Newcastle University

COUNCIL

Title of paper: Research Integrity Annual Statement

Main purpose of the paper: For information

Presenter(s): Professor Matthew Grenby, Pro-Vice-Chancellor Research and Innovation

Date of paper: January 2026

Purpose of the paper

To note the Research Integrity Annual Statement covering the reporting period of the academic year 2024/2025.

Relation to regulatory requirements

Submitting the annual research integrity statement is part of Newcastle University's obligations under the UK Concordat to Support Research Integrity. It ensures transparency and demonstrates rigour in relation to the integrity of our research and addresses any breaches of conduct.

Recommendations:

To note the statement and confirm that it can be uploaded to our external research integrity web pages.

Consultation to date (including any previous committee consideration and its outcome): Approved by URIC subject to one amendment (now completed) on 21st October 25. Submitted to Senate for the meeting 14 January 2026.

Annual statement on research integrity 2024-25

If you have any questions about this template, please contact: riconcordat@ukcori.org.

Section 1: Key contact information

Question	Response
1A. Name of organisation	Newcastle University
1B. Type of organisation: **higher education institution/industry/independent research performing organisation/other (please state)**	Higher Education Institution
1C. Date statement approved by governing body (DD/MM/YY)	Approved by Senate xxx
1D. Web address of organisation's research integrity page (if applicable)	www.ncl.ac.uk/research/research-governance/research-integrity/
1E. Named senior member of staff to oversee research integrity	Name: Name: Professor Matthew Grenby Pro-Vice Chancellor Research & Innovation
	Email address: matthew.grenby@ncl.ac.uk
1F. Named member of staff who will act as a first point of contact for anyone wanting more information on matters of research integrity	Name: Stacey Wagstaff, Research Integrity and Compliance Manager
	Email address: research.integrity@ncl.ac.uk

Section 2: Promoting high standards of research integrity and positive research culture. Description of actions and activities undertaken

2A. Description of current systems and culture

Please describe how the organisation maintains high standards of research integrity and promotes positive research culture. It should include information on the support provided to researchers to understand standards, values and behaviours, such as training, support and guidance for researchers at different career stages/ disciplines. You may find it helpful to consider the following broad headings:

- Policies and systems

- Communications and engagement

- Culture, development and leadership

- Monitoring and reporting

Policies and systems
The following institutional policies and procedures are designed to promote a culture of research integrity at Newcastle University and enable researchers to understand and act according to expected standards and behaviours:
- AI Privacy and Security Guidance
- Animal Research Policy
- Attribution of Authorship Guidelines
- Bullying and Harassment Policy
- Code of Good Practice in Research
- Code of Practice for Freedom of Speech
- Declarations of External Interests Policy
- Ethics Guidance Note for AI and Research Ethics
- Ethics Guidance Note- Impact and Engagement Activities
- Ethics Guidance Note for Evaluation Activities
- Ethical Review Process
- Framework for Preventing Harm in Research and Innovation Activities
- Grievance Policy
- Informed Consent Guidelines
- Open Access Policy Statement
- Open Research Institutional Position Statement
- Participation of Volunteers in Research Projects
- Personal Relationships at Work Policy

- Policy on Ownership, Protection and Exploitation of Intellectual Property
- Research Data Management Policy and Code of Good Practice
- Research Ethics Policy
- Research Misconduct Policy
- Research Misconduct Procedure
- Research Publications and Copyright Policy
- Student Academic Misconduct Procedure
- Trusted Research Guidance and due diligence process

Communications and engagement

Information about institutional policies and procedures is provided to new students and colleagues as part of their formal induction programme, this includes the University's Code of Good Practice in Research. Details of research and research-related policies are available to view online on the University's research governance and Student Policies, Procedures and Regulations webpages.

