

Research evaluation

Like many other funding organisations, we are accountable to our stakeholders, and therefore it is crucial that we monitor the outcomes of the research we fund on a regular basis. It is also important that we can provide our supporters with evidence that the research we fund is translated into advances in health and social care.

We use [Researchfish](#), an online survey database now adopted by a consortium of over 100 funding organisations currently tracking the outcomes of over 100,000 awards totalling over £45 billion to gather information about research outputs and outcomes.

Researchfish enables researchers to record all of their research outcomes in one place, against a defined set of structured and consistent research outputs and reduces the number of different forms and systems researchers are required to report into. Once an output is attributed to an award, the funder will have full visibility, allowing them to track pathway to impact.

What you will need to do

We will ask you to enter the relevant information into distinct output types and sections in your Researchfish portfolio. You or a nominated delegate can add, edit and delete entries, which can then be quickly and easily attributed to one or more grant awards you hold with us, or with any of the other funding organisations that use Researchfish.

When to submit

You can enter, amend and update information in your portfolio at any time throughout the year and we would strongly encourage you to do so. By doing this in incremental steps your task will be greatly reduced when you are asked to submit your HSC R&D Division grant evaluation data once a year, during a defined submission period.

We will retain the data submitted to us in Researchfish indefinitely.

Researchfish has organised training sessions in the form of [webinars](#) for researchers; a short [video](#) also demonstrates how to enter, attribute and submit data for a particular grant.

Condition of grant

Submitting Researchfish data is a Condition of Grant. Paragraphs 3.2 and 10.2 refers.

We will perform an annual analysis of the outputs from all our awards collected in Researchfish. This will inform internal discussions around our research funding. We will also publish the results of this analysis on our website. We will not draw comparisons between the outputs of individual researchers.

We may share results from analyses carried out on the data collected in Researchfish with other funding agencies or research organisations, as part of joint evaluation studies but any outputs of the analysis will be reported as aggregates and you will not be personally identified.

HSC R&D Division complies with the requirements of the Data Protection Act 1998 with regard to the collection, storage, processing and disclosure of personal information and is committed to upholding the Act's core data protection principles.

Queries

There is a section for researchers which contains support tools such as FAQ's, help videos and contact details for any problems at: www.researchfish.net/researchers

For any other queries not covered on the above webpages, please email: enquiry.rdpha@hscni.net

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