Peer Reviewing PaR Outputs
Please use alongside 'Rubric for Peer Reviewing PaR Outputs' document

Purpose of Peer Review - The School advocates peer review in both a formal and informal sense in order to help staff develop and refine their research outputs and also as part of an audit to ascertain how the school is progressing in its production of outputs for REF 2021. Staff should also be aware that unless and until an output they have produced goes through our formal internal peer review processes, it is not recognised in central audits and modelling exercises.

Output criteria for REF submissions
4* Quality that is world-leading in terms of originality, significance and rigour
3* Quality that is internationally excellent in terms of originality, significance and rigour
2* Quality that is recognised internationally in terms of originality, significance and rigour
1* Quality that is recognised nationally in terms of originality, significance and rigour

'The panels would like to emphasise that 'world-leading', 'internationally' and 'nationally' in this context refer to quality standards. They do not refer to the nature or geographical scope of particular subjects, nor to the locus of research, nor its place of dissemination' (Para.4 Panel criteria and working methods, 2019)

The terms 'world-leading', 'international' and 'national' will be taken as quality benchmarks within the generic definitions of the quality levels. They will relate to the actual, likely or deserved influence of the work, whether in the UK, a particular country or region outside the UK, or on international audiences more broadly. There will be no assumption of any necessary international exposure in terms of publication or reception, or any necessary research content in terms of topic or approach.
(Para.204, Panel criteria and working methods, 2019)

Originality:	Significance:	Rigour:
The extent to which the output makes an important and innovative contribution to understanding and knowledge in the field. Research outputs that demonstrate originality may do one of more of the following: produce and interpret new empirical findings or new material; engage with new and/or complex problems; develop innovative research methods, methodologies and analytical techniques; show imaginative and creative scope; provide new arguments and/or new forms of expression, formal innovations, interpretations and/or insights; collect and engage with novel types of data; and/or advance theory or the analysis of doctrine, policy or practice, and new forms of expression.	The extent to which the work has influenced, or has the capacity to influence, knowledge and scholarly thought, or the development and understanding of policy and/or practice.	The extent to which the work demonstrates intellectual coherence and integrity, and adopts robust and appropriate concepts, analyses, sources, theories and/or methodologies.

Process of peer review - In order to have your practice based research formally peer reviewed as a REF-able output, **please submit a portfolio to Figshare including a document that is clearly labelled as your 300-word REF output statement**. The USIR team will then extract your 300-word statement to create a USIR deposit on your behalf.

If you would like to engage in some informal peer review of PaR submissions, please contact Jo or Ali at the PaR Centre of Excellence to discuss swapping outputs with another practitioner-researcher.