Colleagues can also access information about people-oriented policies and procedures via the University's internal webpages. Any changes to policies and guidance are communicated via a variety of internal communication channels including faculty newsletters, plasma screens across campus, Teams channels, direct emails and attendance from the central Research Policy, Intelligence and Ethics team at applicable faculty and school meetings. The research community is encouraged to contribute towards the review of existing policies and the development of new policies and guidance. A recent example of this is new Ethics Guidance Note for AI and Research Ethics which was requested by and developed in consultation with members of the Faculty Research Ethics Committees.

Culture, development and leadership

Research Culture

Newcastle's institutional Research Culture Action Plan was launched in October 2022, comprising 5 main 'pillars' of activity or experiences that are central to a positive and inclusive research environment:

1) Have the time, space and opportunities to be creative and enjoy discovering new things.

2) Be supported in your career aspirations and decision-making, as well as your continuing personal and professional development.

3) Feel part of an inclusive, supportive and safe research environment, where you and your ideas can flourish.

4) Be encouraged to embrace best practices and new ways of working to improve the quality and reach of research, either your own or that of others.

5) Be recognised and valued for your diverse contributions to research.

The implementation of the University's Research Culture Action Plan is supported by the Research Culture Development Group, which reports into University Research and Innovation Committee. This Group is led by the Dean of Culture and Inclusion and includes the Research Culture Manager, a dedicated Project Manager and

relevant activity leads. The following Top-Priority Projects were identified for 2025:

- **Behaviour Matters**: Develop a preventative approach to tackling bullying, harassment and all forms of discriminatory and inappropriate behaviour.
- **Releasing Quality Time**: Increase colleagues' ability to create, protect and use quality time for their research and research-related activities.
- **Open Research**: Increase institutional capacity to develop and deliver training in open research through engagement with the UK Reproducibility Network (UKRN) Open Research Programme.
- **The Research Space**: Creating an inclusive online portal that centralises access to research skills development, fosters community collaboration across disciplines, and supports careers.
- **Reimagining Leadership**: Wellcome funded project that aims to improve, recognise and reward leadership practices that build psychologically safe and inclusive research environments.
- **Research Integrity**: Promote and enhance training, tools and resources that support researchers in embedding research integrity throughout the entire research lifecycle.

Research Leadership

The named person with formal responsibility for research integrity at Newcastle University is the Pro Vice-Chancellor for Research and Innovation. Academic leadership in this area is also provided by the Dean of Culture and Inclusion and the Associate Dean of Good Research Practice. The three Faculty Deans of Research and Innovation and Academic Unit Directors of Research are also responsible for research integrity within their local areas. From a governance perspective, accountability for research integrity sits with University Research and Innovation Committee, which is Chaired by the Pro Vice-Chancellor for Research and Innovation

The University operates a shared model of responsibility for Research Integrity through support from Professional Service colleagues. This includes the Research Integrity and Compliance Manager and Research Integrity Project Officer in the central Research and Innovation service, alongside the three Heads of Faculty Research, technical staff working in research facilities and colleagues in the University Library and Organisational Development teams. The Research Integrity and Compliance Manager is the first point of contact for anyone wanting more information on matters of research integrity on behalf of the Pro Vice-Chancellor for Research and Innovation. This information is publicly available on the University's Research Integrity webpage.

Researcher Development

As a signatory of the Concordat to Support the Career Development of Researchers, Newcastle has a longstanding commitment to support the professional development of colleagues and students engaging in research at the University and the Technician's Commitment – of which Newcastle University was a founding signatory.

Individual learning needs are identified through annual appraisal processes for colleagues and discussions between Postgraduate Research and their supervisors.

This information is then used to inform training and development plans. To address these training needs, Newcastle University provides a wide range of internal training, tools and resources to support the development of good research practices. Including:

- Research Integrity e-learning programme- in depth, certificated and transferrable training with eight core modules and 7 supplementary modules. Accessed online by colleagues and students. New additional research integrity refresher course now available.

- Open Research Programme- delivered both online and in person as part of the UKRN Open Research Programme.

