKRI Head of Research Integrity Strategy

1. Welcome

- 1.1. The UK Committee on Research Integrity ('the Committee') was welcomed to the business meeting. Apologies were noted from Jeremy Watson.
- 1.2. Members were invited to declare any interests in relation to items on the agenda. None were raised.
- 1.3. Members extended their gratitude to Professor Andrew George, who had chosen not to renew his role as co-chair, for his valuable contributions and leadership.

- 1.4. The meeting objectives were to:
- ratify next steps for ongoing workstreams
 - discuss and approve plans for the 2025 annual statement
- 1.5. Members were reminded that the minutes of the 27 January 2025 Committee meeting were approved at the monthly meeting on 20 March 2025. The action log from the 27 January 2025 meeting was reviewed.

Assigned to	Action	Status
Secretariat	Secretariat to publish short progress summaries on the UK Committee on Research Integrity website following meetings of the working group into 'poor research practice and research misconduct'.	On-going
Members	Members to share examples of any known case studies in relation to EDI and research integrity.	Completed
Members	Committee to engage with the RICS group to implement and maximise the impact of the Concordat within the sector.	On-going
Members	Members to reflect on opportunities for cross-sector engagement with the publishing industry, to be tabled for discussion at a future Committee meeting.	Completed
Members	Committee to table future discussion about Committee key messaging to the sector.	Completed

2. Future governance

- 2.1. The Committee completed its initial three-year term 30th April 2025 and has been granted a two-year extension to continue its work.
- 2.2. The Committee discussed key priorities for its second term, including the planned publication of outcomes from its workstream focused on Poor Research Practice and Research Misconduct development of a roadmap to describing the route to the future landscape for research integrity in the UK; and working with the Research Integrity Concordat Signatories (RICS) Group to facilitate implementation of the refreshed Concordat to Support Research Integrity.
- 2.3. Members agreed that the July committee meeting would be used to define the plan of work that will enable delivery of its priorities within the next two years.

Action:

- **Committee** to discuss and shape plans for the next two years at the July 2025 Committee meeting.

3. Next steps for workstreams

Artificial Intelligence (AI)

- 3.1. Following the publication of the refreshed Concordat to Support Research Integrity, the AI working group has published a perspective piece focused on researchers. This piece examines how GenAI can be considered through the five principles of Research Integrity contained in the Concordat.

Poor Research Practice and Research Misconduct

- 3.2. Members were informed of progress with the '[Addressing research misconduct in the UK](#)' commission. The Committee were invited to note delays in scheduling of interviews. The delays are related to current sector pressures have resulted in a three-month extension to the project.

- 3.3. An infographic of 25 countries' approaches to managing research misconduct has been produced by RAND Europe and will be published in summer 2025.

Research Excellence Framework (REF)

- 3.4. The Committee noted the value of on-going engagement with Research England on the REF.

4. Annual Statement 2025

- 4.1. The Committee's Annual Statement 2025 is due to be published in the summer. Members approved the proposed structure of the statement and will continue discussion about inclusion of evidence and any case studies.

5. Government engagement

- 5.1. The Committee welcomed ongoing engagement with government and highlighted that the refreshed Concordat and forthcoming annual statement analysis present an opportunity to raise the profile of research integrity.
- 5.2. The Magenta Book, the UK central government guidance on evaluation, is currently undergoing a refresh. A consultation process is underway and open to submissions. The Committee considered the opportunity to input into the consultation and agreed to prepare a response.

Action:

- **Committee** to prepare and submit a response to the consultation about the refresh of the Magenta book.

6. Any other business

- 6.1. There was no other business raised.

7. Standing items

7.1. Equality, diversity and inclusion (EDI) considerations

- Annual Statement: The Committee reflected on the process for identifying and including available evidence and highlighted work to consider the readership as well as the breadth of available material.
- Engagement and workstreams: The Committee reflected on how EDI considerations have been embedded in Committee work across the sector. An example was inclusion of diverse HEIs in the sample within the 'Addressing research misconduct in the UK' commission as an example.
- REF: Members highlighted the need for the sector, especially early career researchers, to be aware of information surrounding portability.

7.2. Communication matters arising

- FAIRS Conference: Members were informed that the work of the Committee was presented at the FAIRS Conference, Oxford April 2025. The slides from all presentations at the conference can be found at the Open Science Forum (OSF).
- US National Conference on Research Integrity: Linda Holliday, Deputy Director, Culture and Environment UKRI, will be speaking about the work of the Committee at the US National Conference on Research Integrity in May 2025.
- Metascience 2025: The Committee are presenting a poster at the Metascience 2025 conference at UCL, 30 June to 2 July. The poster relates to the 'Addressing poor research practices and research misconduct' project, specifically RAND's work on international comparators.
- ENRIO: Members reflected on the potential for deeper engagement with the European Network of Research Integrity Offices (ENRIO), building on previous engagements. Members were invited to express interest in attending the upcoming ENRIO congress in September 2025.
- World Conference on Research Integrity: Members highlighted the importance of working collaboratively within the sector and shared that a joint symposium proposal with the STM Association's Integrity Hub has been submitted to the 2026 World Conference on Research Integrity.

Action:

- **Members** to indicate interest in attending the ENRIO 2025 congress.

7.3. Reflections on the meeting, ways of working

A member of the Committee provided their reflections on the Committee's meeting and ways of working:

The UK Committee on Research Integrity's April 2025 meeting was hosted by UK Research and Innovation in London. It was recognised that the resource constraints

faced by Higher Education Institutions is an increasing challenge and sharpens our resolve to provide simple and clear guidance to support and help the research community.

The Committee is delighted to now host the refreshed Concordat to Support Research Integrity, which has been revised to simplify and improve clarity. To accompany this, the AI working group has produced a short [perspective on the impact of GenAI \(pdf\)](#) on the five principles, highlighting challenges as well as benefits that could improve research integrity and efficiency. We also discussed the important and careful work of the Research Misconduct workstream and the most effective implementation for the sector.

8. Close, and date of next meeting

- 8.1. Members of the Committee were thanked for their time and positive contributions. The next Committee meeting will be held on 23 July 2025.

Actions

- **Committee** to discuss and shape plans for the next two years at the July 2025 Committee meeting.
- **Committee** to prepare and submit a response to the consultation about the refresh of the Magenta book.
- **Members** to indicate interest in attending the ENRIO 2025 congress.