GREAT 2023 Roadshow

Contents

- What is the Research Excellence Framework (REF)
- REF2021 Results
- GREAT Definition & Principles
- GREAT Governance
- GREAT Cycle
- GREAT Actions
- GREAT Outputs (& GALA)
- Internal Assessment of Outputs
- GREAT Impact Cases Studies
- More information
- Q&A

UNIVERSITY OF GREENWICH

What is the Research Excellence Framework (REF)

- UK's system for assessing the excellence of research in higher education institutions

  - To provide accountability for public investment in research

  - To provide benchmarking information

  - To inform the allocation of c£2billion per year funding for research

- Process of expert review, carried out across 34 subject-based Units of Assessment

- Assesses research across three elements

  - Outputs

  - Impact

  - Environment

- Exercises runs every 5-7 years, last concluded in March 2021

UNIVERSITY OF GREENWICH

REF – Who is submitted

- Based on the university's Code of Practice

- From REF2021

- From an eligible pool of staff, submit staff with Significant Responsibility for Research (SRR) **[TBD]**

UNIVERSITY OF GREENWICH

REF – Outputs

- Assess the quality of submitted research outputs in terms of their 'originality, significance and rigour', with reference to international research quality standards.

- Published 1 January 2021 to submission deadline

- Submit 2.5 x FTE of staff submitted per a Unit of Assessment

  - 1 minimum per staff submitted, 5 maximum

  - Open Access compliance - Journal/Conference paper with ISSN, accepted for publication after April 2016

    - Deposit requirements

    - Discovery requirements

    - Access requirements

UNIVERSITY OF GREENWICH

REF – Impacts

- Assesses the 'reach and significance' of impact (the effect, change or benefit) on the economy, society, culture, public policy or services, health, the environment or quality of life, underpinned by excellent research