- Research Ethics e-learning- this module provides colleagues and students with an overview of the University's research ethics policy and the ethical review process. It also covers the key principles of research ethics and provides guidance on potentially high-risk activities.

- Online Ethics Toolkit- designed to assist students and colleagues when completing ethical applications and provides a repository of useful resources.

- Faculty Postgraduate Researcher Development Programmes – each of the three Faculties provide a programme of training for PhD students, including introductory level workshops on research integrity, ethics and data management.

- PhD Supervisor training - a quarterly workshop on 'Research Integrity, Ethics and Governance' was initially offered as part of a pilot scheme. These principles have subsequently been embedded in the introductory workshop on 'What makes a Good Supervisor?' which forms part of the University's new mandatory PhD Supervisor training programme.

- Smart Support Programme – aimed at Professional Service colleagues. This rolling programme includes workshops on Research Integrity, Open Research and Trusted Research.

- Skills workshops: covering statistical skills, working with animals and developing research data management plans.

- Methods Hub: provides information and resources on different research methodologies. The Methods Hub also regularly runs events to promote the discussion of best practice and engagement in interdisciplinary research activities.

- Good Academic Practice Hub: guidance and support on referencing and how to avoid plagiarism is available from the University Library. Dedicated one-to-one sessions are also available.

- Research Project Leads Programme: a series of annual sessions aimed at upskilling new research leads. Includes topics on good research practice, open research and research culture. Through institutional membership of the UK Research Integrity Office (UKRIO) and UK Reproducibility Network (UKRN), the University also provides access to a wide range of external resources to support research integrity such as webinars, guidance documents, case studies and workshops. Ad hoc training on a range of topics including Research Integrity, Research Ethics, Trusted Research, Open Research and Research Data Management is also available on request.

- Short, animated videos are now available for 'An Introduction to Research Integrity at Newcastle University', 'Authorship Practices' and 'Trusted

Research' providing an alternative format for signposting to important policies and guidance.

Full details of internal and external guidance and development opportunities are summarised on the training, tools and resources section of the University's Research Integrity web page.

Monitoring and reporting

The University maintains a central record of participation in formal staff training. Although participation is not currently mandatory, uptake of the research integrity e-learning is also recorded via the Epigeum member portal and made accessible to Heads of Faculty Research via a Power BI dashboard. The dashboard also includes attendance at in-person research integrity training.

University Research Ethics Committee conducts an annual audit of ethics applications to provide assurance to Senate and Council that research activities at Newcastle are conducted in accordance with the highest ethical standards.

Confidential records of research misconduct proceedings are also maintained by the University for monitoring and reporting purposes. Anonymised data on the number and type of research misconduct is presented to University Research and Innovation Committee, Senate and Council on an annual basis. To promote openness and transparency, a copy of the University's Annual Statement on Research Integrity is published on the University's Research Integrity webpage. In accordance with the University's Procedure for Investigating Allegations of Research Misconduct, relevant third-party organisations (such as funders, journals, professional and regulatory bodies) are also informed of any allegations which proceed to a formal investigation.

Trusted Research high risk projects are recorded centrally by the Research, Policy, Intelligence and Ethics team via a variety of routes. A due diligence process has been developed to help academics identify and manage potential national security risks when working with international partners. Individuals can submit a form to be reviewed by the RPIE team who offer advice on how to manage those risks if the project is awarded. The RPIE team are also notified of high-risk projects at the application stage and at the point of publication.

2B. Changes and developments during the period under review

Please provide an update on any changes made during the period, such as new initiatives, training, developments, also ongoing changes that are still underway. Drawing on Commitment 3 of the Concordat, please note any new or revised policies, practices and procedures to support researchers; training on research ethics and research integrity; training and mentoring opportunities to support the development of researchers' skills throughout their careers.

Over the last year, the following guidance has also been created or revised to support the research community:

- AI Privacy and Security Guidance
- Ethics Guidance Note for AI and Research Ethics
- Ethics Guidance Note for Evaluation Activities
- Foreign Influence Registration Scheme (FIRS)
- Trusted Research Guidance and due diligence process

Investments in staff resources

Two fixed term posts which were initially appointed in 2024 for 12 months have been extended until July 2026.

