

**Details** 

Institution name:	University of Dundee	The institutional audience for this action plan includes:		
Cohort number:	3	Audience (beneficiaries of the action plan)	Number of	Comments
Date of submission:	9th of November 2021	Research staff	578	
Institutional context:	The Concordat defines researchers as individuals	Postgraduate researchers		
	whose primary responsibility is to conduct research	Research and teaching staff	437	
	and who are employed specifically for this purpose by	Teaching-only staff	659	
	a higher education institution or research institute.	Technicians	350	
		Clinicians		
		Professional support staff	673	
		Other (please provide numbers and details):	N/A	
	include other groups who actively engage in research			
	as beneficiaries of their Concordat action plan. These			
	could be postgraduate researchers; staff on teaching			
	and research, or teaching contracts; clinicians;			
	professional support staff; technicians.			

	Obligation	Action	Success measure (SMART)	Deadline	Responsibility	Progress update (to be completed for submission)	Outcome/ result	Action carried over from previous action plan?
Enviror	nment and Culture					,		
	ions must:							
ECI1	Ensure that all relevant staff are aware of the Concordat	revised Researcher Development Concordat (RDC). With the new OneUniversity (IU) system there will be specific	In this year's CEDARS results, 22.9% of research staff claimed "some understanding" of the RDC. This is slightly lower than the national average of 27.26%. Our aim will be to close this gap as measured by 2023 CEDARS responses, with the target to be 30% of research staff claiming some understanding of the RDC.	31-Aug-22	HR			
ECI2	Ensure that institutional policies and practices relevant to researchers are inclusive, equitable and transparent, and are well-communicated to researchers and their managers	Develop a research specific element of the Manager's Toolkit being introduced by HR, including guidance on the relevant issues. Use this resource to highlight and promote	Completion rate of OSaRs will be reported to the CDRS committee on an annual basis. 2020 completion rate for Research Staff was 85%, we will look to increase this to 90% in the forthcoming year.	31-Dec-21	OPD/HR			
ECI3	Promote good mental health and wellbeing through, for example, the effective management of workloads and people, and effective policies and practice for tackling discrimination, bullying and harassment, including providing appropriate support for those reporting issues	support an acceptable level of performance.  Ongoing communication of the flexible working policies to	Roll out of a new probation policy which will aim to ensure that researchers have a clear understanding of how their role fits into the University strategy and vision, including the RDC vision. Initial assessment of the success of this policy will be qualitative, via engagement with representative bodies of researchers, e.g. Research Staff Forum, relevant RSAs.  Researcher-specific data on probation completion is presently unavailable centrally, but will be compiled and monitored.  Awareness of flexible working practices and Support Services among researchers will be assessed qualitatively using relevant channels and via questions in regular pulse surveys.	30-Jun-22	HR			

