



Updates from the RQI team

Welcome to this newsletter edition from the Research Quality and Impact team. Please see important news items and reminders below. You can view all previous newsletters on our [Updates from the RQI team page](#).

News

People, Culture and Environment

We received notification that Sussex has *not* been selected to participate in the pilot exercise on People, Culture and Environment, following our submission of an Expression of Interest in doing so. A list of the HEIs selected to participate can be found [here](#).

We hope to keep up to date with any developments in the exercise both through the REF Team's public announcements and through our contacts elsewhere in the sector, and any information will of course be circulated internally.

As has been previously shared, we are planning to do an exercise looking at the availability of data relevant to PCE in November this year, and the parameters of this will be shaped by the latest information that we have on the PCE pilot.

RQI Team Updates

Our longstanding team administrator, Michelle Stonestreet, has now moved to take up a secondment within MAH. We are sure you will join us in expressing sincere thanks to Michelle for her dedicated support, notably including managing processes for the Sussex Impact Days, the annual Researchfish return, and the REF2021 submission and REF2029 planning activities.

As previously notified, Rebecca Downing has now moved on from Sussex; we thank her for all her contributions. If your School formerly had Rebecca as primary impact contact in the team and you have impact queries for us during the current period, please get in touch via the team address, rqi@sussex.ac.uk, and James or Jen will pick this up.

Unfortunately, with two recent departures, and the replacements not yet in post, we are operating with significantly reduced capacity at present and ask for your patience while this remains the case.

A new Research Impact Manager, Chris Machell (currently at SOAS), has accepted an offer to join the team from 1 October 2024. We are looking forward to Chris joining us and will share any updates to the impact support arrangements once he is in post. Arrangements are also underway to recruit a replacement team administrator following Michelle's move.

REF2029 and data protection

We have now updated our Privacy Notice for REF and REF Privacy Consent Form so that they are inclusive of REF2029 and future research assessments. You can find the updated notice and consent form on the Data Protection webpages here:

<https://www.sussex.ac.uk/ogs/policies/information/dpa/dp-ref>

These documents are especially pertinent for anyone collecting evidence and testimonials for potential impact case studies as they relate to the collecting and use of personal data for REF under GDPR. Please use these more up to date documents to obtain consent when gathering corroborating statements relating to research impact.

If you have any queries about these documents or using the consent form, please do get in contact with us.

Reminders

REF2029 Engagement and Impact Review

We have now launched this year's review process for engagement and impact. This review follows on from the 2023 engagement and impact summer review and is intended to continue to track the progress of engagement and impact preparations for REF2029. As noted in the launch emails to each UoA, the submission deadline has been extended to 31st October 2024.

UoA Targets

Thanks to those who have completed and shared updates to their UoA targets using the spreadsheet provided for this.

The deadline for these updates to be completed was 31st July 2024, so if you haven't yet done this, we ask that you attend to it asap. The note shared with the previous newsletter on this matter is attached here again for your reference.

As a reminder, the target spreadsheet can be found in a dedicated Box folder with the name: RQI and [School] REF collaborative working folders > REF2029 RQI and [School] collaborative folders > REF2029 RQI and UoA[XX] collaborative folders.

There is both a clean version and a completed version with example data provided.

Elements Assessment Module training sessions

The Elements assessment module was launched in June, and we have been running training sessions throughout July and August. Guidance pages, including [how-to videos for the assessment module can be found here](#).

Starting in September, a regular assessment module session will be incorporated into the Library's [Elements Essentials Workshops](#).

If you would like to be invited to upcoming training sessions in August, please email rqi@sussex.ac.uk, and please do get in contact with any queries or requests for one-on-one support. Details of the assessment module Elements Essentials Workshops will be circulated as soon as they are finalised.

If you do not wish to be included in this distribution list or would like an individual or team to be added, please reply to this email with details.

[Research Quality and Impact Team](#)

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