- Full time fixed term Research Integrity Project Officer, the role works alongside the two Research Integrity and Compliance Managers, driving forward specific research integrity related projects.
- Part time fixed term Associate Dean of Good Research Practice. The role works alongside the Dean of Culture and Inclusion and is the UKRN Institutional Lead and focusses on Research Integrity, Open Research and the Responsible use of Research Metrics.

Training/guidance

There has been an extensive amount of training and guidance developed and delivered over the reporting period. Examples of which include:

- Open research training-Ongoing delivery of workshops in core open research practices provided for colleagues, PhD students and their supervisors. An additional 19 colleagues participated in UKRN train-the-trainer courses and were supported with the subsequent delivery of 15 specialist workshops for over 200 participants in 2024/25.
- Research Integrity Training- there has been a push to ensure over 100 researchers working on Wellcome Trust funded projects have completed research integrity training via the available e-learning or by attending an in-person training session. This completion is now recorded centrally. Two sessions were delivered based on the train the trainer model developed by UKRN for research integrity. One session was in person and one online with a total of 23 attendees. Further resources have been developed and integrated into the University standard live research integrity training offer. 10 bespoke in-person research integrity training sessions were delivered with over 100 attendees. After a review of our existing research integrity training provision with input from the research community, it was decided to renew our Epigeum subscription for Research Integrity e-learning for three years, ensuring a reliable and in depth training provision for all colleagues and students. Newcastle University was asked to take part in a focus group feedback session about what more was needed from the Epigeum offer, we also reviewed two new modules, resulting in an improved offer for our colleagues and provided a case study on the e-learning use at NU.
- Foreign Influence Registration Scheme (FIRS)- detailed guidance of the new FIRS regulations that came into place on 1st July 25, was communicated extensively via multiple in person and online sessions across all faculties.
- Smart Support Sessions- an annual programme of in-person, dedicated

training for professional services colleagues on topics including Trusted Research, Research Integrity, Open Research and The Responsible use of Research Metrics. This year the sessions included a mix of pre-recorded content and interactive workshops.

- Short, animated videos- invested in Powtoon creative content software to develop a series of videos: 'An Introduction to Research Integrity at Newcastle University', 'Authorship Practices' and 'Trusted Research' providing an alternative format for signposting to important policies and guidance.

- Detailed AI in Research Guidance- In April 25 as the result of the AI in Research Working Group, detailed guidance on the responsible use of Artificial Intelligence in research was published on SharePoint. The content is to be regularly updated and includes a series of grouped areas of focus including legal and data risks, quality research and integrity, copyright and intellectual property, funder and publisher guidance, Newcastle AI lab, understanding AI and links to the AI for education guidance including PGRs. The AI Communities of Practice Teams site continues to be used regularly.

- The Research Space- Launched in May 25, this is a central platform for researchers at all career stages, and for those who support research. The Research Space brings everything together in one place; built in Teams and modern SharePoint, it provides easy access to training and development opportunities, tools, policies, and guidance, saving time and making it easier to find the right support at every stage of the research lifecycle. Currently, The Research Space has over 750 members.

- New Ethics e-learning- Launched in May 25 a bespoke e-learning on research ethics at Newcastle University is now available via our learning management system.

- Responsible use of research metrics- external page has been updated to include key progress so far and planned actions.

- New authorship practices page- added to our internal SharePoint pages with detailed guidance on common authorship decisions and disputes with signposting to further guidance and support.

Other initiatives

- ORCiD promotion and integration- to help improve transparency, accountability, enhance trust in research, support recognition and encourage collaborations, the University has carried out a large-scale project promoting the use of ORCID IDs. This ongoing project has made significant progress in increasing linked ORCiDs on University systems from 45% to 84%.

