

## **RESEARCH, KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE AND INNOVATION POLICY STATEMENT**

### **Aim**

This Policy Statement sets out the approach by the University of the West of Scotland in relation to its research and knowledge exchange ambitions. We aim to foster a culture of research and knowledge exchange that proactively advances Science and Technology that has major impact on challenges of Health, Sustainability and Society, supports economic growth locally, nationally and globally and drives a substantial expansion of the University through a revitalised focus on income generation derived from our core activities in line with our Corporate Strategy. This Policy Statement sets out the broad principles by which the University operates and should be read along with the related guidelines, procedures and protocols referred to below.

### **Scope**

This Policy Statement and all referenced guidelines, procedures and protocols apply to all staff of the University.

### **Principles**

The University is committed to building a research and knowledge exchange culture and environment of the highest quality, to developing collaborative partnerships, and to ensuring that our research has real-world applications for industry and commerce to exploit. The University considers potentially exploitable intellectual property to be a valuable asset that should be nourished, protected and exploited in the most effective way to ensure that it reaches the market place and the optimal financial return is enjoyed by the University and its staff and students.

As part of our commitment, the University:-

- will provide guidance and advice to staff in order to encourage the early identification of intellectual property and allow successful exploitation for the mutual and equitable benefit of all contributing parties.
- shall ensure it has appropriate "Conflict of Interest" processes in place to ensure the protection of both members of staff and the University's reputation and credibility.
- shall ensure it has appropriate procedures in place for the management of consultancy activities and service work provided by the University's staff in a way which ensures these benefits while protecting the interests of the University and its staff in a manner which reflects appropriate professional standards.

### **Responsibilities**

The endorsement and upholding of the principles of this Policy Statement are the responsibility of the Court. The Vice-Principal and Pro-Vice Chancellor (Academic) is the Executive Lead for activities within the University, which fall under this Policy Statement.

### **Approval**

This Policy Statement was approved by the Policy and Resources Committee on 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2018 and update to related guidelines on 24<sup>th</sup> September 2019.

### **Monitoring and Review**

This Policy Statement will be reviewed as needed due to changes in legislation, standards or sector good practice or where a reorganisation changes ownership, responsibility or accountability. All related Guidelines, Procedures and Protocols will be reviewed annually in line with the University's Annual Compliance Monitoring Statement.

### **Equality Impact Assessment**

A full Equality Impact Assessment was carried out on 17<sup>th</sup> January 2018.

### **Related Guidelines, Procedures and Protocols**

Code of Ethics  
Guidelines for Ethical Practice in Research and Scholarship  
Consultancy Procedure  
Exploitation of Intellectual Property: Protocol and Procedure