

Annex A

Consultation response form for the Research Excellence Framework

1. Respondents should complete the form below.
2. Responses should be e-mailed to refconsultation@hefce.ac.uk by **Thursday 14 February 2008**. HEIs in Northern Ireland should send a copy of their response to research.branch@delni.gov.uk
3. Institutions wishing to express an interest in taking part in the pilot of the bibliometrics indicator should e-mail their details to refconsultation@hefce.ac.uk by Thursday 31 January 2008.
4. We will publish an analysis of responses to the consultation. Additionally, all responses may be disclosed on request, under the terms of the Freedom of Information Act. The Act gives a public right of access to any information held by a public authority, in this case HEFCE. This includes information provided in response to a consultation. We have a responsibility to decide whether any responses, including information about your identity, should be made public or treated as confidential. We can refuse to disclose information only in exceptional circumstances. This means responses to this consultation are unlikely to be treated as confidential except in very particular circumstances. Further information about the Act is available at www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk.

Respondent's details

- Are you responding:**
- (Delete one)
- On behalf of an organisation
 - As an individual

Name of responding organisation/individual

Contact name

Position within organisation (if applicable)

Contact telephone number

Contact e-mail address

Consultation questions

(Boxes for responses can be expanded to the desired length.)

Consultation question 1a: Do you endorse our proposals for defining the broad group of science-based disciplines, and for dividing this into six main subject groups, in the context of our new approach to assessment and funding?

Consultation question 1b: Are there issues in relation to specific disciplines within this framework that we should consider?

Consultation question 2a: Do you agree that bibliometric indicators produced on the basis that we propose can provide a robust quality indicator in the context of our framework?

Consultation question 2b: Are there particular issues of significance needing to be resolved that we have not highlighted?

Consultation question 3a: What are the key issues that we should consider in developing light touch peer review for the non science-based disciplines?

Consultation question 3b: What are the main options for the form and conduct of this review?

Consultation question 4: Is there additional quantitative information that we should use in the assessment and funding framework to capture user value or the quality of applied research, or other key aspects of research excellence? Please be specific in terms of what the information is, what essential element of research it casts light on, how it may be found or collected, and where and how it might be used within the framework.

Consultation question 5: Are our proposals for the role of expert panels workable within the framework? Are there other key issues on which we might take their advice?

Consultation question 6: Are there significant implications for the burden on the sector of implementing our new framework that we have not identified? What more can we do to minimise the burden as we introduce the new arrangements?

Consultation question 7: Do you consider that the proposals in this document are likely to have any negative impact on equal opportunities? What issues will we need to pay particular attention to?

Consultation question 8: Do you have any other comments about our proposals, which are not covered by the above questions?