- Responsible use of Research Metric Special Interest Group- has continued to meet regularly to discuss actions against the responsible use of research metrics implementation plan and this year the membership has been extended from just professional services colleagues to now also include academics from across all faculties. There are now 20 members.

- Open Research Champions Network – has grown to 20 members, including academics and researchers from all faculties and across a range of disciplines as well as colleagues from professional and technical services. The champions have helped promote and advocate for open research in their units, co-delivered training, provided feedback on changes to funder policies, and

collaborated to organise and deliver the inaugural Newcastle University open research conference.

- ReproducibiliTea Journal club - Monthly programme of informal, interdisciplinary meetings to discuss approaches to open and reproducible research. 8 meetings were held in 2024/25 with 2 cancelled due to strike action.

External engagement

Newcastle University colleagues have actively participated in a range of external activities as part of our commitment to share knowledge and develop communities of practice. Examples of which include:

- Multiple colleagues attended the Warwick University Research Culture Conference in September 24, and our Open Research Officer presented a poster on the UKRN Open Research training community that he facilitates. He also ran a follow up NCRC webinar on this in March 2025.
- CONNECT funding secured to promote the sharing of good practice between research integrity trainers at Newcastle University, The Babraham Institute and Cambridge University, with a focus on Biosciences. Colleagues visited each other's campus' and took part in their institutional in-person research integrity training. The Babraham Institute also delivered their discipline specific training to a large group of Newcastle University researchers and Professional Services colleagues from our Biosciences Institute which was very well received.
- The Research Integrity and Governance Manager participated in a workshop to help shape the development of the revised Concordat to Support Research Integrity and took part in an advisory group overseeing the new UKRIO project on 'Supporting collaborative thinking and progress on discussing authorship disputes.'
- The Research Integrity Project Officer presented to over 60 early career researchers on the responsible use of AI in research as part of the UKEV2024 conference satellite event.
- Research Integrity Project Officer attended regular meetings as part of an external research integrity trainers peer support group sharing best practice with those in similar roles at different Universities.
- We continue to be active members of UKRN responding to requests for information and taking part in different initiatives. Prof Natasha Mauthner, Associate Dean of Good Research Practice, was appointed as an Institutional Lead representative to the UKRN Supervisory Board in May 25.

2C. Reflections on progress and plans for future developments

This should include a reflection on the previous year's activity including a review of progress and impact of initiatives if known relating to activities referenced in the previous year's statement. Note any issues that have hindered progress, e.g. resourcing or other issues.

Progress has been made in several areas which were identified as actions in the university's 2023/24 Annual Research Integrity Statement. Including

- The Research Space- the previously delayed 'one stop shop' space for researcher training, development and networking opportunities has now been completed (see case study for more information).
- AI in Research Working Group- the original goals of this group have now been achieved with detailed guidance now available on the responsible use of AI in Research and reference to the use of generative AI now added to the Code of Good Practice in Research.
- Research Integrity training review- this has now been completed and thanks to the feedback from the research community an informed decision was made to renew our Epigeum research integrity e-learning for a further three years. Feedback on what our researchers needed from this training was provided to Epigeum and there is now more content available as well as a stand-alone, shorter research integrity refresher course.
- The Responsible use of Research Metrics- progress has been made against the action plan with details added to our webpages to aid in transparency. Membership of the special interest group now includes academics from across all faculties.
- Research integrity strategy- the plans for a specific research integrity strategy and associated action plan resulted in research integrity becoming the sixth top priority project as part of the Research Culture Development Programme in December 25. This has ensured project milestones are monitored and communicated to a wider set of stakeholders as part of the larger research culture agenda. During the reporting period the project focus areas were research integrity training, ORCiD promotion, the responsible use of research metrics and the responsible use of AI in Research.