P2.1 P6.8	P2.1 P6.8
P6.8	P6.8
P6.9	P6.9



_						 HR EXCELLENCE IN RESEARCH	
ECI4	Ensure that managers of researchers are effectively trained in relation to equality, diversity and inclusion, wellbeing and mental health	modules will be updated to improve content and learning format. This resource will be launched and promoted to all staff within the University, including managers of researchers.  Levels of engagement with this new training resource will be monitored on a continual basis to ensure that managers of researchers are engaging with the mandatory EDI training. Follow up communication to remind staff to complete the training will be sent. The completion data will be registered at the University PODCo Meetings.  Where completion rates of mandatory online EDI training are unusually low, EDI will work with individual Schools to determine why this is and identify bespoke communications strategies to better communicate the mandatory nature of the training.  Comms measures will be dynamically adapted in line with ongoing review of completion data and recommendations from PODCO and other relevant committees.		June 2022/yearly	EDI	HR EXCELLENCE IN RESEARCH	
		OPD will continue to provide workshops relevant to equality, diversity and inclusion, wellbeing and mental health, and to monitor new training needs in these areas and schedule or adapt provision accordingly as part of normal business.					
ECI5	Ensure that researchers and their managers are aware of, and act in accordance with, the highest standards of research integrity	As of February 2021 all Academic Staff who supervise research degrees must complete the online Research Integrity training as part of their accreditation and research	Target (2023): 80%  Increase positive responses from research staff regarding awareness of Concordat in CEDARS 2023 by 20%.	Yearly	Research Governance and Policy Sub Committee		
ECI6	Regularly review and report on the quality of the research environment and culture, including seeking feedback from	This is part of normal business.			VP-Research		
	researchers, and use the outcomes to improve institutional practices						
Funders							
ECF1	Including requirements which promote equitable, inclusive and positive research cultures and environments in relevant funding calls, terms and conditions, grant reporting, and policies						
	Consider how funding opportunities and policies can facilitate different patterns and ways of working, and promote the wellbeing and mental health of researchers						
	Ensure that funding call requirements and selection processes offer equality of opportunity between different groups of researchers, recognise personal contexts, and promote positive research cultures and working conditions						
	s of researchers must:	Pofor to ECIA			EDI		
	Undertake relevant training and development opportunities related to equality, diversity and inclusion, and put this into practice in their work				EDI		
ECM2	Ensure that they and their researchers act in accordance with the highest standards of research integrity and professional conduct	Refer to ECI5			Research Governance and Policy Sub Committee		
	Promote a healthy working environment that supports researchers' wellbeing and mental health, including reporting and addressing incidents of discrimination, bullying and harassment, and poor research integrity	Refer to ECI3			EDI/H&S/OH		
ECM4	Consider fully, in accordance with statutory rights and institutional policies, flexible working requests and other appropriate arrangements to support researchers	Refer to ECI3			HR		

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						HR EXCELLENCE IN RESEARCH	
ECM5	Engage with opportunities to contribute to policy development aimed at creating a more positive research environment and culture within their institution	This is part of normal business.			VP-Research		New
Researc	hers must:						
ECR1	Actively contribute to the development and maintenance of a supportive, fair and inclusive research culture and be a supportive colleague, particularly to newer researchers and students	Refer to ECI4			EDI		New
ECR2	Ensure they act in accordance with employer and funder policies related to research integrity, and equality, diversity and inclusion	Refer to ECI4 and ECI5			HR		P5.3
ECR3	Take positive action towards maintaining their wellbeing and mental health	Refer to ECI3			H&S/OH		New
ECR4	Use available mechanisms to report staff who fail to meet the expected standards of behaviour, particularly in relation to discrimination, harassment, bullying, and research misconduct	This is part of normal business.			EDI		P6.9
ECR5	Consider opportunities to contribute to policy development aimed at creating a more positive research environment and culture within their institution	This is part of normal business.			CDRS		P3.13
Employn							
Institutio		Existing training in recruitment and selection will be promoted to managers of researchers via relevant communications channels including the new research specific content on the Manager's Toolkit (refer to ECI3, EM1).  HR will continue to offer training and support in the i-grasp system for recruitment.	Last year, no researchers attended recruitment and selection training. The aim for the coming year will be for at least four managers of reseachers to have attended.	30-Jun-22	HR		P1.2 P6.2 P6.7
El2	Provide an effective induction, ensuring that researchers are integrated into the community and are aware of policies and practices relevant to their position	In addition to the University level staff induction, Schools which do not currently hold their own formal induction events will be encouraged and supported to do so.  A School level induction will be piloted in the School of Medicine in October 2021. This experience will be shared with Deans/managers of other Schools.  Attendance data and feedback from participants at these inductions will be captured and used to assess their effectiveness.	In CEDARS responses for 2021, 69.9% of researchers said that their induction at "departmental, unit or faculty level" had been useful or very useful, while 13.2% said that no induction had been offered. In 2023 CEDARS responses, we will aim for 80% of researchers reporting useful or very useful inductions and to at least halve the number who say they were not offered an induction.	31-Aug-22	HR		P3.6
EI3	Provide clear and transparent merit-based recognition, reward and promotion pathways that recognise the full range of researchers' contributions and the diversity of personal circumstances	This is not an area of current focus. Between 2019 and 2021, the University carried out a review of promotion criteria (see backward looking report).			HR		P2.6 P6.3 P6.4 P6.7
EI4	Provide effective line and project management training opportunities for managers of researchers, heads of department and equivalent	times (RTLCT) programme on an annual basis, through a competitive application process.  Level 1/2 evaluation will be undertaken post-programme and Longitudinal evaluation twelve months later.  OPD will increase the communication and publicity material to the research community around the opportunities for RTLCT.  OPD will conduct a training needs analysis with regard to line and project management training for managers of	Success will be measured by monitoring the number of applications to the RTLCT programme from research staff. A target of up to 5 research staff will annually apply for and be successful in their application. 5 individuals represent 0.9% of eligible staff, remaining at the level from previous years. The quality and number of applications for RTLCT will be reviewed in 2021/22 using a panel of research and learning specialists. Satisfaction levels with this programme will be measured through feedback and longitudinal evaluation. This data will inform 2022/23 development targets for research staff. OPD Partners will use this data to determine whether this programme still meets the needs of our staff is offered in future years.  To ascertain the training needs of managers of researchers, OPD will hold 2-3 focus groups, launch a survey, and put out a call for submissions of evidence with information gathering to be completed by April 2022.	1 April 2022	OPD		P2.3



