

Concordats and Agreements Review: frequently asked questions

What is a concordat?

A concordat can be defined as commitments, agreements, voluntary codes of practice and ambitions that aim to support particular areas or communities.

What are concordats and agreements?

Concordats and agreements are a significant part of the landscape of frameworks and

(UKRI) and Wellcome. Leads from each commissioning partner have formed a Project Board to provide advice and momentum.

What was the starting rationale behind this project?

Concordats and agreements are a significant part of the landscape of frameworks and practices that contribute to research cultures and environments in which UK research takes place. These initiatives have grown organically, in response to challenges and opportunities, and cover a range of issues to support researchers and their activities. Until the Concordat and Agreements Review (CAR) Phase 1, there was no assessment of their collective effect on the research cultures and environments in the UK, nor of any gaps in their remit.

CAR Phase 1 for the first time ever mapped this landscape and provided insights on the collective effects of these initiatives.

Phase 2

Phase 1

What are the aims and objectives of Phase 1?

The aim of Phase 1 was to gather insights on the adoption of initiatives, their effects, and their relationships, to help identify where it can be made it easier and more rewarding for research teams and organisations to focus on doing high quality research and developing highly skilled and motivated research staff. We hope the research will help stakeholders improve the ways the initiatives affect research culture and environments. The project was not designed to measure the impact of specific initiatives, it was to look at the overall impact.

What were the key findings of Phase 1?

The key findings of Phase 1 include:

- Concordat for Engaging the Public with Research
- Concordat for the Advancement of Knowledge Exchange in Higher Education
- Guidance for Safeguarding in International Development Research
- San Francisco Declaration on Research Assessment (DORA)
- Leiden Manifesto on Research Metrics
- Athena Swan Charter
- Race Equality Charter.

Who participated in the Phase 1 research?

Is there already an identified outcome for this project?

No. The initiative owners and the research and innovation community will be able to shape and influence the outcome as part of Phase 2.

How did you ensure that the project is done to a high standard and reflects the diversity of the sector?

The project convened an external