Planned actions still in progress
The following actions were delayed due to operational reasons:

- Ethics Workflow System- procurement of an upgraded ethics system has been postponed.
- The University's Code of Good Practice in Research is still due to be reviewed and updated in full.
- CoARA membership- the feasibility of becoming a signatory of the Coalition for Advancing Research Assessment (CoARA) has been considered and a decision on this by the University Research and Innovation Committee is pending.
- Open Research Awards due to be held in June 2025 were postponed to November 2025 and will run a modified format.

Plans for future developments
- We are working with Epigeum to improve the user sign-on experience, reporting function and content of the research integrity e-learning offer.

This will then be re-launched with more detailed guidance on what modules should be completed based on roles and experience.

- Further funding has been approved via the CONNECT Fund between Newcastle University and The Babraham Institute to develop a research integrity discipline specific train the trainer package. This Bioscience specific version can then be used as a template by Newcastle University, and other institutions for any discipline to develop their own bespoke, in person research integrity training.
- Continued engagement with the UKRN Open Research Programme via the Open Research Awards, open research training and ReproducibiliTea Journal Club. As well as the completion of the Open Research Champions network pilot.
- Development and embedding of a short statement relating to the responsible use of research metrics into all relevant documents such as those relating to recruitment and academic promotions. Develop Newcastle University training on the responsible use of research metrics via an online module adapted from the one made available by the University of Southampton.
- Research Integrity will continue to be a top priority project as part of the Research Culture Development Programme.

2D. Case study on good practice (optional)

Please describe an anonymised brief, exemplar case study that can be shared as good practice with other organisations. A wide range of case studies are valuable, including small, local implementations. Case studies may also include the impact of implementations or lessons learned.

The Research Space

For researchers at all career stages, and for those who support research, The Research Space brings everything together in one place. Built on Teams and modern SharePoint, it provides easy access to training and development opportunities, tools, policies, and guidance, saving time and making it easier to find the right support at every stage of the research lifecycle. The Research Space was launched as a Research Culture Top Priority project, created in collaboration with stakeholders and the wider research community to directly address their needs.

The Research Space was developed in response to feedback from researchers who highlighted the difficulty of navigating support across multiple platforms. By consolidating resources into a single, intuitive space, it directly addresses the fragmentation that previously hindered engagement. Co-designed with input from stakeholders across academic and professional services, the space reflects the real needs of the research community.

Beyond resources, the Research Space is already strengthening community connections. Researchers can discover networking opportunities through dedicated

events and engage with peers via the "Ask or Tell the Community" channels. This makes it easier not only to access support, but also to share expertise and build meaningful collaborations. The importance of The Research Space lies in its ability to unify and simplify access to resources and opportunities across the research lifecycle. By providing a single space where researchers can find training, guidance, and community connections, it reduces barriers, promotes engagement, and supports the development of skills and networks essential for research success.

Since its launch in May 2025, The Research Space has attracted over 750 members and continues to grow rapidly. Engagement levels are high, and it is already proving its value as the central space for community building and development opportunities.

Having successfully delivered on its objectives, The Research Space has now transitioned to business as usual and has exited as a Top Priority Project from the Research Culture Programme. The space is designed to evolve with its users. While its current focus is on academic research, we recognise the vital contributions of all those involved in the research process and are expanding its remit over time.

Looking ahead, we are continuing to develop The Research Space to meet the evolving needs of our research community. Our first new addition, a dedicated page for current and aspiring Fellows, is already in development, alongside a page to showcase good research culture practices.

The Research Space is transforming how researchers access opportunities, build networks, and engage with their community, delivering lasting impact by improving access, strengthening networks, and fostering a more inclusive research culture.

Section 3: Addressing research misconduct

3A. Statement on processes that the organisation has in place for dealing with allegations of misconduct

Please provide:

- a brief summary of relevant organisation policies/ processes (e.g. research misconduct procedure, whistle-blowing policy, bullying/harassment policy; appointment of a third party to act as confidential liaison for persons wishing to raise concerns) and brief information on the periodic review of research misconduct processes (e.g. date of last review; any major changes during the period under review; date when processes will next be reviewed).

