



# **Valuing, recognising and rewarding researchers**

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**[www.vitae.ac.uk](http://www.vitae.ac.uk)**

- Expectations on academic researchers
- Concordat to Support the Career Development of Researchers
- Recognising and valuing researchers
- OTM-R
- Broadening job descriptions and evaluation criteria
- Vitae Researcher Development Framework

# Expectations on academic researchers



- Producing high quality cutting edge research
  - Economic development
  - Enhancing the absorptive capacity of the economy to assimilate scientific advances
  - Developing the country's international reputation - attracting and retaining investment and people
  - Societal benefits – better healthcare, better public services, better policy-making
  - Enriching our culture and civilisation
- 
- Solving global challenges - climate change, world hunger and food security, energy security, ageing population

# HR Strategy for Researchers

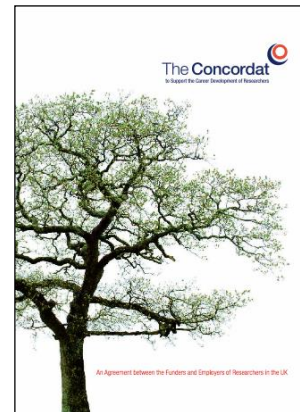


## UK Concordat to Support the Career Development of Researchers 2008 (and 1996)

- Recruitment and selection
- Recognition and value
- Support and career development
- Researchers responsibilities
- Equality and diversity
- Implementation and review



HR EXCELLENCE IN RESEARCH



# Recognised and valued as an essential part of organisational HR strategy



- Equal treatment, irrespective of type of contract
- Active performance management, including career guidance
- Regular formal progress and review meetings
- Transparent criteria for promotion and pay progression
- Opportunities to develop their career
- Research managers understand their responsibility for the management of researchers
- How research managers' performance is assessed and rewarded to support good research management

# Recognised and valued as research staff



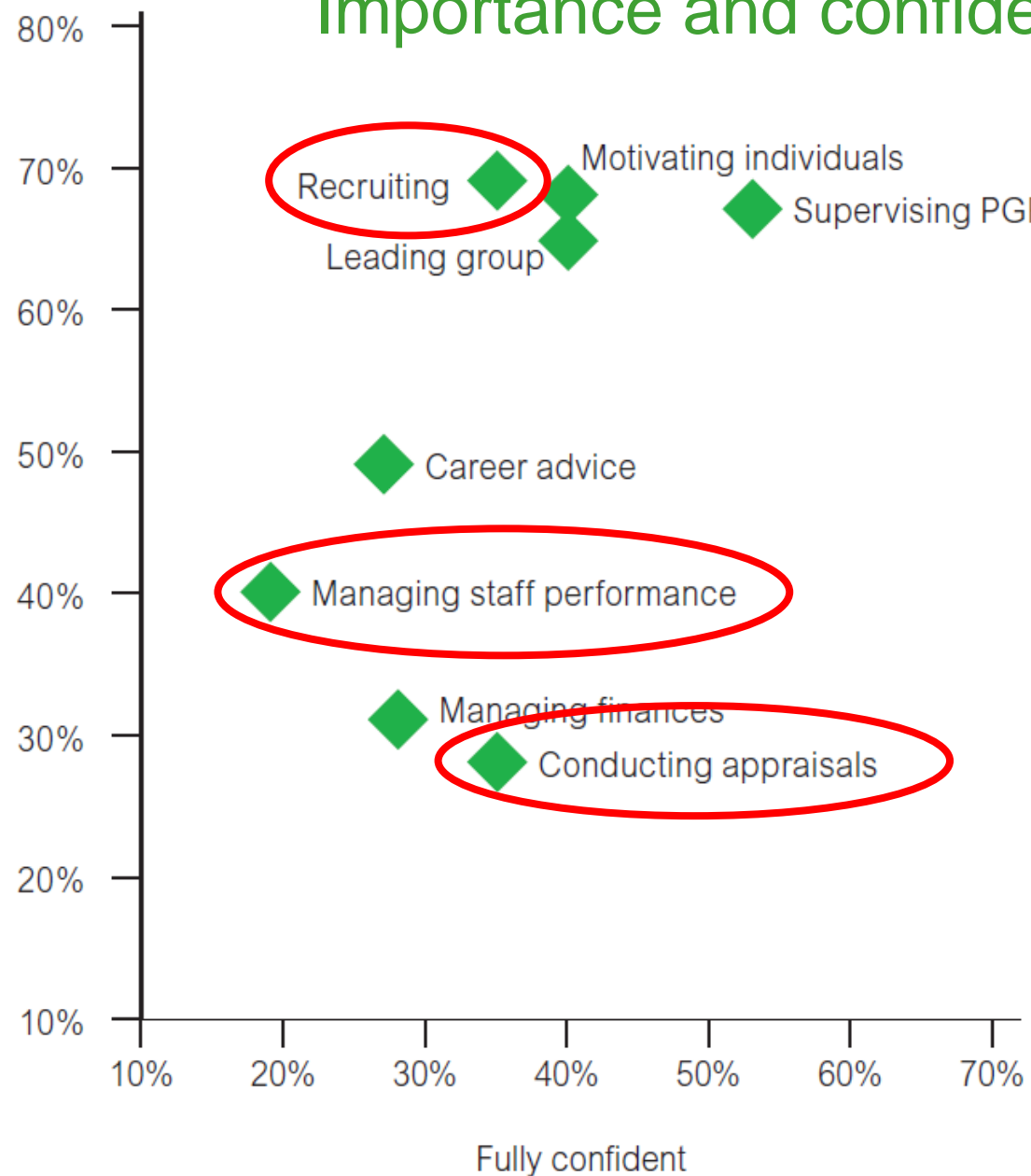
	Do this	Disagree or strongly disagree	Don't know
Peer reviewing	83%	42%	25%
Supervising/managing staff	68%	40%	18%
Managing budgets/resources	71%	39%	28%
Teaching and lecturing	67%	36%	14%
Supervising research students	77%	35%	12%
Grant/funding applications	78%	28%	17%
Knowledge transfer and commercialisation	75%	28%	30%
Public engagement with research	86%	26%	20%
Publications	96%	16%	9%

