

## Research Excellence Grant and Research Postgraduate Grant responses

<b>Date / time response submitted</b>	<b>11/01/2022 12:33</b>
In what capacity are you submitting your response?	Organisation
Your organisation (if applicable)	Scottish Graduate School for Arts and Humanities
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<b>Overarching issues</b>	
Q1. If it were necessary, what would be the implications of delaying implementation of REF 2021 results and changes to REG until AY 2023-24?	/
Q2. Should SFC seek to limit downward changes in REG experienced by individual universities post REF2021 and, if so, what should be the scope of any adjustments made?	/
Q3. You are invited to comment in your answers throughout the document on opportunities for and barriers to advancing equality and achieving inclusion. Overarching comments related to the aims of the public sector duty in the context of this review should be made here.	/
Q4. How important (or otherwise) is it that the Scottish approach to underpinning research funding is in step with the rest of the UK? What elements of consistency (or distinctiveness) in SFC's approach influence Scottish HEIs' research competitiveness?	/
Q5. In the changing research landscape, is the balance of funding between SFC's underpinning support for research and underpinning support for	Would be useful to have a clearer review

PGR training & environment optimal?	
<b>Research Excellence Grant</b>	
Q6. Views are sought on the principles proposed for REG and on whether the proposals within this paper are consistent with the principles.	/
Q7. What are your views on whether the current quality weightings for 3* and 4* REF scores are fit for purpose?	/
Q8. What are your views on aligning the proportions of REGa allocated and the proportions of REF score elements?	/
Q9. We would welcome your views on the balance between the elements of the REG formula. Within the income-driven elements, we welcome your views on whether we have included the correct income sources.	We welcome the proposed removal of the STEMM premium weighting in order to more fairly allocate funding between all subject areas, including the Arts & Humanities.
<b>Research Postgraduate Grant</b>	
Q10. Are the proposed principles for RPG appropriate and consistent with the purpose of the grant and the changing PGR landscape?	We welcome the proposals to explore how RPG can be used to foster increased cross-institutional collaboration and coordination around PGR training and support in Scotland, and as a National Graduate School (SGSAH) are extremely well positioned for further contributions to such proposals. The existing evidence of our national provision (alongside that of other DTPs, CDTs and PGR elements within research pools) demonstrate the existing capabilities and future potential. The scale of activity in Scotland across disciplinary areas is of a size to enable excellence and innovation, while remaining - and benefitting from being - strongly connected and collaborative.  The proposed principles are appropriate and consistent
Q11a. We are seeking views on the purpose of RPG and its future role in supporting Scottish institutions to respond – individually and collaboratively – to the changing landscape.	We agree with this proposal
Q11b. We are seeking views on taking forward increased accountability for RPG, for example by linking to shared objectives or outcomes, and how	The potential for RPG to be linked to shared national objectives and outcomes should be explored, while ensuring that modes of early career research and research training are not over-determined in disciplinary or instrumentalist terms, and that such objectives and outcomes take fully into account the

SFC and the sector could work in partnership to achieve this.	relationship of Scotland and the rest of the world (e.g. PGRs from across the globe coming to Scotland to study; PGRs from across the globe going on to employment - in academia and elsewhere - outside of Scotland. What 'accountability' means should be discussed using a wide and varied set of values, in order to ensure diversities of outcomes.
Q12a. We are seeking views on how the RPG could play an increased role in improving participation of underrepresented groups within Scotland's PGR community, particularly within specific research areas where under-representation is most extreme.	This is an important process, particularly with some of the challenges with HESA data capture. Developing, collaborating and sharing best practice in data collection is a good aim, in order to underpin actions (including positive actions under the Equalities Act).
Q12b. We are seeking views on how SFC's focus on widening access and participation could be supported by RPG in the postgraduate research student context.	This is an important aim. Data collection could enable more positive action cases to be made, including encouraging the ringfencing of PGR studentships and funding masters level study where required in order to provide pipelines through to PGR study (for disciplinary areas constructed in that way).
<b>Other comments</b>	
Q13. Please make any other comments relevant to this consultation.	/
<b>Publication of responses</b>	
We may publish a summary of the consultation responses and, in some cases, the responses themselves. Published responses may be attributed to an organisation where this information has been provided but will not contain personal data. When providing a response in an individual capacity, published responses will be anonymised. Please confirm whether or not you agree to your response being included in any potential publication.	Publish information and excerpts from this survey response EXCLUDING the organisation name.

