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FAO Chair of the Concordat Strategy Group

Leeds Beckett University: Letter of Commitment to the Concordat to Support the Career Development of Researchers

I, Professor Peter Slee, on behalf of Leeds Beckett University confirm our commitment to the Concordat to Support the Career Development of Researchers.

Leeds Beckett University fully supports the Principles of this revised Concordat and we intend to uphold our obligations and responsibilities as a signatory.

At Leeds Beckett University, we recognise the vital contribution of our research staff to our core purpose of making a positive and decisive difference to people, organisations, and communities through excellent education, research, and service. We are committed to increasing the volume, quality and impact of our research to make an even greater difference to the world around us.

As outlined in our 2021-2026 strategic plan, we are committed to "supporting a diverse community of talented and engaged colleagues who deliver our purpose and fulfil their potential" by "creating a culture of continuous improvement, reward, and recognition, and accountability." We aim to create an inclusive, supportive, and vibrant environment where researchers at all career stages can flourish.

We have recently reaffirmed our dedication to our researchers and the principles of the Concordat by successfully renewing our HR Excellence in Research Award following the 6-year review. We remain dedicated to improving and refining the policies, guidelines, and procedures that provide our researchers at all stages of their careers with the skills and opportunities they need to build successful research careers in higher education, the public sector, the private sector, and the third sector.

We agree to work collectively and engage with initiatives to address systemic challenges in progressing towards a UK research system where researchers work in healthy and supportive environments. We agree that researchers should be recognised and valued for their contributions in research and beyond, supported in their professional and career development, and equipped and empowered to succeed in their chosen careers.

Yours sincerely,

Professor Peter Slee
Vice Chancellor