HR EXCELLENCE IN RESEARCH 21/12/2021 Ensure that excellent people management is championed Deans and School managers will be encouraged to perform Within the next 18 months, over 50% of Schools will have completed a throughout the organisation and embedded in institutional culture, strategic performance reviews to ensure staff perform to Strategic Performance Review. 1/3/2023 through annual appraisals, transparent promotion criteria, and the best of their abilities. workload allocation Managers' Checklist will be completed by December 2021. HR will provide a managers' checklist for line managers of research staff to engage with their team openly and fully during OSaR discussions ensuring that all topics such as training and development, working practices, REF preparedness, etc are covered. Seek to improve job security for researchers, for example through Aim for 5% improvement in self reported researcher confidence in 21-Dec-21 more effective redeployment processes and greater use of openunderstanding of institutional redeployment processes in 2023 CEDARS ended contracts, and report on progress In CEDARS responses, 60% of researchers indicated that esponses. they were "not very confident" or "not at all confident" that they receive guidance on institutional redeployment Paperwork relating to end of research contracts will be reviewed to ensure that language relating to redeployment is more clearly communicated. Schools will be engaged with to ensure uniform practice in relation to researchers receiving renewal paperwork when they near the end of contracts. Fixed term contracts will be continuously reviewed by way of the monthly Collective Consultation meetings with the Campus Unions (this is part of normal business). VP-R /ACG Consider researchers and their managers as key stakeholders within | This is part of normal business. the institution and provide them with formal opportunities to engage with relevant organisational policy and decision-making Funders must: Include requirements which support the improvement of working conditions for researchers, in relevant funding calls, terms and conditions, grant reporting, and policies Review the impact of relevant funding call requirements on researchers' employment, particularly in relation to career progression and lack of job security Support institutions to develop policies and frameworks to promote sustainable employment arrangements and enhance job security, and provide opportunities for career progression Consider the balance of their relevant funding streams in providing access to research funding and its impact at all career levels Managers of researchers must: Undertake relevant training and development opportunities so that Draw up a list of current managers of researchers which 30-Nov-21 Data on managers of researchers will be collated by the end of they can manage researchers effectively and fulfil their duty of care will be used for targeting promotion of training and for November 2021 and will enable effective monitoring of participation by measuring uptake. managers of researchers in relevant training and development activities, creating baselines for future success measures. Encourage participation of line managers of researchers in existing management training, including OSaR Present data suggests limited attendance by researchers at conversations, HR for Managers etc. management workshops. Aim for six researchers to attend HR for Managers (from 2 last year) and twelve to attend OSaR conversations (from 8 last year). Familiarise themselves, and work in accordance with, relevant This is part of normal business. employment legislation and codes of practice, institutional policies, and the terms and conditions of grant funding EM3 Refer to EI1. Commit to, and evidence, the inclusive, equitable and transparent recruitment, promotion and reward of researchers Actively engage in regular constructive performance management Refer to ECI2 with their researchers EM5 Engage with opportunities to contribute to relevant policy This is part of normal business. VP-Research development within their institution Researchers must: Ensure that they work in accordance with, institutional policies, Refer to EI2 procedures and employment legislation, as well as the requirements Understand their reporting obligations and responsibilities This is part of normal business. VP-Research Positively engage with performance management discussions and This is part of normal business. reviews with their managers

