

## Layered Privacy Notice

### Activity/Processing being undertaken: REF data collection and submission

Edinburgh Napier University provides this information to explain how we use your personal data. Protecting your personal data is important to us and we only collect and process data which is necessary for us to provide the information, services and goods you require. This is in compliance with UK data protection legislation (“the legislation”), that is, the UK Data Protection Act 2018 (“DPA 2018”) and the General Data Protection Regulation: EU 2016-679 (“GDPR”) as amended by “EU Exit” Regulations 2019 and now known as the UK GDPR.

### Who is collecting the information?

Edinburgh Napier University as the “Data Controller”.

### Who are we sharing your Personal Data with (externally)?

REF is managed by the REF team, based at Research England (RE), on behalf of the four UK higher education funding bodies. RE is part of UK Research and Innovation (UKRI). See pages 3-5 for the REF Data Collection Statements

The University undertakes to maintain your information securely and will restrict access to employees, our professional advisers, authorised agents and contractors on a strictly need to know basis. We will only disclose your data to external third parties (other than any specified above) where we:

- Are required to do so under a statutory or legal obligation, or
- Are permitted to do so by Data Protection legislation.

### Why are we collecting it/what we are doing with it (purposes)?

The collection of Research activity data is required for the submission to REF2021 and any subsequent Research assessment/ Excellence frameworks

### What is the legal basis for processing?

Art 6(1)(e), performance of a task in the public interest/exercise of official duty vested in the Controller by Statutory Instrument No. 557 (S76) of 1993 as amended, e.g. for education and research purposes.

### How are we collecting this information?

The majority of the data will be collected from the data entered within Worktribe by the individual or administrative staff on behalf of the individual. Some of this data will also be collected from other sources within the University to determine the eligibility of staff being submitted to the REF

### What information are we collecting (whose information and what type of personal data)?

Academic staff – Research projects and income, Outputs and quality assessment, Research student supervision details, profile information and impact case studies. Identifiable data collected includes names, staff ID, HESA ID which will be used in the determination of eligible staff

**Who can see your information within the University?**

REF data will only be available to the REF admin teams, Unit of Assessment leaders, School Research and Innovation officers, and Directors of Research as appropriate to manage the submission

**How long is your information kept?**

This data needs to be kept for at least the submission period. Most of this will need to be kept permanently

**Who keeps your information updated?**

Within RIO the policy officer or Worktribe system Administrators will update any information on request from the individual if they cannot update themselves

**Will your information be used for any automated decision making or profiling?**

No

**Is information transferred to a third country? Outside the EEA and not included in the adequate countries list.**

No

**Is any other information available?**

\*This information is provided to supplement the University's main Privacy Notices and it is recommended that appropriate notices are reviewed to provide full information about how the University processes personal data.

You can access all the University's privacy notices using the following URL:

<https://www.napier.ac.uk/privacy-policy>

\*You have a number of rights available to you with regards to what personal data of yours is held by the University and how it is processed – to find out more about your rights, how to make a request and who to contact if you have any further queries about Data Protection please see the information online using the following URL:

<https://www.napier.ac.uk/privacy-policy>

**REF Data Collection Statements for HEIs****Staff Data Collection Statement for the REF2021**

The purpose of the Research Excellence Framework 2021 (REF2021) is to assess the quality of UK research and to inform the selective distribution of public funds for research by the four UK higher education funding bodies. The REF is managed by the REF team, based at Research England (RE), on behalf of the four UK higher

education funding bodies. RE is part of UK Research and Innovation (UKRI), and under this arrangement UKRI has the role of 'data controller' for personal data submitted by us to the REF.

If you are a researcher who has been included as part of our submission to the REF 2021, in 2020 we will send some of the information we hold about you to UKRI for the purpose of the REF2021. The information will not be in coded form and your name and details such as your date of birth, research groups, and contract dates will be provided along with details of your research. If you are submitted with individual circumstances that allow a reduction in the number of outputs submitted, without penalty, some details of your personal circumstances will be provided.