- Impact must occur during 1 August 2020 to submission deadline

- Underpinning research produced while at the university since 1 January 2007

- Impact Case Studies
  - Requirement per Unit of Assessment is 2 for first 19.99 FTE, plus 1 per additional 14.99 FTE
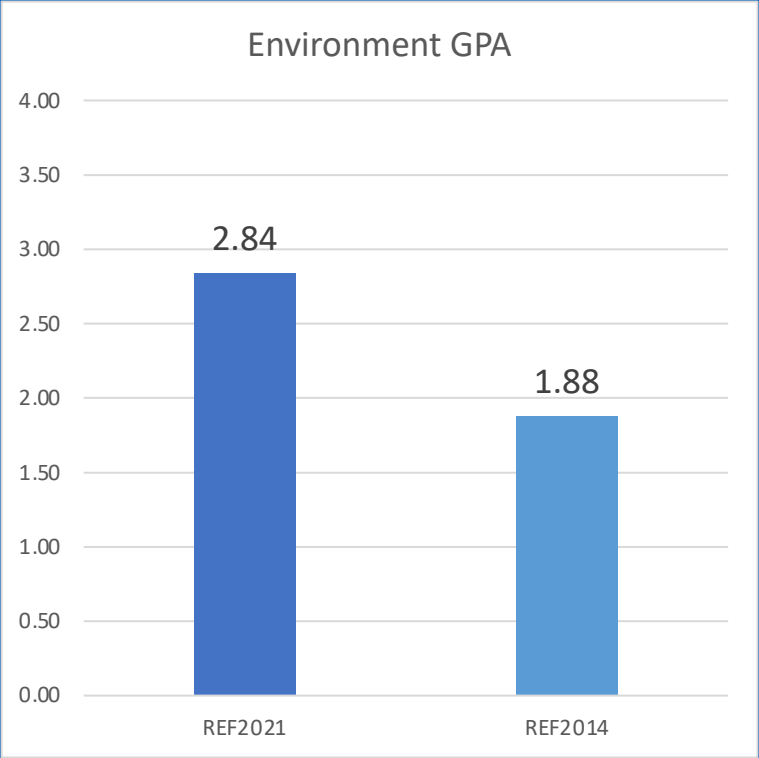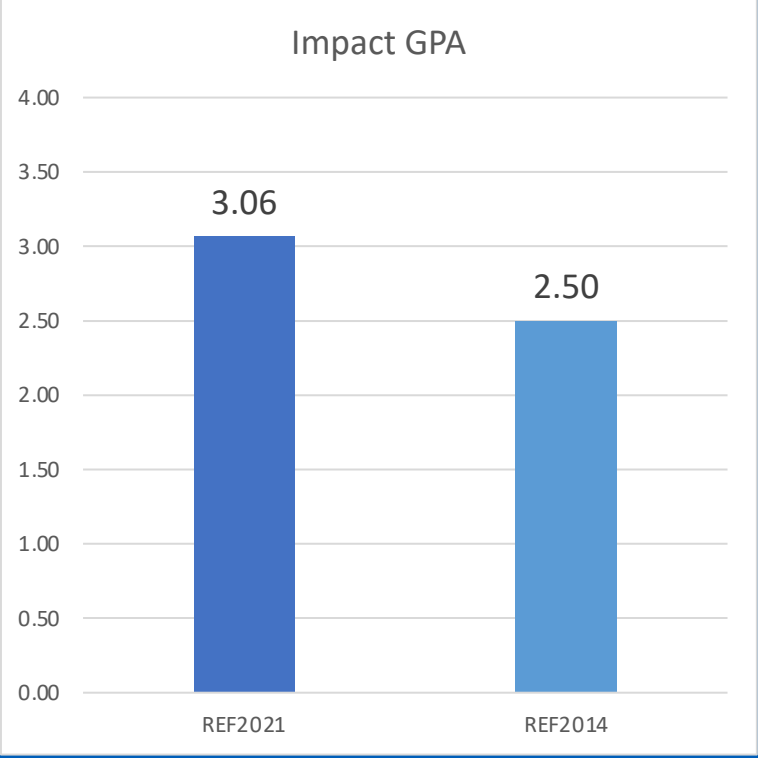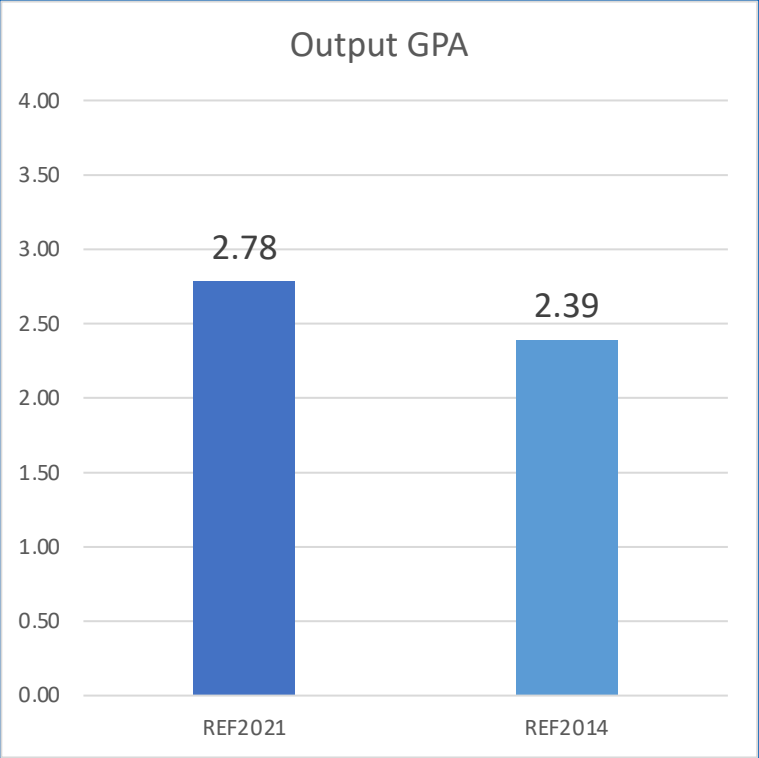
UNIVERSITY OF GREENWICH

REF – Environment

- Assess the research environment of the submitted unit in terms of its 'vitality and sustainability'

- Environment Statement

  - UoA Context & Structure, Research & Impact Strategy

  - People and PGR students

  - Income, Infrastructure & Facilities

  - Collaboration and contribution to the research base, economy and society

- Environment Data - Research Doctoral Degrees Awarded; Research Income; Research Income-in-kind

UNIVERSITY OF GREENWICH

REF2021 Results

- Significant improvement in its research quality and volume across all subject areas.

