

rae2008

Research Assessment Exercise

RAE Overview

PHEE Annual Conference

IEE, London.

12 January 2005

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RAE Manager

Agenda

- Context for RAE2008
- Timetable
- Main changes from 2001
- Other Key Issues for Discussion

RAE Re-visited

- **Roberts Review**
 - Some changes introduced after consultation
 - Conservative responses to radical proposals
 - Primacy of expert review endorsed
- **House of Commons Report**
 - “RAE 2008 should go ahead”
 - Funding Bodies already considering future
- **Government 10 year investment framework**
 - Dual Support confirmed
 - Additional QR funds

Timetable

Jan/Feb 2005	Announce panel membership
Jan/Feb 2005	Publish Guidance to Panels
Jan-May2005	Criteria setting meetings (2 rounds)
June 2005	Publish Guidance on Submissions
August 2005	Publish Draft Criteria and Working Methods for consultation
Sept-Oct 2005	Consultation Period
Nov/Dec 2005	Publish final criteria and working methods

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Panel Appointments

- Several thousand nominations
- Main and sub-panel chairs appointed
- Working with main and sub-panel chairs to
 - Appoint broadly based expert panels of active or previously active researchers
 - Addressing issues of diversity in HE sector
 - Appoint other main panel members
- All panel members appointed by Funding Bodies' chief executives

Criteria and Consultation

- Panels establish criteria Jan-Jun 2005
- Publish draft criteria and working methods late summer 2005
- Formal consultation: finalise in late 2005
- Opportunity for subject communities to have input to the criteria and working methods for their disciplines

Main Changes for RAE 2008

- **Two-tier panel structure**
 - Main panels lead sub-panels in cognate areas
 - Consistency of approach, more readily assess interdisciplinary research
 - Make better use of international advisors
- **Graded quality profile replaces grades**
 - Reduce “cliff edge” effects of old grade system
 - Smoother profile for future funding formulae
 - Discourage tactical submissions

Two-Tier Panel Structure

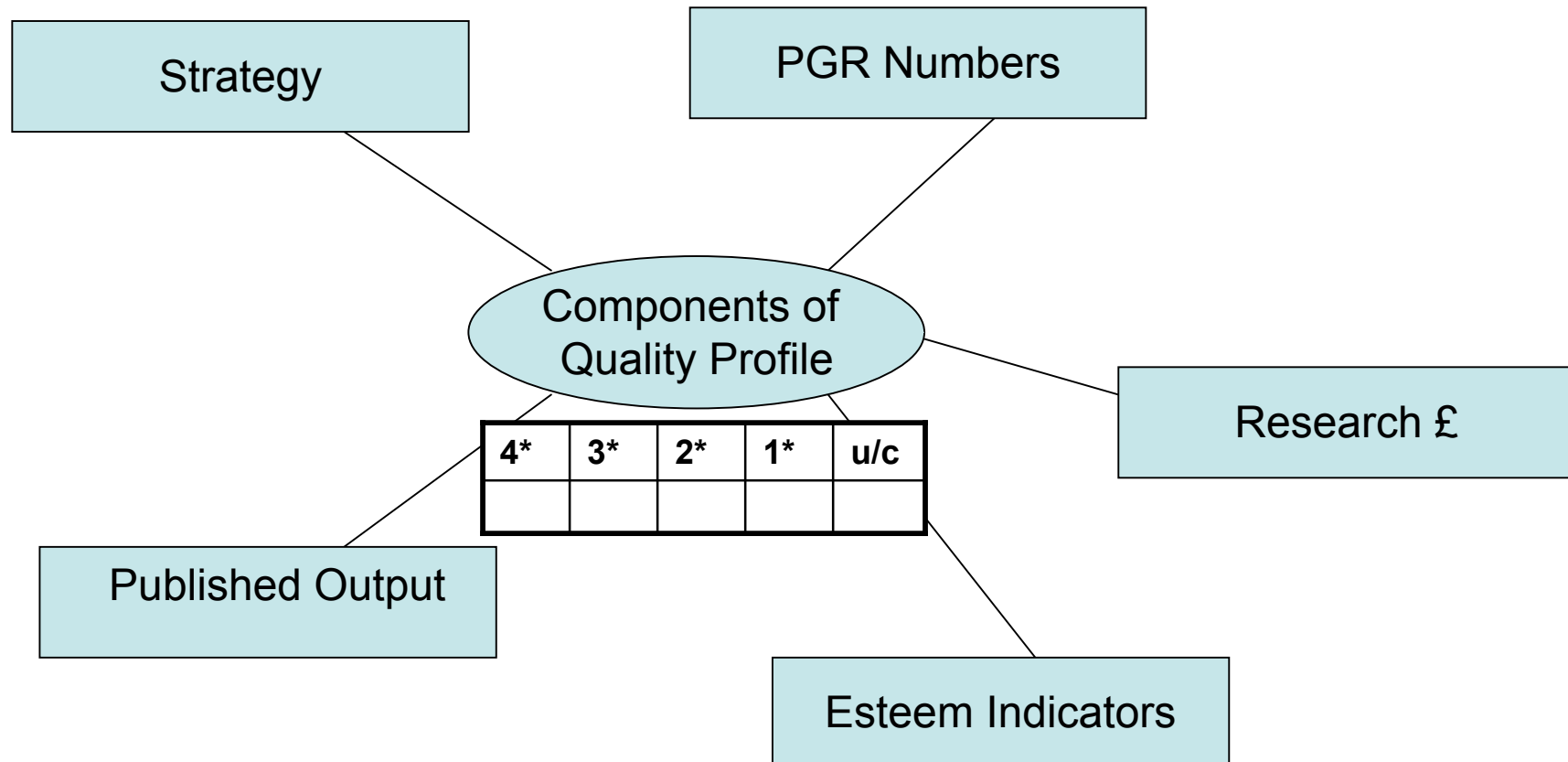
- 15 main panels
 - between 3 and 8 subject-based Sub-Panels
- 67 sub-panels
 - Map broadly onto to the panel structure of 2001 RAE with some changes
- Increased secretariat support
 - Recently appointed 15 panel secretaries and 15 assistant secretaries seconded from HEIs

Quality Profile

		By percentage of research activity in the submission judged to reach quality standard				
Sub-Panel A	FTE Staff submitted for assessment	4*	3*	2*	1*	Unclassified
University X	50	15	25	40	15	5
University Y	20	0	5	40	45	10

How might the quality profile be composed?

