



Edge Hill
University

FAO Chair of the Concordat Strategy Group

17th November 2020

Letter of Commitment to the Concordat to Support the Career Development of Researchers

I, Professor George Talbot, Pro-Vice Chancellor (Research) and Dean of Arts and Science on behalf of Edge Hill University confirm our commitment to the new Concordat to Support the Career Development of Researchers.

Our roots are in widening access, providing opportunities in education and social advancement for those who would otherwise be denied. This is a history of which we are proud, and the principles of fairness, accessibility and inclusion continue to underpin our mission and purpose. We are a modern university that regards the integration of research, advanced scholarship and professional practice with learning opportunities as integral to our mission. Our research is firmly embedded within this ethos of fairness, social justice and opportunity, which is reflected in how we develop our people and in how we approach our research.

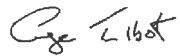
Our primary commitment is to expand the production of high-quality research that responds to the challenges we face, while staying true to our long-held beliefs in promoting inclusion and engaging with marginalised groups. For the next five years, capacity building will continue with the following key strategic objectives.

- Invest in People by recruiting academics who are committed to be the best researchers they can be to create new knowledge which then informs their teaching.
- Ensure the sustainability of our research by securing external funds and investing internal funds strategically.
- Optimise the relatively small size of Edge Hill to facilitate cross-disciplinary working and engage partners locally, nationally and globally to address the Government's IRIS themes
- Invest in the research environment and
- Remain committed to ensuring that our strategies and policies benefit all academics equally

Edge Hill University fully supports the Principles of this revised Concordat and we intend to uphold our obligations and responsibilities as a signatory.

We agree to work collectively and engage with initiatives to address systemic challenges in progressing towards a UK research system where researchers work in healthy and supportive environments. We agree that researchers should be recognised and valued for their contributions in research and beyond, supported in their professional and career development, and equipped and empowered to succeed in their chosen careers.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'George Talbot'.

Professor George Talbot
Pro-Vice Chancellor (Research) and Dean of Arts and Sciences