# Recognised and valued as a PI

	Do this	Disagree or strongly disagree
Budget/finance management	83%	45%
Providing careers advice beyond academia	79%	44%
Providing careers advice within academia	92%	40%
Motivating individuals	97%	40%
Managing and supervising other staff	76%	39%
Developing research staff	89%	39%
Managing research staff performance	83%	37%
Management and administration	92%	35%
Appraisal/review of staff	78%	32%
Public engagement and outreach	93%	31%
Knowledge exchange and commercialisation	87%	26%
Teaching and learning	95%	26%
Supervising research students	94%	22%

Very important  
(strongly agree)

# Research leaders Importance and confidence



PIRLS 2013, 4800 responses



- Clear and transparent information on recruitment process
- Detailing information on requirements, competencies and duties
- Clear information on working conditions, entitlements, training opportunities and career development
- Objective and merit-based evaluation and selection processes
  - Training for selection committee
  - Guidelines to judge merit
- Equality of opportunity - unconscious bias

# OTM-R Evaluation criteria



- Acquisition of funding
- Generation of societal impact
- International portfolio (including mobility)
- Knowledge transfer and exchange
- Management of research and innovation
- Organizational skills/experience
- Outreach/public awareness activities
- Research performance
- Supervision and mentoring
- Teaching
- Teamwork

# Promotion and progression



## 1. Research

- successful supervision of research staff or doctorates

## 2. Academic enterprise and knowledge transfer

- significant record of transfer to economy, policy, society, culture

## 3. Teaching and learning (within and outside the institution)

- sustained record of CPD

## 4. Service and leadership

- significant and sustained contribution to management
- sustained ability to manage and develop significant teams of staff
- ability to shape the discipline nationally
- exceptional collegiality
- Involvement in public and community engagement