- information on how the organisation creates and embeds a research environment in which all staff, researchers and students feel comfortable to report instances of misconduct (e.g. code of practice for research, whistle-blowing, research misconduct procedure, informal liaison process, website signposting for reporting systems, training, mentoring, reflection and evaluation of policies, practices and procedures).

- anonymised key lessons learned from any investigations into allegations of misconduct which either identified opportunities for improvements in the organisation's investigation procedure and/or related policies / processes/ culture or which showed that they were working well.

The University's Policy and Procedure for Investigating Allegations of Research Misconduct were updated in April 2023 to incorporate developments in good practice and funder policies. They will be reviewed by April 2026 to incorporate changes from the revised Concordat to Support Research Integrity.

Where possible, colleagues are encouraged to raise any concerns with the individual, their Line Manager or the appropriate Head of Academic Unit in the first instance. Alternatively, concerns can be raised with the Research Integrity and Compliance Manager. If an informal resolution is not possible, formal complaints should be submitted in writing using the Reporting Allegations of Misconduct Form and submitted by email to research.integrity@ncl.ac.uk alongside any supporting evidence. Although complainants are expected to put their name on any allegation they make, any information provided will be treated confidentially. Anonymous allegations will be considered at the discretion of the University.

Any allegations relating to the research undertaken by University students will be investigated via the separate Student Academic Misconduct Procedure, which was updated in 2024. Concerns regarding the conduct of University colleagues may also

be raised in confidence via the University's [Policy and Procedure on Public Interest Disclosure (Whistleblowing).](#)

While the number of formal research misconduct cases listed below is limited, a number of issues have been dealt with on an informal basis which gives us confidence that the reporting process is functioning effectively and that colleagues are aware of how to access support and raise concerns.

Anonymised lessons learnt from formal investigations of research misconduct

The University's Procedure for Investigating Allegations of Research Misconduct has been developed in accordance with funder and professional guidelines and consists of a number of informal and formal stages. One formal allegation was received but is not yet completed in relation to a research student during the reporting period. One allegation was dismissed at the Receipt and Initial Assessment stage (Stage One) as it did not meet the definition of research misconduct and was referred to People Services. There was one formal allegation received relating to University colleagues, which was dismissed following the Preliminary Screening Stage (Stage Two). This was in relation to an authorship dispute. Therefore, no allegations received proceeded to a formal investigation (Stage Three).

Authorship remains an area of focus with a view to minimising potential disputes. With this in mind we have developed further guidance in this area including an Authorship Practices page on SharePoint and an animated video on authorship at Newcastle University which signposts to available tools, resources and guidance. The subject is also addressed during in-person research integrity training sessions.

3B. Information on investigations of research misconduct that have been undertaken

Please complete the table on the number of **formal investigations completed during the period under review** (including investigations which completed during this period but started in a previous academic year). Information from ongoing investigations should not be submitted.

An organisation's procedure may include an initial, preliminary, or screening stage to determine whether a formal investigation needs to be completed. These allegations should be included in the first column but only those that proceeded past this stage, to formal investigations, should be included in the second column.

Type of allegation	Number of allegations			
	Number of allegations reported to the organisation	Number of formal investigations	Number upheld in part after formal investigation	Number upheld in full after formal investigation
Fabrication	0	0	0	0
Falsification	0	0	0	0
Plagiarism	0	0	0	0
Failure to meet legal, ethical and professional obligations	0	0	0	0
Misrepresentation (eg data; involvement; interests; qualification; and/or publication history)	1	0	0	0
Improper dealing with allegations of misconduct	0	0	0	0
Multiple areas of concern (when received in a single allegation)	0	0	0	0
Other*	0	0	0	0
Total:	1	0	0	0

*If you listed any allegations under the 'Other' category, please give a brief, high-level summary of their type here. Do not give any identifying or confidential information when responding.
N/A

Report completed by Stacey Wagstaff (Research Integrity and Compliance Manager) 29/09/25