- Ranking in the sector from REF2014 increased by 25 places based GPA, taking it to joint 78 place, the fourth highest increase in the sector.

- Doubled market share (weighted 4*+3* multiplied by FTE) from 0.16 to 0.32%. This places the university in the top 15 institutions by increase in market share.

- Overall increases in the GPAs of all element of the assessment (outputs, impact and environment), notable is the increase environment GPA from 1.88 to 2.84, (moving 44 places to 67).

- Increased the percentage of 4* (world-leading) research from 9 to 21 and increasing the percentage of 4* and 3* (world-leading and internationally excellent) research to 70% (from 42% in 2014). Reduced the percentage of unclassified research from 2% to 0%.

- The university more than doubled its research power (GPA multiplied by the FTE of staff submitted), from 469 to 1107.

- Improved relative position with University Alliance members (e.g 12th to 7th for GPA and 6th to 4th research power).

UNIVERSITY OF GREENWICH

REF2021 Results

Output GPA	
REF2021	2.78
REF2014	2.39

Impact GPA	
REF2021	3.06
REF2014	2.50

Environment GPA	
REF2021	2.84
REF2014	1.88

THE Rankings	
REF2021	REF2014
=87 (129)	105

THE Rankings	
REF2021	REF2014
77 (129)	98

THE Rankings	
REF2021	REF2014
=67 (129)	111

GREAT Definition & Principles

GREAT: **G**reenwich **RE**f **A**ssessment **T**rials

Developmental	-	Learning process towards better understanding of REF
	-	Development of research culture & environment
Inclusive	-	Wide participation in submitting & assessing work for GREAT
	-	**Preparations inclusive – Submission selective!**
Rigour	-	Significant personal and institutional consequences of decisions
	-	Anonymity of assessment
External	-	External calibration using REF2021 data (& future REF guidelines)
	-	Moderation using External assessors
Continuous	-	Annual GREAT-cycles
	-	Improvements in process and systems until REF2027/8
Transparent	-	Staff informed of outcome of GREAT assessment
	-	Equality Impact statements & appeal against non-inclusion to REF

UNIVERSITY OF GREENWICH

GREAT/REF Governance

Group	Reports to:	Responsibilities
REF Strategy Working Group	UoG R&KE Board	GREAT Cycles process Appoints Assessors Approves UoAs Sol's (NOT YET!) REF Submission
REF Equality and Diversity Group	REF Strategy Working Group	Reviews Personal Circumstances Equality Impact Statements
REF Appeal Panel	UoG R&KE Board	Staff appeals against REF decisions
Faculty REF Working Group	REF Strategegy Working Group	Faculty GREAT processes Identify Research Groups Propose Assessors Recommend UoAs