P2.6 P6.3 P6.4
P1.3 P2.1 P2.2
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HR EXCELLENCE IN RESEARCH This is part of normal business. Recognise and act on their role as key stakeholders within their CDRS institution and the wider academic community **Professional and Career Development** Institutions must: The draft of the new Researcher Development policy will be submitted | June 2022 Provide opportunities, structured support, encouragement and time A review and update of the researcher development policy for researchers to engage in a minimum of 10 days professional will take place in the academic year 2021/22 to better to CDRS which includes research staff and key stakeholders from research-aligned teams. Success of this specific action will be development pro rata per year, recognising that researchers will reflect the Principles of the revised RDC and support and determined by its approval by this committee following consultation. pursue careers across a wide range of employment sectors promote researchers engaging in a minimum of 10 days professional development pro rata per year. This updated policy will feed into and inform the development of a new Among respondents to CEDARS 2021 48% of research staff reported July 2023 Statement of Expectation for research staff and managers that they undertook 3 or more days of continued professional of researchers (refer to PCDI2). development. Our overarching aim in revising and promoting the RD policy will be to increase this number to 55% by CEDARS 2023. The newly worded policy will be cross referenced on the following websites: (OPD, RIS, DA, and New Staff SharePoint meaning that every new research staff member is signposted to the new policy in their first week. Existing research staff will be targeted via a newsletter aimed specifically at promoting this newly worded policy and this will be distributed no more than one month following approval. Readership of researcher focus newsletters is currently 25% which we will aim to maintain. The new policy will also be promoted on relevant social media (e.g. OPD's researcher development Twitter account). OPD and CDRS will monitor CEDARS data to determine whether researchers are engaging with the 10 days CPD time allocation as promoted through the revised Researcher Development Policy. This data will be reported to the CDRS committee on an annual basis as part of the CEDARS analysis and report and new actions developed as Provide training, structured support, and time for managers to To promote better understanding among managers of According to CEDARS data, 61.4% of full time research staff at the June 2022 OPD engage in meaningful career development reviews with their researchers as to how to conduct an effective appraisal, a University of Dundee who had undertaken appraisals found them researchers "useful" or "very useful". This contrasts slightly unfavourably with Statement of Expectation for research staff and managers of research staff reflecting the new wording of the RDC will | national aggregate CEDARS data in which 65.35% of researchers gave be developed to provide guidance on how to engage the same answers. Our aim in developing and publicising the Statement researchers in positive career conversations and support of Expectation will be to close this gap, with a target of 67% of full time them in accessing opportunities for training and research staff reporting useful appraisals. development. The statement will be publicised within the research staff community. The Statement of Expectation described in the previous column will be developed on the following timeline: August We will continue to monitor CEDARS data regarding 2022/Yearly satisfaction of research staff with appraisals, and will Late June 2022 - OPD partner to submit first draft of SoE to CDRS for develop additional actions as required. approval. CDRS is a steering group which includes research staff and key stakeholders. - July 2022 - CDRS to consult on working of SoE and identify required Refer also to ECI2. changes, with aim of final approved version by end of July August 2022 - publicity actions in relation to SoE. Specifically: The new Statement of Expectation will be posted to the OPD website and the New Staff SharePoint meaning that every new research staff member is signposted to this in their first week. - Existing research staff will be targeted via a newsletter aimed pecifically at promoting this new Statement of Expectation and this wi be distributed no more than one month following approval (i.e. before the end of August 2022). The newsletter will also be promoted via OPD's researcher development Twitter account. Ensure that researchers have access to professional advice on career Previously unavailable data on attendance by research staff at one on 01-Mar-22 Careers management, across a breadth of careers one careers advice sessions will be obtained by end of November 2021. The Careers Service continue to offer one-to-one This data will be used to create a baseline for a substantial appointments with professional Careers Advisers to all mprovement in uptake by the end of the 2022-2023 academic year. researchers. A promotional campaign will be developed to further publicise this service which will involve cross promotion of the core message that the Careers Service offers a service for research staff in multiple channels including University Internal Comms, Researcher Focus newsletter and other relevant channels. At present, the Careers Service do not collect data on the staff type of staff who attend one on one careers advice sessions. As an interim measure, we will therefore seek to collect accurate historical data on attendance by researchers at careers advice sessions by cross referencing with data available in HR Systems. This action will be PCDI3 complete by the end of November 2021. PCDI4 Provide researchers with opportunities, and time, to develop their Refer to EI4. Refer to EI4. OPD research identity and broader leadership skills

