

Summary of the University Committee for Research and Innovation meeting (UCRI) July 26

Please see below a brief summary of the main topics of discussion at the UCRI July meetings:

At our strategic meeting this month meeting we:

- Held a detailed discussion about the proposed AFF Governance Structure and in particular alignment to existing arrangements and clarification of decision-making authority.
- After careful consideration approved the use of RDF for our contribution, alongside three other universities, for Phase 1 of establishing a potential multi-university and investor joint investment fund, the Golden Circle Innovation Fund (GCIF).

At our operational meeting this month we:

- Reviewed an update from the Research Culture Board and discussed plans for the coming year, with a focus on adopting a sustainable approach. We agreed an initial funding allocation for next year for targeted activity aligned to SPRE requirements.
- Received an update on the Research Travel Grants (RTG) process and explored options for alternative administration arrangements next year to address key issues within the current system.
- Held a final review of the draft R&I thematic plan to finalise objectives and key results.

In other news we:

- Agreed next steps for the RDOP feedback and review process