



**THE CONCORDAT
TO SUPPORT
RESEARCH
INTEGRITY**

CONTENTS

Summary of commitments	1
Signatories to the concordat	1
Foreword by the signatories to the concordat	2
Introduction	4
Maintaining the highest standards of research integrity	6
Commitment 1	6
Commitment 2	8
Embedding a culture of research integrity	10
Commitment 3	10
Dealing with allegations of research misconduct	12
Commitment 4	12
A commitment to strengthening research integrity	16
Commitment 5	16
Annexe A: Definitions	18
References	19

SUMMARY OF COMMITMENTS

This concordat seeks to provide a national framework for good research conduct and its governance. As signatories to the concordat to support research integrity, we are committed to:

1. upholding the highest standards of rigour and integrity in all aspects of research
2. ensuring that research is conducted according to appropriate ethical, legal and professional frameworks, obligations and standards

Research integrity is an issue that must be continually revisited, to ensure that its principles are widely understood and accepted. In 2018, the Science and Technoced c6.36 T

INTRODUCTION

This revised concordat represents a renewed ambition to further strengthen the *Concordat to support research integrity*, which was published in 2010. This revised concordat represents a renewed ambition to further strengthen the *Concordat to support research integrity*, which was published in 2010.

- x UHFRJQLVHV WKH DXMSQRRPIUHF employees of researchers must have the freedom to strengthen policies and procedures relating to research as appropriate to their circumstances. The concordat provides a framework to help employers ensure that they can

5 HVHDUFKeresponsible for:

- x understanding the expected standards of rigour and integrity relevant to their research
- x maintaining the highest standards of rigour and integrity in their work at all times

COMMITMENT

We are committed to ensuring that research is conducted according to appropriate ethical, legal and professional frameworks, obligations and standards.

- x only provide funding to organisations that can demonstrate that appropriate structures are in place to ensure research integrity in their research activities
- x clearly identify and indicate any specific codes of practice and other policies that researchers and employers of researchers are expected to comply with, beyond those that might be generally expected

Other organisations working to support research and researchers should continue with their efforts to further strengthen the integrity of research. In particular, the work of organisations to develop recognised ethical guidelines and codes of conduct for different research disciplines is invaluable. Collaboration between organisations has led to the development of shared approaches to cross-institutional ways of working, and the further development of this guidance should be encouraged.

EMBEDDING A CULTURE OF RESEARCH INTEGRITY

COMMITMENT

We are committed to supporting a research environment that is underpinned by a culture of integrity and based on good governance, best practice and

(P S O R \ H U V R I U H W I L D U F K H U V

- x embed these features in their own systems, processes and practices
- x reflect recognised best practice in their own systems, processes and practices
- x implement the concordat within their research environment
- x participate in an annual monitoring exercise to demonstrate that the institution has met the commitments of the concordat
- x promote training and development opportunities to research staff and students, and encourage their uptake
- x identify a named senior member of staff to oversee research integrity and ensure that this information is kept up to date and publicly available on the institution's website
- x identify a named member of staff who will act as a first point of contact for

ANNEX A DEFINITIONS

5 H V H D U F K L Q T H e t a i s U n i v e r s a l d e f i n i t i o n o f r e s e a r c h i n t e g r i t y . T h i s c o n c o r d a t i d e n t i f i e s f i v e c o r e e l e m e n t s o f r e s e a r c h i n t e g r i t y , a n d t h e s e a r e d e s c r i b e d u n d e r c o m m i t m e n t 1 . T h e S i n g a p o r e S t a t e m e n t o n R e s e a r c h I n t e g r i t y (2 0 1 0) , r e f e r e n c e d w i t h i n t h i s c o n c o r d a t , p r o v i d e s a f u r t h e r d e f i n i t i o n . I n a d d i t i o n , t h e U K R I O h a s s e t o u t p r i n c i p l e s o f r e s e a r c h i n t e g r i t y i n i t s C o d e o f P r a c t i c e (U K R I O , 2 0 0 9) .

5 H V H D U F K L Q T H e t a i s U n i v e r s a l d e f i n i t i o n o f r e s e a r c h i n t e g r i t y . T h i s c o n c o r d a t i d e n t i f i e s f i v e c o r e e l e m e n t s o f r e s e a r c h i n t e g r i t y , a n d t h e s e a r e d e s c r i b e d u n d e r c o m m i t m e n t 1 . T h e S i n g a p o r e S t a t e m e n t o n R e s e a r c h I n t e g r i t y (2 0 1 0) , r e f e r e n c e d w i t h i n t h i s c o n c o r d a t , p r o v i d e s a f u r t h e r d e f i n i t i o n . I n a d d i t i o n , t h e U K R I O h a s s e t o u t p r i n c i p l e s o f r e s e a r c h i n t e g r i t y i n i t s C o d e o f P r a c t i c e (U K R I O , 2 0 0 9) .

5 H V H D U F K L Q T H e t a i s U n i v e r s a l d e f i n i t i o n o f r e s e a r c h i n t e g r i t y . T h i s c o n c o r d a t i d e n t i f i e s f i v e c o r e e l e m e n t s o f r e s e a r c h i n t e g r i t y , a n d t h e s e a r e d e s c r i b e d u n d e r c o m m i t m e n t 1 . T h e S i n g a p o r e S t a t e m e n t o n R e s e a r c h I n t e g r i t y (2 0 1 0) , r e f e r e n c e d w i t h i n t h i s c o n c o r d a t , p r o v i d e s a f u r t h e r d e f i n i t i o n . I n a d d i t i o n , t h e U K R I O h a s s e t o u t p r i n c i p l e s o f r e s e a r c h i n t e g r i t y i n i t s C o d e o f P r a c t i c e (U K R I O , 2 0 0 9) .

(P S O R \ H U V R I U H V D r a w i n g o n t h e U K R I O C o d e o f p r a c t i c e f o r r e s e a r c h (2 0 0 9) , a b r o a d d e f i n i t i o n o f ' e m p l o y e r ' i s u s e d . ' E m p l o y e r s o f r e s e a r c h e r s ' a r e a n y b o d i e s t h a t : c o n d u c t o r h o s t r e s e a r c h ; e m p l o y , s u p p o r t o r h o s t r e s e a r c h e r s ; t e a c h r e s e a r c h s t u d e n t s ; o r a l l o w r e s e a r c h t o b e c a r r i e d o u t u n d e r t h e i r a u s p i c e s .

) X Q G H U V R I U H V D r a w i n g o n t h e U K R I O C o d e o f p r a c t i c e f o r r e s e a r c h (2 0 0 9) , a b r o a d d e f i n i t i o n o f ' e m p l o y e r ' i s u s e d . ' E m p l o y e r s o f r e s e a r c h e r s ' a r e a n y b o d i e s t h a t : c o n d u c t o r h o s t r e s e a r c h ; e m p l o y , s u p p o r t o r h o s t r e s e a r c h e r s ; t e a c h r e s e a r c h s t u d e n t s ; o r a l l o w r e s e a r c h t o b e c a r r i e d o u t u n d e r t h e i r a u s p i c e s .

2 W K H U R U J D Q L A D D e s c r i b e d i n t h e C o d e o f P r a c t i c e o f o t h e r o r g a n i s a t i o n s a r e i n v o l v e d i n

Universities UK is the collective voice of 136 universities in England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland. Our mission is to create the conditions for UK universities to be the best in the world; maximising

Unive