

SIRE – Scottish Institute for Research in Economics

POOL	SIRE – Scottish Institute for Research in Economics		
Original Partners	Aberdeen, Dundee, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Heriot Watt, St Andrews, Stirling and Strathclyde		
Funding	SFC £9.4M Institutions £11.9M		
Start	2007	End	2016
Original objectives			
To focus upon, and pool, key areas of strength within the Scottish Economics research base within focused programmes. Through pooling, we will enhance critical mass in these areas, attract top researchers to permanent and visiting positions, develop young researchers to provide the next generation of research leaders, enhance income and attract growing numbers of graduate students to Scotland.			

Funding breakdown

	SFC (£000s)	Institution (£000s)	Total (£000s)
Salaries 18 Professors 18 Lecturers	3,231	11,900	15,131
Additional post costs	2,400		2,400
Studentships (21)	1,648		1,648
SIRE Director, Assistant Director, and Programme Director buyouts	757		757
SIRE Centre and Programme Base Support Costs	381		381
Activities	657		657
Early Career Engagement Grants	239		239
Total	9,400	11,900	21,300

Governance / structure – see appendix

Original Governance	Governing Board; International Advisory Board that provides guidance and plays a key quality assurance role by rigorously assessing SIRE appointments against standards of international research excellence. Executive Committee comprising Institute Director and Assistant Director, Programme Directors and the Director of the SGPE;
Research themes	Behaviour, Incentives and Contracts (BIC) Work and Wellbeing

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	Macroeconomics, Financial Linkages and the Regions (MFLR)
Directorate	Director – 0.5FTE Assistant Director – - 0.33 FTE Programme Director BIC – 0.5FTE Programme Director WW – 0.33FTE Programme Director MLFR – 0.33FTE Administrator 1FTE

End of award

Final report	October 2017
Highlights	<p>Critical mass: All post were filled with high quality candidates in a competitive market. All posts will be maintained and additional appointments have been made.</p> <p>Studentships: PhD enrolments have increased from a pre-SIRE (2000-07) average of 77 to an average of 141 in 2008-15.</p> <p>Research income: Average annual grant income, of £2,102,364 in 2008-15, has almost doubled in comparison to the pre-SIRE period (£1,110,844 between 2002-07), including a substantial ESRC grant for circa £6 million.</p> <p>Research papers: Using the Journal Ranking of Kalaitzidakis et al (2011), the percentage increase in the annual average of articles from pre-SIRE (2000-07) to SIRE (2008-15) appearing in top ten Journals was 45%, top twenty 35%, top thirty 68% and top forty 63%. Adjusted (see report) for top 5 is up to 89% for 2008-16.</p> <p>REF: Substantial improvement from RAE 2001 to 2008 with a further improvement in REF2014. No collaborative submissions.</p> <p>Policy engagements: Successful SIRE/SG engagement events. PGR placements in Office for National Statistics, International Monetary Fund, Behavioural Insights Team, Hungarian CSO...</p>
Major changes/challenges	No cost extension to activities as a result of careful management of budget and achieving substantial co-funding on many events SIRE prolonged the central activities budget until 2016.

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