# Job description: lecturer / senior lecturer



- Demonstrable research experience
- Record of attracting research funding
- Record of publication in high quality journals
- PhD/MD or equivalent
- Experience of delivery of research, teaching and learning
- Ability to work as a member of a team and maintain good relations with colleagues
- Ability to work independently, whilst contributing to wider team strategy
- Excellent presentation and communication skills
- Excellent organisational and time management skills

# Job description: chair medical sciences



- Outstanding track record of internationally excellent research
- Strong track record in obtaining grant funding
- Regular publication in high quality journals
- PhD/MD or equivalent
- Ability to build a team of international calibre
- Supervising doctoral candidates to completion
- Ability to develop networks and nurture interdisciplinary links
- Excellent communication skills
- Enthusiasm and motivation to develop research portfolio
- Enthuse and motivate others to contribute to outstanding research

# Vitae Researcher Development Framework

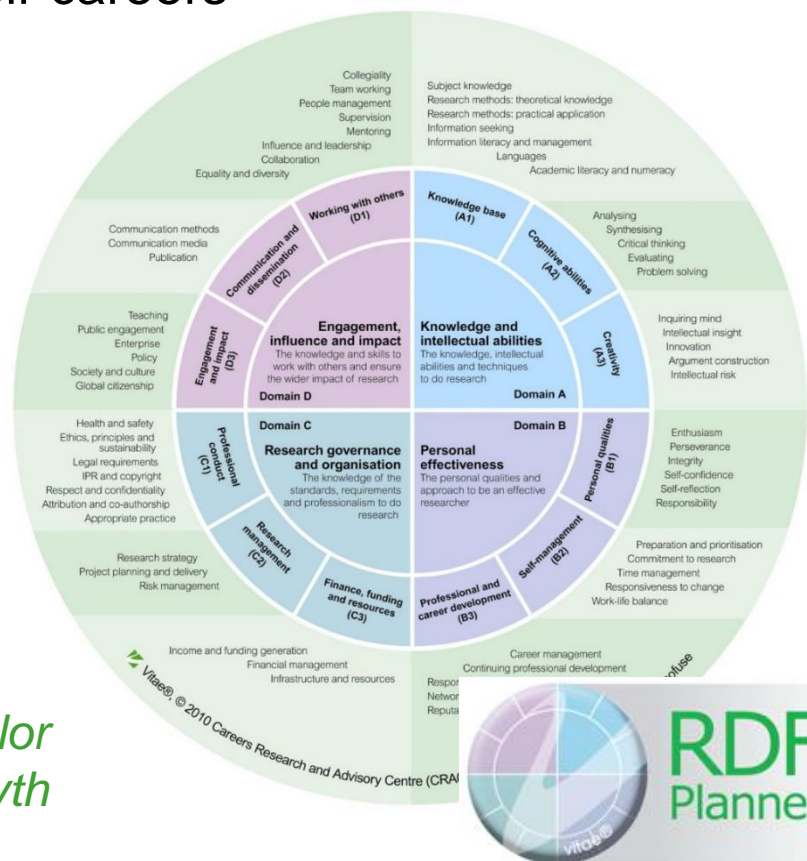


The RDF underpins professional development at all levels

- Individual researchers throughout their careers
- Institutional provision
- Institutional strategy
- Policy reference document

*“The RDF provides a valuable mechanism to increase institutions’ capabilities to develop world class researchers.”*

