



Scottish Funding Council

Promoting further and higher education

Our ref: 242739099

SFC Project Code: H14001

Comhairle Maoineachaidh na h-Alba

A' brosnachadh foghlam adhartach agus àrd-ìre

November 2014

Professor Madeleine Atkins CBE

Chief Executive

HEFCE

Northavon House

Coldharbour Lane

Bristol BS16 1QD

Dear Madeleine,

Evaluation of 'impact' in REF2014 phase 2

I am writing to confirm that the Scottish Funding Council (SFC) is pleased to offer HEFCE funding of up to £11,472, in academic year 2014-15, from SFC's Strategic Funds towards the costs of phase 2 of the evaluation of impact in REF2014.

Conditions of funding

This funding is offered in accordance with the attached requirements for Strategic Funding grants.

Outcomes and impact

We are making a contribution to the costs of the Evaluation of impact in REF2014 to support the achievement of its key outcomes, which in turn supports the delivery of our Strategic Outcomes on:

- a research base that is internationally competitive and improving its reputation and standing in the world; and
- university/industry collaboration and the exploitation of research.

As outlined in the proposal, the expected outcomes and impact of this project will be to:

- explore the strengths and weaknesses of the REF assessment process in delivering reliable, robust and fair outcomes;
- identify any unforeseen issues emerging during the assessment process, and evaluate the management of these;

- outline broad implications for the assessment process for impact in future REF exercises; and
- understand the findings of this study within the context of the evaluation of the submission process.

Monitoring and evaluation

You should share a copy of the draft report with SFC. You should submit the final report to SFC by April 2015.

Payment of funding

We will provide funding to HEFCE according to the following profile on receipt of invoice.

- December 2014 - £4,589
- March 2015 - £6,883

Please send invoices for the attention of my colleague Mary Boyle, Budget and Reporting Officer, Scottish Funding Council (mboyle@sfc.ac.uk).

Please note that we cannot make any payments until you have accepted this offer of grant in writing. To accept the offer, please sign both copies of this letter and return one to Mary Boyle, Budget and Reporting Officer, Scottish Funding Council.

by **Friday 21 November 2014**. You should contact Keith McDonald, Senior Policy Officer (kmcdonald@sfc.ac.uk), if you have any queries about this offer of funding.

Yours sincerely



Paul Hagan

Director of Research, Innovation, and Outcome Agreements

Enc: Requirements for Strategic Funding grants

cc: Keith McDonald, Senior Policy Officer, SFC
Kimberly Hackett, HEFCE (k.hackett@hefce.ac.uk)

Acceptance of grant

I accept this offer of funding on behalf of HEFCE from SFC for the 'evaluation of impact in REF2014 phase 2' of up to £11,472 in AY2014-15. I agree to comply with the requirements of grant, and the monitoring and evaluation requirements as outlined in the offer of grant.

Name:

Position:

Signed:

Date:

Requirements for Strategic Funding grants

1. You (HEFCE) must use the grant to achieve the objectives and outcomes that you provided in your proposal and that we (SFC) agreed.
2. You must seek our agreement in advance for any alterations to the objectives or outcomes of the project/programme of work. You must also tell us immediately of any actual or anticipated problems with the project/work which are likely to affect the timetable, outcomes, or cost of the project. We may request additional reports if necessary.
3. If your pattern of spend differs significantly from the budget provided in your proposal, you must notify us as soon as possible.
4. We may audit the relevant project documentation to satisfy ourselves that you have used the grant appropriately and have met the conditions of grant.
5. We may suspend payments or recover grant paid if you do not comply with any of the conditions of grant or monitoring and evaluation requirements.
6. The nominated contact must act on behalf of all partner institutions and accept responsibility for monitoring the use of the grant. You must notify us as soon as possible if the named contact changes.
7. You must consult us in advance of any publicity arrangements for the project/work so that we can advise on our inclusion in signage, advertising, media releases, and at events