You can find further information about what data are being collected on the REF website, at [www.ref.ac.uk](http://www.ref.ac.uk) in particular publication 2019/01, 'Guidance on submissions'.

### **Sharing information about you**

UKRI may pass your data, or parts of it, to any of the following organisations that need it to inform the selective distribution of public funds for research and to carry out their statutory functions connected with funding higher education:

- Department for the Economy, Northern Ireland (DfE)
- Higher Education Funding Council for Wales (HEFCW)
- Scottish Funding Council (SFC).

Some of your data (Unit of Assessment, HESA staff identifier code and date of birth) will also be passed to the Higher Education Statistics Agency (HESA) to enable it to verify coded data returned to it as part of our HESA staff return (see [www.hesa.ac.uk](http://www.hesa.ac.uk)). Data returned to the REF will be linked to that held on the HESA staff record to allow UKRI and the organisations listed above to conduct additional analysis into the REF and fulfil their statutory duties under the Equality Act 2010 (England, Wales and Scotland) or the Northern Ireland Act 1998 (Northern Ireland).

UKRI and the organisations listed above will use the information to analyse and monitor the REF2021. This may result in information being released to other users including academic researchers or consultants (commissioned by the funding bodies), to carry out research or analysis, in accordance with the Data Protection Act 2018 and the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) (Regulation (EU) 2016/679). Where information not previously published is released to third parties, this will be anonymised where practicable.

UKRI will require that anyone who has access to your data, held in UKRI's records, paper or electronic, will respect its confidentiality and will only process it in accordance with instructions issued for the purposes specified by UKRI.

Parts of your data will be passed to the REF expert panels and the Equality and Diversity Advisory Panel (whose members are independent of UKRI) for the purpose of conducting a systematic evaluation of submissions, in accordance with predetermined criteria and methods. Panels will make judgments about the material contained in submissions and will not form quality judgments about individuals. All panel members are bound by confidentiality arrangements.

## **Publishing information about your part in our submission**

The results of the assessment exercise will be published by UKRI, on behalf of the four UK higher education funding bodies, in December 2021. The published results will not be based on individual performance nor identify individuals.

Those parts of submissions that contain factual data and textual information about research activity will also be published by UKRI, on behalf of the four UK higher education funding bodies, and will be made available online. Published information is likely to include **textual information including impact case studies in which you may be referenced**. Your name and job title may be included in this textual information. Other personal and contractual details, including your date of birth and all information about individual staff circumstances will be removed.

UKRI will also publish a list of the outputs submitted by us in each UOA. This list will not be listed by author name.

## **Data about personal circumstances**

You may voluntarily disclose personal circumstances to your submitting unit, which could permit us to submit your information to the REF without the 'minimum of one' requirement (without penalty), or to submit a reduced number of outputs without penalty. If (and only if) we apply either form of reduction of outputs, we will need to provide UKRI with data that you have disclosed about your individual circumstances, to show that the criteria have been met for reducing the number of outputs. Please see the 'Guidance on submissions' document (paragraphs 151-201) for more detail about reductions in outputs and what information needs to be submitted.

Submitted data will be kept confidential to the REF team, the Equalities and Diversity Advisory Panel, and main panel chairs. All these bodies are subject to confidentiality arrangements. The REF team will destroy the submitted data about individuals' circumstances on completion of the assessment phase.

As set out above, unless redacted, the information to be published by UKRI, on behalf of the four UK higher education funding bodies, will include a single list of all the outputs submitted by us. The list of outputs will include standard bibliographic data (including the author name) for each output, but will not be listed by author name.

## **Accessing your personal data**

Under the Data Protection Act 2018 and the GDPR, you have the right to see and receive a copy of any personal information that UKRI holds about you. Further information about the Act and GRPR, and guidance on making a subject access request, can be found on the RE web-site at <https://re.ukri.org/about-us/policies-standards/foi-data-protection/>

If you have any concerns about your information being used for these purposes, please contact:

Data Protection Officer  
UK Research and Innovation  
Polaris House  
Swindon, SN2 1FL

Email: [dataprotection@ukri.org](mailto:dataprotection@ukri.org)