*Professor April McMahon, Vice-Chancellor  
Aberystwyth*

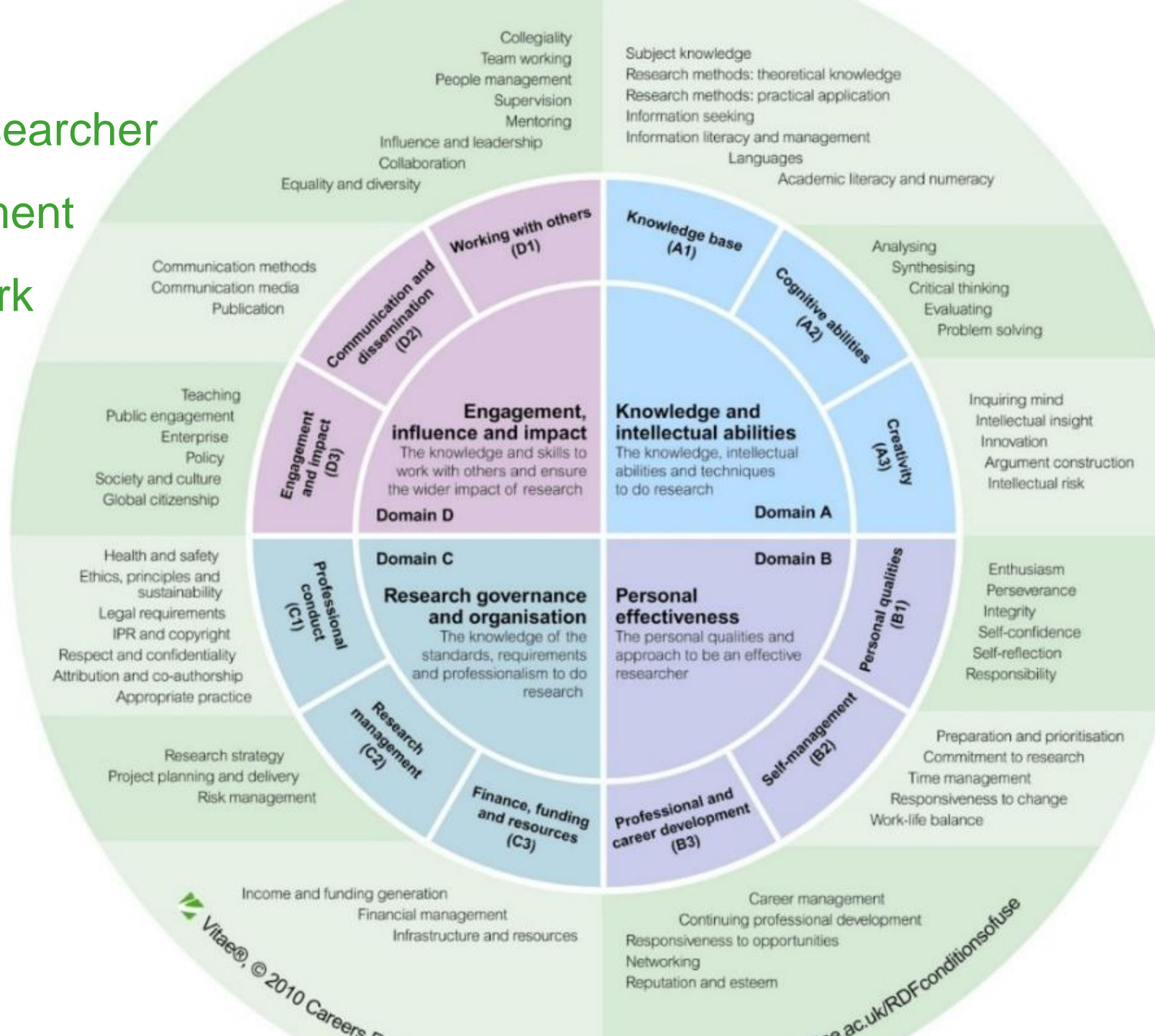


# Broadening the recognition of and rewards for the contribution of researchers

What expertise, attributes and competencies of researchers do we want to recognise?



# Vitae Researcher Development Framework





# OTM-R Evaluation criteria



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# Reducing unconscious bias

## ■ Formalise and clarify roles

- Diversity in panels
- Pre-determined seating
- Explicit guidelines of structure of meetings
- Clarify responsibilities and conduct

## ■ Formalise criteria and instructions

- Requirements for equality
- Mandatory training on unconscious bias
- Instructions for evaluators

## ■ Formalise and structure discussions

- Guidelines for use of evaluation criteria
- Processes for active interventions

# Unconscious bias

- Slow down the speed of decision making
- Reconsider the reasons for decisions; recognise post-hoc justifications
- Question cultural stereotypes; be open to new and unfamiliar
- Remember you are unlikely to be more fair and less prejudiced than the average person
- Easier to detect unconscious bias in others than yourself; be prepared to call out