

Research England
Nicholson House
Lime Kiln Close
Stoke Gifford
Bristol
BS34 8SR

14 March 2019

RE: KEF consultation

Dear David Sweeney,

Universities Wales supports the response of Universities UK but wishes to add details of Wales specific concerns.

The KEF is an opportunity to celebrate and promote the strengths of knowledge exchange. It will promote English universities' performance in relation to KE both in the UK and internationally. The KEF will provide greater public visibility and accountability and such visibility would be lost in Wales. For Wales not to be part of such a framework could be damaging: Welsh institutions would not have their KE metrics captured as English institutions; Wales would automatically perform poorly in any league tables that used the metrics; and Welsh institutions would lose visibility to business, industry and other partners in this area.

Universities Wales welcomes Research England's decision to include a Welsh institution in the pilot and looks forward working constructively to ensure a well-rounded picture of KE at a UK level is presented. Care will be needed to ensure that the results of the KEF are communicated nationally and internationally and do not neglect the devolved administrations.

Metrics and data can provide a useful indication of KE activities of an university, however, metrics on their own do not provide a full account of the range of work. It would be helpful if a short narrative is included to profile and highlight universities' strategy and support the submission.

As part of the KEF consultation, it would be useful if Research England could consider how the two parts of the KEF, the KE Concordat and metrics exercise, will interact and support each other. A short, overarching statement within the KEF metrics could also help show the linkage and relationship between the two parts of the KEF.



Amanda Wilkinson

Director, Universities Wales

Universities Wales (Unis Wales)
2 Caspian Point, Caspian Way, Cardiff CF10 4DQ

Director: Amanda Wilkinson
+44 (0)29 2044 8020 www.uniswales.ac.uk

A National Council of Universities UK
Company limited by guarantee, registered in England and Wales No. 2517018
2517018
Charity No. 1001127

Prifysgolion Cymru
2 Pentir Caspian, Ffordd Caspian, Bae Caerdydd CF10 4DQ

Cyfarwyddwr: Amanda Wilkinson
+44 (0)29 2044 8020 www.uniswales.ac.uk

Un o Gyngorau Cenedlaethol Prifysgolion y DU
Cwmni cyfyngedig trwy warant, a gofrestrwyd yng Nghymru a Lloegr Rhif

Rhif Elusen 100112