

# REF 2021 Survey: initial views on REF timetable

**Introduction**

The purpose of this short survey is to gather initial views on the REF timetable. Responses are invited from any organisation, group or individual with an interest in the conduct, quality, funding or use of research.

The deadline for responses to the survey is noon, 5 May 2020.

The REF team will copy responses to the Department for the Economy, Northern Ireland, the Higher Education Funding Council for Wales, Research England and the Scottish Funding Council.

We will publish a summary of responses. We may publish individual responses to the survey in the summary. Additionally, all responses may be disclosed on request, under the terms of the relevant Freedom of Information Acts across the UK. The Acts give a public right of access to any information held by a public authority, in this case the four UK funding bodies. We have a responsibility to decide whether any responses should be made public or treated as confidential. We can refuse to disclose information only in exceptional circumstances. This means that responses are unlikely to be treated as confidential except in very particular circumstances. For further information about the Acts see the Information Commissioner’s Office website, www.ico.gov.uk or, in Scotland, the website of the Scottish Information Commissioner www.itspublicknowledge.info/home/

Any personal data will be processed according to the requirements of the Data Protection Act 2018, the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), and UK Research and Innovation’s Privacy notice. If you provide personal data about other people in your response you should ensure that you have a lawful basis for doing so.

For further information relating to UK Research and Innovation’s Privacy notice, please visit <https://www.ukri.org/privacy-notice/>

**Respondent details**

**Please indicate who you are responding on behalf of: \***

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| --- | --- |
|    | [ ] As an individual |
|    | [ ] Business |
|    | [ ] Charity |
|   | [ ] Department or research group |
|    | [ ] Higher Education Institution |
|    | [ ] Public sector organisation |
|    | [ ] Representative body |
|    | [ ] Subject association or learned society |
|    | [ ] Other (please specify):

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**Please provide the name of your organisation. \***

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**If you would be happy to be contacted in the event of any follow-up questions, please provide a contact email address.**

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**Submission deadline**

**Q1: At this point in time, what is your preference for the revised REF submission deadline?**

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|    | [ ] A single deadline, by 31 March 2021 |
|    | [ ] A phased deadline, starting with staff & outputs in March 2021 |
|    | [ ] A delay of six months or more for all aspects |
|    | [ ] Other (please specify) *max 50 words*

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Please provide a brief rationale for your answer (max 350 words):

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**Impact**

**Q2. The end of the assessment period for impact is 31 July 2020. Which of the following options would you prefer as an initial step towards taking account of the effects of Covid-19 on impact submissions?**

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| [ ]  Universal extension to the assessment period for impact to the 31 December 2020. |
| [ ]  Keep 31 July 2020 in place as the end of the assessment period, but ensure a case-by-case mitigation route for individual, affected case studies that have been delayed past this point. |
| [ ]  Other (please specify) *max 50 words*

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Please provide a brief rationale for your answer (max 350 words):

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