P5.2	
P3.1 P3.3	
P5.5	
P3.10	
P3.1	
P3.11 P3.14	



HR EXCELLENCE IN RESEARCH

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PCDI5	Recognise that moving between, and working across, employment	The Careers Service and OPD will begin the process of	The success measure for this action will be the delivery of a post	30-Sep-22	Careers			P3.2
		creating a business case for hiring a new careers advisor	approval process form setting out the case for a specialist careers		Service/OPD			P3.4
		_			Jet vice/OPD			0.4
	opportunities for researchers to experience this	specialised in research careers.	advisor to Planning Resource Group by August 2022.					
PCDI6	Monitor, and report on, the engagement of researchers and their	Monitoring and reporting on engagement of researchers			HR			New
	managers with professional development activities, and researcher	with professional development activities and reviews is						
	career development reviews	part of normal business. A list of managers of researchers						
	career development reviews	·						
		will be drawn up and used to monitor attendance by staff						
		in this category. (Refer to EM1).						
<b>Funders</b>	must:							
PCDF1	Incorporate specific professional development requirements in							P3.7
	relevant funding calls, terms and conditions, grant reporting, and							P3.9
	policies. This should include researchers' engagement in a minimum							0.0
	of 10 days' professional development pro rata per year, and							
	evidence of effective career development planning							
PCDF2	Embed the Concordat Principles and researcher development into							New
	research assessment strategies and processes							
PCDF3	Acknowledge that a large proportion of the researchers they fund							New
. 551 5	will move on to careers beyond academia, and consider how they							.1011
	can encourage and support this within their remit							
Managei	s of researchers must:			04.5				D0.0
	Engage in regular career development discussions with their		OPD will monitor numbers and feedback for career development	21-Dec-21	OPD			P2.3
	researchers, including holding a career development review at least	OPD will further look into developing or commissioning	workshop, if demand can be established. Success measure will be					
	annually	dedicated training on supporting the career development	establishment of new workshop as regular content in OPD programme					
PCDM1	, ,	of researchers.	in future years.					
PCDM2	Support researchers in exploring and preparing for a diversity of	Refer to PCDI5	in radia years.		Careers			P3.4
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	careers, for example, through the use of mentors and careers				Service/OPD			
	professionals, training, and secondments							P5.5
PCDM3	Allocate a minimum of 10 days pro rata, per year, for their	Refer to PCDI1 and PCDI2.		June 2023	OPD			New
	researchers to engage with professional development, supporting							
	researchers to balance the delivery of their research and their own							
	professional development							
	professional development							
PCDM4	Identify opportunities, and allow time (in addition to the 10 days	This is not currently a priority.			VP Research			P3.6
FCDIVI4		This is not currently a priority.			VP Research			F3.0
	professional development allowance), for their researchers to							P3.9
	develop their research identity and broader leadership skills, and							P5.5
	provide appropriate credit and recognition for their endeavors							
PCDM5	Engage in leadership and management training to enhance their	This is part of normal business.						New
	personal effectiveness, and to promote a positive attitude to	·						
	professional development							
	professional acvelopment							
					OPD			
	hers must:							
PCDR1	Take ownership of their career, identifying opportunities to work			Jun-23	OPD			P5.5
	towards career goals, including engaging in a minimum of 10 days							
	professional development pro rata per year	The relevant OPD partner will, in consultation with the						
	professional development profata per year	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·						
		research community, look into introducing regular online						
		drop in sessions to offer guidance for researchers on						
		professional development opportunities and resources.						
		Refer also to PCDI1 and PCDI2.						
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					HR EXCELLENCE IN RESEARCH	
PCDR2 Explore and prepare for a range of employment options across different sectors, such as by making use of mentors, careers professionals, training and secondments	via the research staff newsletters, published quarterly, in	Mentoring matches on TRAM cycle 15 will be complete by e/o October 2021. Partnerships on cycle 4 of PDM will be complete by March 2022 (launches mid-academic term). 104 research and academic staff were involved in partnerships across the two schemes in 2020/21, the aim is to at least maintain this level of participation due to the ongoing challenges of remote working during covid-19 pandemic. Advertising and targeted promotion to research staff will be conducted via a newseltter, speaking at a town hall (upwards of 300 staff in attendance) and through Twitter. Both University mentoring schemes, TRAM and PDM will continue to run and be open to, and advertised to, researchers. OPD Partner in charge will review and report on engagement with both mentoring schemes at the end of year report. Briefings both online and face to face are available for both schemes, with 100% of new participants accessing the materials. TRAM welcomes the seventh HEI joining the scheme this cycle, meaning there is a greater capacity for networking and interdisciplinary working.  Refer to PCDM2.	ırly	OPD		P3.8
PCDR3 Maintain an up-to-date professional career development plan and build a portfolio of evidence demonstrating their experience, that can be used to support job applications	Refer to PCDI5			Careers		P5.5
PCDR4 Positively engage in career development reviews with their managers	See PCDM1, ECI3			HR		P3.10
·	This is part of normal business.					P5.5
PCDR6 Consider opportunities to develop their awareness and experience of the wider research system through, for example, knowledge exchange, policy development, public engagement and commercialisation	RIS will develop a Commercialisation and IP training workshop for researchers and academics, offered and promoted via OPDs Researcher and Academic Development programme.  OPD will offer significantly expanded training in the area of public engagement over the coming year.	The workshop will aim to significantly increase researchers' confidence in commercialising their work. This will be measured by longitudinal feedback (12 months after the initial workshop) to assess transformative impact. The training will be reviewed on an annual basis by the trainers.  In area of public engagement success will be measured by future retention of new provision based on positive attendance and feedback.	Dec	RIS		P5.2

