

Accountability in Science Research Funding



**Performance Management: Achieving Institutional Goals
Whilst Addressing Government Priorities and Meeting
Regulatory Constraints**

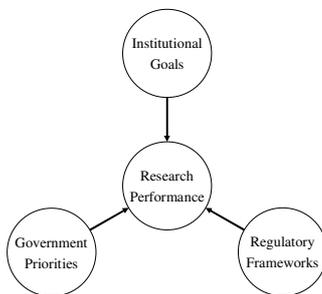
Dr Ian Carter
Director of Research and Enterprise

Agenda



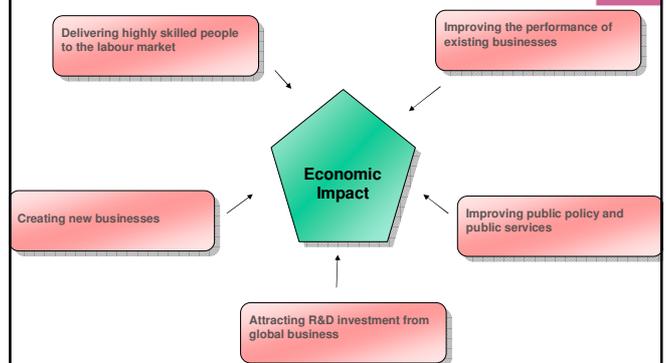
- Balancing Competing Interests
- Defining Good Research Performance
- Including Knowledge Exchange

Balancing Competing Interests



Department for
**Innovation,
Universities &
Skills**

The impacts of research



Adrian Smith, DIUS

Regulatory Frameworks



- Funding arrangements
 - block grant and project-specific
- Research governance
 - good practice, research integrity, research ethics
- Legal frameworks
 - Charities Act, Tax laws, Clinical Trials Directive, State Aid, Financial Services & Markets Act, Freedom of Information

N.B. International variations in legal, social, and cultural approaches

University Goals



Research strategy



- Realistically build on current strengths to develop recognised centres of sustainable research excellence across subject areas
- Demonstrate research of international standing in all subject areas and world-class quality in recognised centres of excellence, through appropriate performance indices and other benchmarks of success
- Develop and maintain a sustainable environment based on people, culture and infrastructure, that facilitates the prosecution of research at appropriate volumes of activity and of the very highest quality
- In partnership with others, contribute to socio-economic well being, in the region, nationally and internationally, as a result of exchanging ideas, knowledge and technology

Research priorities



- Interdisciplinary research themes
 - Digital technologies, systems & forms; imaging & imagery; communicating & constructing space(s)
 - Environment and health; ecosystems; policy development and impact
 - Culture & heritage; nation, place & people; memory, identity & representation
 - Mind & brain; consciousness, cognition & creativity; sense, perception & self
 - Citizenship & democratisation; (in)security & vulnerability; conflict & justice; defence
 - Global transformations; development & sustainability; environments past & future; social adaptation & resistance
- Grow research income
- Increase number of postgraduate research students
- Minimum and aspirational standards in research

Good Research Performance



- Definition of Expectations
 - publication, research income, DPhil supervision, post-doctoral supervision, conference participation, links with external partners, knowledge exchange
- Variations between subjects and individuals
- UK Research Excellence Framework
 - Outputs, Impact, Environment
- Assessment of Contribution
 - Exceptional, Expected, Partial, Very Limited
- Establishment of Planning Targets to 15/16
- Links to individual objectives and appraisal
- Inclusion of Knowledge Exchange

How Should Knowledge Exchange Be Included?



- From direct economic development ...
 - ... To community engagement
- Short-term support versus long-term partnerships
- Is it core activity or additional?
- How is KE funded?
- Is KE part of research dissemination?

Consultancy



- Typically, know how-based, provision of advice or opinion
- Benefits to the customer, the wider economy, the individual, the institution
- University or private activity?
- Core activity or staff reward mechanism?
- Variable ability to undertake consultancy and to earn income
- Conflicts of interest?
- Conflicts of commitment?
- Costing, pricing and approval

Intellectual Property



- Range of forms of IP
- Means of dissemination, translation and public benefit
- Benefits can be found in know-how and technology
- Conflicts of interest (receipt of funds from own company)
- Conflicts of commitment (time spent on own company)
- Diversion of resource from core research to commercialisation
- Students and their supervisors
- Sharing of (net) benefits with inventors
- Costing, pricing and approval

Summary



- Balancing Competing Interests
- Defining Good Research Performance
- Including Knowledge Exchange

- Achieving performance
- Managing conflicts, constraints, and variations
- Staying legal
- Applying good research practice, integrity and governance

Questions and Discussion

