

## **SUMMARY OF MAIN CHANGES**

These are now a harmonised single set of core terms and conditions for Research Grants and Fellowships

**Definitions – this includes some re-ordering and the inclusion of the following new terms:**

**Grant:** support for a proportion of the full economic costs of a project. A grant may be either a Research Grant or a Fellowship.

**Grant Holder:** the person to whom the grant is assigned and who has responsibility for the intellectual leadership of the project and for the overall management of the research. The Grant Holder is either the Principal Investigator (in the case of a Research Grant) or a Research Fellow (in the case of a Fellowship Grant)

**Dipstick Testing** has been replaced by **Funding Assurance Programme**

**Data Protection Regulations includes the following additions:**

A statement that Research Councils may share proposal information on a strictly confidential basis with other funding organisations to seek contributions to the funding of proposals.

“After completion of the grant, the Research Council may contact the Grant Holder concerning funding opportunities or events, or for the purposes of evaluation. In some instances, the Research Council may wish to authorise an affiliate organisation to contact the Grant Holder on its behalf. It is assumed that, by agreeing to these terms and conditions, the Research Organisation consents to this on behalf of the Grant Holder, but if the Grant Holder prefers not to be contacted in this way, he or she should state this to the Research Council. Grant Holders may choose to opt out at any point, provided they comply with all other terms and conditions associated with the grant.”

### **GC1 Responsibilities of the Research Organisation**

The area relating to 1996 Concordat for the Career Management of Contract Research Staff and subsequent amendments includes some additional responsibilities for the RO. These relate to the need to ensure that reliable systems and processes are in place to promote equality of opportunity, to promote good relations between different equalities groups and to eliminate unlawful discrimination.

There are two additional responsibilities that are specific to Research Fellows.

The Research Organisation must appoint a Research Fellow as an employee for the full duration of the award.

The Research Organisation must integrate the Research Fellow within the research activities of the host department, whilst ensuring that he or she is able to maintain independence and focus on their personal research programme.

### **GC7 Extensions**

There has been no change to the total duration a research grant can be extended by, however extensions may be granted for periods of sick leave of less than 3 months if the member of staff is disabled for the purposes of the Disability Discrimination Act or other exceptional circumstances.

This condition identifies that in the case of a fellowship grant the duration of the grant may be extended to cover maternity leave, paternity leave, and adoption leave or paid sick leave for a Research Fellow in line with the fellow's employment.

### **GC8 Staff**

The part of this condition relating to the time that can be spent on teaching and demonstrating has been amended. The revised condition now states:

“Provided it is related to the research project on which they are currently working, Research staff and Research Fellows may, during normal working hours, undertake teaching and demonstrating work, including associated training, preparatory, marking and examination duties, for up to an average of 6 hours a week (pro rata for part-time staff) **calculated over the period** that they are supported on the grant.”

### **GC9 Maternity, Paternity and adoption Pay and Leave**

This condition now includes specific reference to adoption pay and leave and to the arrangements for Fellowship Grants. These include that, if requested, consideration will be given to allowing a fellowship grant to be placed in abeyance during the absence of the Research Fellow for maternity, paternity, adoption or parental leave. Secondly that requests to continue the fellowship on a flexible or part-time basis to allow the Research Fellow to meet caring responsibilities will be considered.

### **GC 10 Sick Leave**

A Research Organisation may now request an extension where a Research Assistant has been on sick leave for an aggregate (not necessarily continuous) period in excess of 3 months.

### **GC14 Change of Grant Holder**

This condition has been revised to indicate that as a fellowship is awarded on the basis of a named individual's suitability to undertake and benefit from the period of research, changes to the Grant Holder are not permitted.

### **GC 21 Commercial Exploitation**

There has been an addition to the paragraph relating to collaborative arrangements to cater for instances where a single grant funds research by more than one Research Organisation, and may include involvement with project partners.

### **GC 23 Publication and Acknowledgement of Support**

There is a new requirement that journal publications should acknowledge the funding source using the standard format agreed by funders and publishers and detailed in the additional information that will accompany the grant.

### **GC24 Disclaimer**

There is an additional element to this condition. That is the Research Councils reserve the right to amend the payment profile at its discretion. In such cases the Research Organisation will be advised, in advance, of any such change but the overall value of the grant will not be affected.