

## OUTCOMES FROM MID-TERM REVIEW

During the Institute Assessment Exercise in 2011 it was agreed that funding to strategically funded institutes for 2015-16 and 2016-17 would be subject to successful mid-term review. This review took place during the latter part of 2014. The role of the MTR Panel was to report to BBSRC Council on the progress the institute was making in meeting Council's expectations from its significant investments in 2012. The review panels, chaired by those who chaired the assessment panels in 2011, considered reports on each funding stream submitted by institutes in September 2014, briefing from the Strategy Panels and discussions with senior staff at the institute during one day visits.

In December 2014, Council took decisions on continued institute funding through the strategic funding streams agreed in principle in 2012 for the period 2012-17. In reaching its conclusions Council was mindful of the terms of funding agreed in March 2012, and the expectations that strategically funded institutes will:

- Deliver high quality research programmes with clear relevance to BBSRC's strategic priorities
- Make significant contributions to the delivery of impact from the research funded by BBSRC and to public engagement with that research
- Ensure that institute approaches to Knowledge Exchange and Commercialisation KEC, Public Engagement and Science Communications (PESC) and Strategic Human Resources Capabilities (SHRC) are fully embedded in all the institute's activities
- Operate efficiently and with due regard for the future sustainability of the Institute

Council confirmed strategic funding to all institutes for 2015-17 at the levels agreed in 2012. Overall Council was impressed with the significant progress made since 2012, the high quality of achievements to date and the plans to deliver remaining objectives by 2017.

Specific comments from the expert mid-term review panels include:

"The ethos of the whole institute is multidisciplinary and it was apparent that the links between the Institute Strategic Programmes (ISPs) and individual departments were seamless. Morale is very high in the institute and a great amount has been achieved since 2012."

"All the ISPGs are performing excellent and, in some areas, world leading science with outstanding publications."

"The KEC portfolio was strong and had made excellent progress since 2012, generating significant industrial uplift. The public consultation on working with industry had helped the institute understand how it should engage with industry."

"Since the IAE it appears to the panel that there has been a culture change in approaches to KEC, SHRC, PESC and these areas are very much more successfully embedded in the institute."