



Present: Jonathan Seckl (Convener), George Baxter, Christina Boswell, Charles ffrench-Constant, Pauline Jones, Gavin McLachlan, Andy Mount, Lorna Thomson

In attendance: Susan Cooper (secretary), Charlotte Brady, Lynn Forsyth, Paul McGuire, Jacq McMahon, Dominic Tate

Apologies: Sara Shinton, Tracey Slaven

1 RPG Vice-Convener Role

The Convener proposed that RPG should have a Vice-Convener to deputise for the Convener.

Agreed	RPG should have a Vice-Convener. The College Deans of Research will carry out the role on a rotating basis
--------	--

2 Strengthening a Big Bids Culture

Paper A

A review of recent large and complex grant applications has highlighted a number of key actions that the University needs to address to ensure sustained success.

Members welcomed the paper and there was general agreement with the themes.

Agreed	That a report on Big Bids activity should become a standing item
--------	--

3 Responsible Use of Research Metrics

Paper B

Research Metrics such as bibliometrics are being used to an increasing extent but have well-documented limitations.

The REF manager stressed the need to show that REF2021 output inclusion decisions were made on the basis of responsible use of research metrics. It was also anticipated that the University would be expected to show commitment to best practice outlined in public statements such as the San Francisco Declaration on Research Assessment (DoRA). Turning to the draft guidance presented as Appendixes A-D, members considered that draft guidance on the use of quantitative research activity data in research evaluation was a good start. The guidance should reflect the fact that metrics can only ever be a measure of past performance. Furthermore, bibliometrics are not relevant to certain disciplines. Other measures, commonly described as 'altmetrics', are rapidly evolving and should be kept under review

Action	<p>i) That the Director of Research Support office should arranged for the draft guidance, action plan and 'basket' of metrics to be revised to take account of members' comments</p> <p>ii) That, assuming members were content with the revisions to the guidance, RPG would recommend to the University Executive that the University signs up to DoRA</p>
--------	---

4 UKRI Future Leaders Fellowships

Paper C

It was agreed that for this particular scheme our current approach was optimal.