

26 October 2020

Statement in support of the launch of the opportunity

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Working with partners

Effective partnerships are crucial to successful knowledge exchange and the KE Concordat has been developed with a number of partners who have outlined their support for the KE Concordat below.

Working with partners across higher education and business and the community is an important step in helping support economic, social and creative growth and recovery, post pandemic. Existing ties have been fundamental to the excellent work done by universities to support each other, communities, businesses and public health services to respond to the multiple challenges of COVID-19, and developing these partnerships and enhancing knowledge exchange will have a key role to play in future recovery, growth and levelling up, especially at the local level.

The KE Concordat provides institutions with an opportunity to reflect on their ambitions for knowledge exchange activities and to receive feedback on how they plan to develop them, by signing up to the principles of which many universities have already done so and

Julia Buckingham, President, Universities UK

Universities UK is committed to the Knowledge Exchange Concordat. Small and specialist institutions play vital roles in local, national and international knowledge exchange ecosystems by working with businesses and other organisations large and small to deliver social, cultural and economic benefits. We look forward to working in partnership with Universities UK and Research England during the development year to support our members and the wider sector in continuing to grow strong knowledge

26 October 2020

our strategy for KE and innovation within that context. In the meantime, we encourage institutions to sign-up to the guiding principles of the Concordat, while recognising that the current challenging environment may impact on the level of priority and implementation that can be given this year. We see this year as an opportunity to learn how the Concordat is adopted and implemented across the UK. The opportunity for any UK institution to take part in the

Dr Stuart Fancey, Director, Research and Innovation, Scottish Funding Council