

# HE-BCI: The Higher Education Business & Community Interaction Survey

*What is it and why is it important?*

**HE-BCI** is an annual mandatory statutory return which our university must complete and submit to HESA which collects financial data and output information related to knowledge exchange activity.

## What is Knowledge Exchange?

The [Knowledge Exchange Concordat](#) defines knowledge exchange as *a collaborative, creative endeavour that translates knowledge and research into impact in society and the economy [...] a set of activities, processes and skills that enable close collaboration between universities and partner organisations to deliver commercial, environmental, cultural and place-based benefits, opportunities for students and increased prosperity.*

## HE-BCI and Funding

In order to encourage knowledge exchange, Research England uses the HE-BCI data to inform the allocation of the [Higher Education Innovation Fund \(HEIF\)](#). In 2019-20 the University of Leeds was allocated the maximum award, £3.895m.

Research England also uses data collected as part of HE-BCI to advise government and inform the allocation of public funds and policy development.

## What Information Do We Submit?



### Research related activities

Including research income from public bodies and from private contracts.



### Business and community services

Including consultancy, facilities and equipment services, and continuing education.



### Regeneration and development

Including income generated from this activity.



### Intellectual property

Including patents filed, licences granted, income generated, and spin-outs started.



### Social, community, and cultural Engagement

Including public lectures, exhibitions, performances as well as attendances at them.

*The return also includes a questionnaire which gathers information on infrastructure, capacity, and strategy.*



## The Knowledge Exchange Framework (KEF)

The aim of [the KEF](#) is to “increase efficiency and effectiveness in the use of public funding for Knowledge Exchange” and to “allow universities to better understand and improve their own performance”.

The first full iteration will run in 2020 and its outcomes published December 2020.

For now the KEF will use only existing metrics, including from HE-BCI, and is not currently attached to the allocation of funding. This will be under review.

## Related Links:

[HE-BCI Guidance 2019/20](#)

[The Knowledge Exchange Concordat](#)

[The KEF](#)

## For more information contact:

[Gintare Jocaite](#) (HE-BCI Return Project Lead)

[Simon Sandison](#) (Senior Policy Adviser)

[Pam Macpherson Barrett](#) (Head of Policy, Funding & Regulation)