

*For approval without discussion*

MEETING OF THE COUNCIL'S RESEARCH,  
INNOVATION & ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE ON  
7 JULY 2009

Cyngor Cyllido Addysg  
Uwch Cymru  
Higher Education Funding  
Council for Wales

hefcw

**Disclosable**

Meeting	Agenda Item	Reference No
25/09/09	10	HEFCW/09/70

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**1 Issue**

This paper presents for information the unconfirmed minutes of the second meeting of the Council's Research, Innovation and Engagement (RIE) Committee held on the 7 July 2009.

**2 Corporate Planning Implications / Rationale for paper**

The RIE Committee is a standing committee of the Council. It plays a key role in advising the Council on the development and delivery of HEFCW's corporate plan as it relates to the research and innovation and engagement (third mission) capacity and activities of the HE sector in Wales.

**3 Recommendation**

The Council is invited to:

- i. Receive the unconfirmed notes of the RIE Committee meeting held on 7 July 2009.
- ii. Approve the advice of the RIE Committee to give delegated authority to the Chair of the RIE Committee and the Chief Executive of HEFCW to conduct a consultation exercise on third mission (3M) funding arrangements for 2010/11 to 2012/13 in October/November 2009.

**4 Timing for decisions**

These unconfirmed minutes have been submitted in time to allow adequate preparation time for the autumn 2009 consultation exercise proposed above.

## 5 Council members' interests

No conflicts of interest have been declared in advance of the meeting.

## 6 Further information

All documents referred to in this paper and its attachments are available from Teresa Cooper (Tel 02920 682304; E-mail: [Teresa.Cooper@hefcw.ac.uk](mailto:Teresa.Cooper@hefcw.ac.uk)) or Linda Tiller (Tel 02920 682228; E-mail: [Linda.Tiller@hefcw.ac.uk](mailto:Linda.Tiller@hefcw.ac.uk)).

## 7 Background

7.1 On 12 December 2008, following a review of the purpose and nature of HEFCW's various sub-committees, the Council resolved to establish a new committee structure, which included a RIE Committee.

7.2 The RIE Committee, chaired by Professor Garel Rhys, will meet up to four times a year. Its membership is drawn from senior managers and practitioners from the higher education (HE) sector, together with representatives from the public and private sector with a vested interest in the research and third mission outputs of HE.

### **Minutes of the meeting of the Research, Innovation and Engagement Committee on 7 July 2009**

8 The unconfirmed notes of the meeting of the RIE Committee held on 7 July 2009 are attached at **Annex A**.

9 In particular Members are asked to note:

- The outcomes of the discussion around a presentation by Dr Paul Benneworth relating to the difficulties of effectively capturing the extent of and evaluating the impact of institutions' community engagement activities (**Note 4 of Annex A**).
- The Committee's advice that delegated authority be given to the Chair of the RIE Committee and the Chief Executive to proceed with a consultation exercise in autumn 2009 on third mission funding arrangements for the academic years 2009/10 to 2012/13 (the current three year cycle comes to a close in July 2010).
- The Committee's advice on issues to be covered in the proposed consultation exercise (**Note 5 of Annex A**).
- The Committee's response to the proposed future arrangements for research assessment (the Research Excellence Framework), which is about to go out to consultation across the UK. **Note 6 of Annex A** refers.

## Financial Implications

- 10 No new financial implications arise immediately from this paper. However, financial implications may well emerge from the proposed consultation exercise on future third mission funding arrangements referred to in paragraph 9 above.

## Publicity Implications

- 11 No immediate implications arise from this paper although the proposed third mission funding consultation is likely to attract attention in due course.

## Diversity & Equality Implications

- 12 When submitting their third mission strategies all institutions are asked to consider how they will address the needs of potentially disadvantaged groups (in relation to race, gender, disability and age, including monitoring arrangements). In addition, institutions are asked to consider the needs of Welsh speakers, Welsh learners and Welsh speaking communities and, where appropriate, take account of their institution's/institutions' role/roles in the new sector Welsh medium strategic framework and development plan. Under GO Wales, although new EU funds were agreed in December 2008, officers have continued to manage the programme in line with both WEFO's own diversity and equality requirements and those set out in the original, successful bid to WEFO. However, there are no immediate implications arising from this paper.

## Risk Assessment

- 13 Details of identified risks are provided below:

RISK	ACTION TO ADDRESS RISK
Council fails to deliver its strategic aim of "benefiting society and economy" as derived from its remit letter and <i>Reaching Higher</i>	RIE Committee established to offer Council advice and guidance on the development of policy in this area.
Council fails to deliver its strategic aim of building a strong, dynamic and sustainable research base in Wales that stands comparison with others in the UK and	RIE Committee established to offer Council advice and guidance on the development of policy in this area.

contributes to economic prosperity, as stated in the remit letter.	
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