P5.5 P5.5 P5.5 P5.2	
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#### KEY:

ACG	Academic and Corporate Governance
CDRS	Career Development for Research Staff Committee
CEDARS	Culture Environment and Development of Academic
	Research Survey
CS	Careers Service
CfE	Centre for Entrepreneurship
ED&I	Equality Diversity and Inclusion
EIA	Equality Impact Assessment
HR	Human Resources
HRE	HR Excellence in Research Success Measure Reference
OPD	Organisational and Professional Development
OSaR	Objective Setting and Review (appraisal)
PDM	Professional Development Mentoring scheme
PODCO	People and Organisational Development Committee
REF	Research Excellence Framework
OPDP	Orgnisational and Professional Development Partner
RSF	Research Staff Forum
TRAM	Teaching, Research and Academic Mentoring scheme
UEG	University Executive Committee
VP-Research	Vice-Principal (Research, Knowledge Exchange and Wider
	Impact)

<sup>\*</sup> The Concordat defines researchers as individuals whose primary responsibility is to conduct research and who are employed specifically for this purpose by a higher education institution or research institute. The primary audience is research staff, e.g. postdoctoral researchers, research fellows, research assistants. The Concordat encourages institutions to include other groups who actively engage in research as beneficiaries of their Concordat action plan. These could be postgraduate researchers; staff on teaching and research, or teaching contracts; clinicians; professional support staff; technicians.