UNIVERSITY OF GREENWICH

GREAT Cycle

Month	Stakeholders	Deliverable Action	Delivery Method	Deadline/ Completed by	Lead(s)
March	• All Staff	- GREAT2023 launched. - GREAT & GALA/Open Access Roadshows.	- Email and VCs newsletters - 3 x Hybrid Roadshows	31 March	- DVC (R&KE) & Head of Research Development Services - DVC (R&KE) & Head of Research Development Services - DVC (R&KE) & Scholarly Communications Manager
March	• All Staff	Staff to submit max. 3 outputs for internal assessment	Via online form	1 May	Head of Research Development Services
Marc	• All Staff	Submit potential Impact Case Study pro-forms, or updated REF2021 ICS	Via online form	31 July	Head of Research Development Services
March	• Pro Vice-Chancellors • Faculty Associate Deans (R&KE)	- Faculties to confirm Research Centres/Groups, Leads, and Composition - Faculties to establish Faculty REF Working Groups	Confirmation delivered by email from PVCs to DVC (R&E) & GRE	1 May	Faculty AD (R&KE)
April	• Centre/Group Leaders • Faculty Associate Deans (R&KE)	Faculties to commence identification of internal peer assessors	Confirmation delivered by email from Faculty AD (R&KE) to DVC (R&E) & GRE	1 May	DVC (R&KE)
April	• Internal Peer Assessors	Internal Peer Assessment Training delivered	- Hybrid / Online	1 May	DVC (R&KE
June	• Internal Peer Assessors	Internal Output review	Internal assessment & scoring process	1 August	Faculty AD (R&KE)
July	• Research Centre/Group Leaders • Faculty Associate Deans (R&KE)	To identify external moderators and select outputs for external moderation	- External Assessor nominations emailed to DVC (R&E) & GRE - Email Invitations sent by DVC (R&E)	1 August	DVC (R&KE)
August	• Research Center/Group Leaders • Faculty Associate Deans (R&KE)	Synthesis of internal assessment, and individual and group profiles created.		1 September	Head of Research Development Services
August	• External moderators	External assessment review moderation	External scoring process of a selection of outputs	1 November	DVC (R&KE)
August	• Impact Reviewers	Assess and review potential/updated ICS	- TBD	1 November	Head of Research Development Services & Impact Framework Manager
November	• All Staff	GREAT2023 Feedback Sessions to commence	- DVC (R&E) to host general feedback sessions per faculty - Centre/Group Leaders to provide individual feedback to members	22 December	DVC (R&KE)

UNIVERSITY OF GREENWICH

GREAT Actions – Staff

- Participate in REF preparation "GREAT-Roadshows"
- Ensure that your outputs are uploaded into GALA (within 3 months of acceptance, with the exception of new starters)
- Identify for assessment what you consider to be your best **three** outputs published since 1 January 2021 (this includes any submitted last year) - deadline **1 May 2023**
  - Opportunity to replace any submitted last year, but total cannot exceed three
- Consider the submission of a potential Impact Case Study – **deadline 31 July 2023**

UNIVERSITY OF GREENWICH

GREAT Outputs

- Staff should identify their best three outputs on the basis of:
    - Originality
    - Rigour
    - Significance
- Only outputs compliant with current **REF Open Access requirements** will be assessed, and should already be in GALA
    - Outputs within three months of acceptance, not already in GALA , can and **MUST** be deposited now.
    - Three outputs produced while not employed at Greenwich (i.e. from new starters) can be deposited into GALA and subsequently selected for assessment

UNIVERSITY OF GREENWICH

Internal Assessment of Outputs

- Outputs will be assessed by internal research leaders of UoG

- Assessors will be trained by external, ex-Panel members from REF2021

- Each output will be assessed by 3 independent assessors

- Assessors to score each output for:

  - Originality: 0 – 4

  - Rigour: 0 – 4

  - Significance: 0 – 4

  - Confidence level: Higher, Medium, Lower (about 1/3 outputs in each)

- In the scale 0 – 4:

  - 0: Unclassified, not meeting research definition (e.g., review papers); 1: National significance; 2: International significance; 3: International Excellence; 4: World leading

  - 'World leading', 'internationally' and 'nationally' in this context refer to quality standards; not geographical scope of the work or location of its dissemination.

GREAT Impact Case Studies

- GREAT2023 will make assessments using a more detailed template mirroring REF2021 template

- No need for polished narratives, but efforts to:

  - identify economic/social/environmental impact during assessment period 1 Aug 2020 to date

  - list and describe existing, or potential future, evidence

  - link to underpinning research (2* or above) carried out after 1 January 2007

  - emphasise impact reach and significance

UNIVERSITY OF GREENWICH

More Information

- Internal GREAT Guidance & Documentation
  - https://www.gre.ac.uk/research/governance-and-awards/great
- REF Guidance
  - Open Access Policy - https://ref.ac.uk/media/1228/open_access_summary__v1_0.pdf
  - General guidance - https://www.ref.ac.uk/publications-and-reports/guidance-on-submissions-201901/
- General issues
  - Neil Cormack-Bissett
- GALA / Open Access
  - Kevin Sanders
- Faculty Issues
  - Associate Dean (Research & Knowledge Exchange)
- General Strategy
  - Prof Andrew Westby, DVC (R&KE)

UNIVERSITY OF GREENWICH

Thankyou.

UNIVERSITY OF
GREENWICH