

Summary of the University Committee for Research and Innovation meeting (UCRI) held on 02 July 2024

Please see below a brief summary of the main topics of discussion at the recent meeting of UCRI:

Main topics of interest:

At this meeting we:

- Received an annual update on the ECMWF AFESP programme from Pier Luigi Vidale and Claire Wyllie and noted the progress made in the development and implementation of the AFESP research programme. The UCRI was supportive of the development of an AFESP research fellowship programme, particularly in AI.
- Considered topics for engagement with the Advanced Research and Innovation Agency (ARIA).
- Reviewed the CRI AREIF funding recommendations and requested a report to be submitted to Planning and Change Board.

In other news we:

- Discussed BBSRC success rates 23 / 24.
- Approved spend of potential Research England Participative Research Funding 24 / 25 to fund a role to support the developing bid for RED funding to support PAR engagement in partnership with UKRI and BSA.
- Considered an RDF request for an Horizon Europe project proposal on Soil Biodiversity for Sustainable Agroecosystems and agreed that schools will be advised to use SDA or other funding resource for this type of proposal.
- Said goodbye to Rowan Sutton, Research Dean Environment and thanked him for his contribution, impact and collegiality.