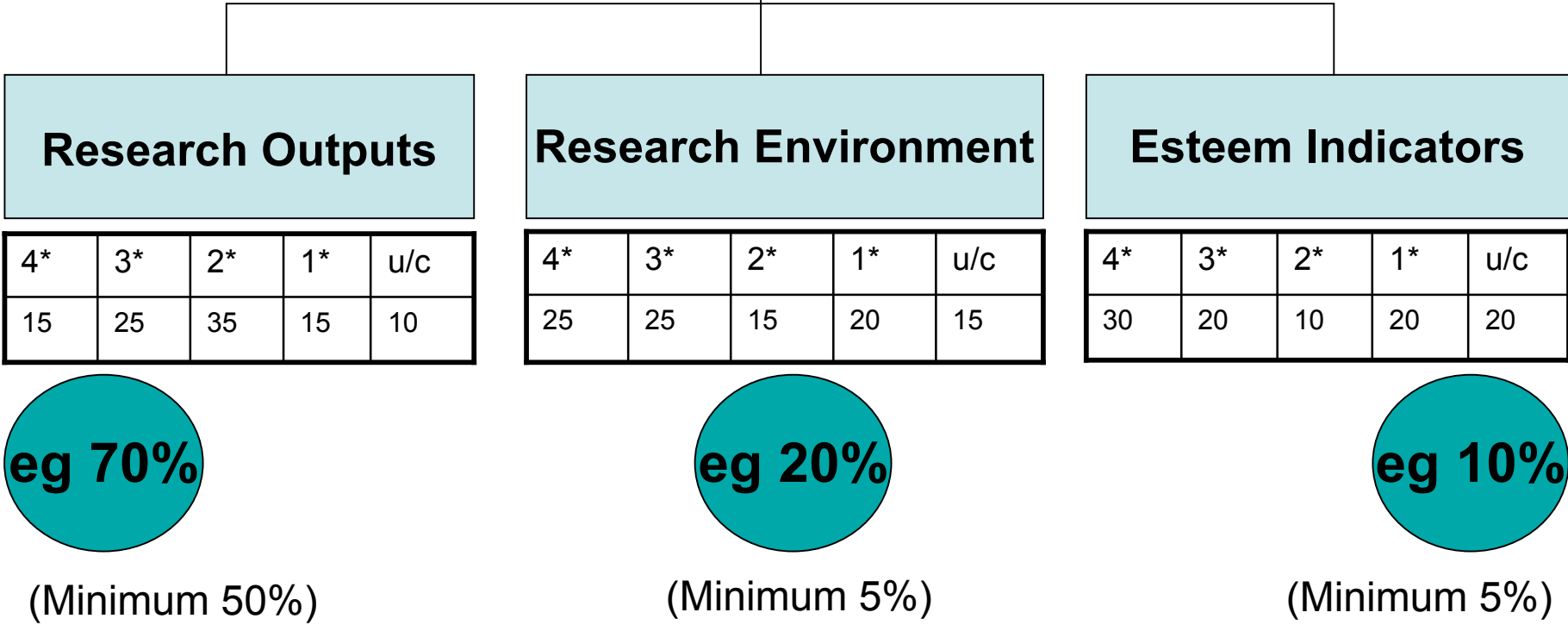
Take account of ALL Key Components of the RAE Submission



Overall Quality Profile

The overall quality profile is comprised of the aggregate of the weighted profiles produced for outputs, research environment and esteem indicators.

Quality Level	4*	3*	2*	1*	u/c
% of Research Activity	20	25	30	15	10



Other Key Issues

- Definition of Research
- Definitions of Quality Bands
- Interdisciplinary Research
- Applied & Practice Based Research
 - Production of a “Typology” by subject area
- Use of Metrics
- “Early Career” Staff
- Likely Content of Submissions

Interdisciplinary, applied and practice-based

- Focus of RAE on excellence in research
 - Not research activity, capacity of impact
- Appropriate criteria of excellence
 - Panels guided to define (and consult on) criteria that recognise wide range of evidence for excellence
- Appropriate judges of evidence
 - Breadth of panel expertise
 - Appointment and deployment of specialist advisers

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Research Assessment Exercise

How/who to submit

- Quality profile reduces grade and funding “risks”
- Presence or absence of star and less “starry” research has less impact
- Focus of RAE on excellence in research: submit excellent researchers
- Equal Opportunities

Content of Submissions

- Will be explained in Guidance on Submissions, but using 2001 forms, in 2008 we expect...
- RA0
- RA1 – staff: note no category A* staff in 2008
- RA2 – research outputs
- RA3 – research students & studentships
- RA4 – research grants
- RA5 & 6 – merged esteem and environment

Revised Submission Timetable

- **31 July 2007**
 - End of assessment period for research income and research student data
- **31 October 2007**
 - Census date
- **30 November 2007**
 - Closing date for submissions
- **31 December 2007**
 - End of publication period (cut-off point for publication of research outputs)
- **December 2008**
 - Results published